

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services



News Flash –

NEW product from the Medicare Learning Network® (MLN)

- [“Screening for Depression,”](#) Booklet, ICN 907799, Downloadable

MLN Matters® Number: MM7884 **Revised**

Related Change Request (CR)# 7884

Related CR Release Date: August 10, 2012

Effective Date: January 1, 2013

Related CR Transmittal #: R2516CP

Implementation Date: January 7, 2013

New Non-Physician Specialty Code for Centralized Flu

Note: This article was revised on September 20, 2012, to amend the title (above) to show the new specialty code is for non-physician practitioners. All other information remains the same.

Provider Types Affected

This MLN Matters® Article is intended for non-physician practitioners submitting claims to Medicare contractors (carriers and A/B Medicare Administrative Contractors (MACs)) for services provided to Medicare beneficiaries.

Provider Action Needed

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) established a new non-physician practitioner specialty code for Centralized Flu effective January 1, 2013. The new non-physician practitioner specialty code for Centralized Flu is C1 and is only applicable to the CMS-855B enrollment application. Make sure that your billing staffs are aware of this change for 2013.

Disclaimer

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Background

Medicare physician/non-physician practitioner specialty codes describe the specific/unique types of medicine that physicians and non-physician practitioners (and certain other suppliers) practice. Physicians self-designate their Medicare physician specialty on the Medicare enrollment application (CMS-855B) or Internet-based Provider Enrollment, Chain, and Ownership System (PECOS) when they enroll in the Medicare program. However, non-physician practitioners are assigned a Medicare specialty code when they enroll. The specialty code becomes associated with the claims submitted by that physician or non-physician practitioner. Specialty codes are used by CMS for programmatic and claims processing purposes and the new code for Centralized Flu, C1, will be added to PECOS and recognized as the non-physician practitioner code for Centralized Flu.

Additional Information

The official instruction, CR7884, issued to your Medicare contractor regarding this change may be viewed at <http://www.cms.gov/Regulations-and-Guidance/Guidance/Transmittals/Downloads/R2516CP.pdf> on the CMS website.

If you have any questions, please contact your Medicare contractor 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.

To review details for Mass Immunizers and Roster Billing you may go to http://www.cms.gov/Outreach-and-Education/Medicare-Learning-Network-MLN/MLNProducts/downloads/Mass_Immunize_Roster_Bill_factsheet_ICN907275.pdf on the CMS website.

To review the CMS QUICK REFERENCE INFORMATION: Medicare Immunization Billing (Seasonal Influenza Virus, Pneumococcal, and Hepatitis B) you may go to http://www.cms.gov/Outreach-and-Education/Medicare-Learning-Network-MLN/MLNProducts/downloads/qr_immun_bill.pdf on the CMS website.

A downloadable brochure titled Preventive Immunizations is available at http://www.cms.gov/Outreach-and-Education/Medicare-Learning-Network-MLN/MLNProducts/downloads/adult_immunization.pdf on the CMS website.

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