

MLN Matters Number: MM4252 **Revised**

Related Change Request (CR) #: 4252

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Related CR Transmittal #: R881CP

Implementation Date: April 3, 2006

Outpatient Prospective Payment System (OPPS) Hospital Emergency Room Services Exceeding 24 Hours

Note: This article was updated on October 26, 2012, to reflect current Web addresses. This article was previously revised on June 9, 2008, to show that CR5389 clarifies instructions in CR4252, when related to emergency room (ER) services that a hospital provides to beneficiaries in skilled Part A skilled nursing facility (SNF) stays. Providers can find CR5389 at <http://www.cms.gov/Regulations-and-Guidance/Guidance/Transmittals/downloads/R1151CP.pdf> and the related article at <http://www.cms.gov/outreach-and-education/medicare-learning-network-mln/mlnmattersarticles/downloads/MM5389.pdf> on the CMS website. All other information is unchanged.

Provider Types Affected

Physicians, providers, and suppliers who submit hospital emergency room claims paid under the OPPS to Medicare fiscal intermediaries (FIs).

Background

This article, based on CR4252, informs OPPS hospitals about proper billing requirements of emergency room services exceeding 24 hours. This policy can be found in the *Medicare Claims Processing Manual*, Chapter 4, Part B Hospital (Including Inpatient Hospital Part B and OPPS, Section 180, Accurate Reporting of Surgical/Medical Procedures and Services). This section is attached to CR4252.

Key Points

Hospital OPPS claims submitted for emergency room services should be billed in the following manner:

- The emergency room is identified with revenue code 045x.
- The service date is the date the service was provided in the emergency room.
- If the patient was in the emergency room after midnight, only one service date should be entered, i.e., the date the patient entered the emergency room.

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- Service units should be one.

Additional Information

The official instruction issued to your Medicare FI regarding this change may be found by going to <http://www.cms.gov/Regulations-and-Guidance/Guidance/Transmittals/downloads/R881CP.pdf> on the CMS website.

Please refer to your local FI if you have questions about this issue. To find the FI's toll free phone number, go to <http://www.cms.gov/Research-Statistics-Data-and-Systems/Monitoring-Programs/provider-compliance-interactive-map/index.html> on the CMS website.

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