



# MLN Matters



Information for Medicare Fee-for-Service Health Care Professionals

Related Change Request (CR) #: 3806

MLN Matters Number: MM3806

Related CR Release Date: April 29, 2005

Related CR Transmittal #: 534

Effective Date: July 1, 2005

Implementation Date: July 5, 2005

## *Changes to the Laboratory National Coverage Determination (NCD) Edit Software for July 2005*

**Note:** This article was revised to contain Web addresses that conform to the new CMS website and to show they are now MLN Matters articles. All other information remains the same.

### Provider Types Affected

Clinical diagnostic laboratories billing Medicare carriers or Fiscal Intermediaries (FIs)

### Provider Action Needed

CR 3806 announces changes to the list of codes included in the July 2005 release of the Medicare Laboratory National Coverage Determination (NCD) edit module for clinical diagnostic laboratory services. These changes are a result of coding analysis completed by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS).

### Background

The NCD for clinical diagnostic laboratory services were developed by the laboratory negotiated rulemaking committee and published as a final rule on November 23, 2001. Nationally uniform software was developed by Computer Sciences Corporation and incorporated into Medicare claim processing systems so that laboratory claims subject to any of the 23 NCD are processed uniformly throughout the nation, effective January 1, 2003.

In addition, the laboratory edit module for the NCD is updated quarterly as necessary to reflect ministerial coding updates and substantive changes to the NCD developed through the NCD process. (See the Medicare Claims Processing Manual, Pub. 100-4, Chapter 16, Section, 120.2. This manual may be found at <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/manuals/downloads/clm104c16.pdf> on the CMS website.

CR 3806 announces the changes that will be included in the July 2005 release of the edit module for clinical diagnostic laboratory services. Those changes are as follows:

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- In accordance with the coding analysis published on the coverage Internet site on November 23, 2004 (See <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/mcd/viewdecisionmemo.asp?id=138>), CMS is adding ICD-9-CM code 733.02, Idiopathic osteoporosis, to the list of "ICD-9-CM Codes Covered by Medicare" for the thyroid testing NCD.
- In accordance with the coding analysis published on the coverage Internet site on March 14, 2005 (See <http://cms.hhs.gov/mcd/viewdecisionmemo.asp?id=146>), CMS is adding diagnosis code 156.0, Malignant neoplasm of the gallbladder, and code 156.2, Malignant neoplasm of the Ampulla of Vater, to the list of "ICD-9-CM Codes Covered by Medicare" for the tumor antigen by Immunoassay CA 19-9 NCD.
- In accordance with the coding analysis published on the coverage Internet site on March 14, 2005 (See <http://cms.hhs.gov/mcd/viewdecisionmemo.asp?id=147>), CMS is deleting diagnosis code 784.69, Other symbolic dysfunction, from the list of "ICD-9-CM Codes Covered by Medicare" for the hepatitis panel NCD.
- In accordance with the coding analysis published on the coverage Internet site on March 17, 2005 (See <http://cms.hhs.gov/mcd/viewdecisionmemo.asp?id=149>), CMS is adding diagnosis code 789.39, Abdominal or pelvic swelling, mass or lump of other specified site, to the list of "ICD-9-CM Codes Covered by Medicare" for the tumor antigen by Immunoassay CA 125 NCD.
- In accordance with the coding analysis published on the coverage Internet site on March 17, 2005 (See <http://cms.hhs.gov/mcd/viewdecisionmemo.asp?id=150>), CMS is adding diagnosis codes V77.1, Special screening for diabetes mellitus, V81.0, Special screening for ischemic heart disease, V81.1, Special screening for hypertension, and V81.2, Special screening for other an unspecified cardiovascular conditions, to the list of "ICD-9-CM Codes That Do Not Support Medical Necessity" for the blood counts NCD.

## Implementation Date

The implementation date for these changes is July 5, 2005.

## Additional Information

For complete details, please see the official instruction issued to your carrier/FI regarding these changes at <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/Transmittals/downloads/R534CP.pdf> on the CMS website.

If you have questions regarding this issue, contact your carrier/FI at their toll free number, which may be found at <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MLNProducts/downloads/CallCenterTollNumDirectory.zip> on the CMS website.

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