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MLN Matters Number: MM5054

Related Change Request (CR) #: 5054

Related CR Release Date: April 28, 2006

Effective Date: January 1, 2006

Related CR Transmittal #: R923CP

Implementation Date: August 1, 2006

Note: This article was updated on October 31, 2012, to reflect current Web addresses. All other information remains unchanged.

Update of Radiopharmaceutical Imaging Agents Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System (HCPCS) Codes Applicable to Positron Emission Tomography (PET) Scan Services for Carriers

Provider Types Affected

Physicians and non-physician practitioners who bill Medicare carriers for PET scan services provided to Medicare beneficiaries.

Background

This article is based on CR5054, which updates Publication 100-04, *The Medicare Claims Processing Manual*, Chapter 13, Section 60.3.2 (Tracer Codes Required for PET Scans) to include two new HCPCS codes for radiopharmaceutical diagnosis imaging agents (tracers) applicable to PET scan services.

A prior Change Request, CR4270, Transmittal 822, released on February 1, 2006, addressed manual updates for Medicare fiscal intermediaries (FIs), but did not update the manual for carriers.

Key Points

- Effective for claims dates of service on or after January 1, 2006:

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- **A9555** (Supply of Radiopharmaceutical Diagnostic Imaging Agent, Rubidium RB-82, Diagnostic, Per study dose, Up To 60 Millicuries) replaces Q3000; and
- **A9552** (Supply of Radiopharmaceutical Diagnostic Imaging Agent, Fluorodeoxyglucose F18, FDG, Diagnostic, per study dose, Up to 45 Millicuries) replaces C1775.
- Effective for dates of service on or after January 1, 2006:
 - HCPCS codes Q3000 and C1775 are deleted.
 - A9555 is a Tracer code applicable to CPT 78491 and 78492.

Additional Information

Note: For claims with dates of service prior to January 1, 2006, OPPS hospitals report **C1775** and other providers billing fiscal intermediaries report **A4641** for supply of radiopharmaceutical diagnostic imaging agent, Fluorodeoxyglucose F1. For claims with dates of service January 1, 2006, and later, providers billing fiscal intermediaries report **A9552** for radiopharmaceutical diagnostic imaging agent, Fluorodeoxyglucose F18 in place of C1775 and A4641.

The Medicare Learning Network (MLN) article addressing the updated codes for FIs, MM4270, "Update of Radiopharmaceutical Imaging Agents Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System (HCPCS) Codes Applicable to Positron Emission Tomography (PET) Scan Services," can be found at <http://www.cms.gov/outreach-and-education/medicare-learning-network-mln/mlnmattersarticles/downloads/MM4270.pdf> on the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) website.

CR5054, the official instruction issued to your carrier regarding changes mentioned in this article, may be found by going to <http://www.cms.gov/Regulations-and-Guidance/Guidance/Transmittals/downloads/R923CP.pdf> on the CMS website.

Please refer to your local carrier if you have questions about this issue. To find their 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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