

Related Change Request (CR) #: 4072

MLN Matters Number: MM4072

Related CR Release Date: September 30, 2005

Related CR Transmittal #: 694

Effective Date: October 30, 2005

Implementation Date: October 30, 2005

Update to the Healthcare Provider Taxonomy Codes (HPTC) Version 5.1

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

Physicians, suppliers, and providers billing Medicare carriers, including Durable Medical Equipment Regional Carriers (DMERCs)

Provider Action Needed



STOP – Impact to You

This article is based on Change Request (CR) 4072, which includes details regarding the Version 5.1 HPTC update.



CAUTION – What You Need to Know

CR4072 advises your carrier and/or DMERC to obtain the Healthcare Provider Taxonomy Code list Version 5.1 and use it to update their internal HPTC tables to process your claim(s) correctly.



GO – What You Need to Do

Please see the *Background* section of this article for further details regarding this update.

Background

The Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA) requires that submitted data, which is part of a named code set, be valid data from that code set. Claims with invalid data are non-compliant. Because healthcare provider taxonomy is a named code set in the American National

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Standards Institute (ANSI) X12N 837 Professional Implementation Guide, Medicare carriers, including DMERCs, must validate the inbound taxonomy codes against their internal HPTC tables.

The HPTC is an external non-medical data code set designed for use in classifying healthcare providers in an electronic environment according to provider type, or practitioner specialty. HPTCs are scheduled to be updated twice per year (April and October).

The updated code list that is available from the Washington Publishing Company is available in two forms at <http://www.wpc-edi.com/codes/taxonomy>.

- Free Adobe PDF download; and
- An electronic representation of the list, available for purchase, which will facilitate the automatic loading of the code set.

CR4072 advises your carrier and/or DMERC to use the most cost effective means to obtain the Version 5.1 HPTC list and update their HPTC tables as necessary.

Implementation

The implementation date for the instruction is October 30, 2005.

Additional Information

To summarize the changes in Version 5.1, the following taxonomy codes are added:

- 170300000X
- 171000000X
- 171011002X
- 171011003X

For complete details, please see the official instruction issued to your carrier/DMERC regarding this change at <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/transmittals/downloads/R694CP.pdf> on the CMS website.

If you have any questions, please contact your carrier/DMERC 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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