



News Flash – A new publication titled **Medicare Outpatient Therapy Billing** is now available in downloadable format from the Medicare Learning Network® at http://www.cms.gov/Outreach-and-Education/Medicare-Learning-Network-MLN/MLNProducts/downloads/Medicare_Outpatient_Therapy_Billing_ICN903663.pdf on the CMS website. This publication provides information about Medicare outpatient physical therapy, occupational therapy, and speech-language pathology (therapy services) coverage requirements; calendar year 2010 therapy codes and dispositions; and billing measures for therapy services.

MLN Matters® Number: MM7144

Related Change Request (CR) #: 7144

Related CR Release Date: October 29, 2010

Effective Date: April 1, 2011

Related CR Transmittal #: R7930TN

Implementation Date: April 4, 2011

Note: This article was updated on December 11, 2012, to reflect current Web addresses. All other information remains unchanged.

National Uniform Billing Committee (NUBC) Point of Origin Code Updates

Provider Types Affected

Hospitals and other providers and suppliers submitting claims to fiscal intermediaries (FI) and Part A/B Medicare Administrative Contractors (A/B MAC) are affected.

What You Need to Know

This article, which is based on CR 7144, informs Medicare contractors that they will no longer require a point of origin code on 14x bill types. Medicare contractors will accept point of origin code 9 on all bill types. Please be sure to inform your billing staffs of this update.

Background

The following two point of origin code updates will be implemented April 2011:

Disclaimer

This article was prepared as a service to the public and is not intended to grant rights or impose obligations. This article may contain references or links to statutes, regulations, or other policy materials. The information provided is only intended to be a general summary. It is not intended to take the place of either the written law or regulations. We encourage readers to review the specific statutes, regulations and other interpretive materials for a full and accurate statement of their contents.

- Points of origin codes are no longer required on 14x bill types. NUBC decided point of origin codes need not be reported because the bill type is used for non-patient laboratory specimens and the point of origin would not be known.
- As of April 1, 2011, all bill types will be accepted with point of origin code 9 – information not available.

The NUBC approved these code updates at their August 2010 meeting.

Additional Information

The official instruction, CR 7144, issued to your FI or A/B MAC regarding this change, may be viewed at <http://www.cms.gov/Regulations-and-Guidance/Guidance/Transmittals/downloads/R7930TN.pdf> on the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) website.

If you have any questions, please contact your FI or A/B MAC at their toll-free number, which may be found at <http://www.cms.gov/Research-Statistics-Data-and-Systems/Monitoring-Programs/provider-compliance-interactive-map/index.html> on the CMS website.

News Flash - Each Office Visit is an Opportunity. Medicare patients give many reasons for not getting their annual flu vaccination, but the fact is that there are 36,000 flu-related deaths in the United States each year, on average. More than 90% of these deaths occur in people 65 years of age and older. Please talk with your Medicare patients about the importance of getting their annual flu vaccination. This Medicare-covered preventive service will protect them for the entire flu season. And remember, vaccination is important for health care workers too, who may spread the flu to high risk patients. **Don't forget to immunize yourself and your staff. Protect your patients. Protect your family. Protect yourself. Get Your Flu Vaccine - Not the Flu.** Remember – Influenza vaccine plus its administration are covered Part B benefits. Note that influenza vaccine is NOT a Part D covered drug. For information about Medicare's coverage of the influenza vaccine and its administration, as well as related educational resources for health care professionals and their staff, please visit http://www.cms.gov/Outreach-and-Education/Medicare-Learning-Network-MLN/MLNProducts/downloads/Flu_Products.pdf and <http://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Prevention/Immunizations/index.html> on the CMS website.

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