

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



News Flash – When billing Medicare, Home Health Agencies (HHAs) must use the individual National Provider Identifier (NPI) of the physician who orders/refers services, not the NPI of the physician's group practice. If an HHA asks for your NPI, be sure to provide your individual NPI. Don't know your individual NPI? You may verify your NPI on the [NPI Registry](#) on the CMS website.

MLN Matters® Number: MM8021

Related Change Request (CR) #: CR 8021

Related CR Release Date: August 31, 2012

Effective Date: October 1, 2012

Related CR Transmittal #: R2534CP

Implementation Date: January 7, 2013

Healthcare Provider Taxonomy Codes (HPTC) Update, October 2012

Provider Types Affected

This MLN Matters® Article is intended for providers submitting claims to Medicare contractors (carriers and Part B Medicare Administrative Contractors (B MACs)) for services to Medicare beneficiaries.

What You Need to Know

The HPTC set is maintained by the National Uniform Claim Committee (NUCC) for standardized classification of health care providers. The NUCC updates the code set twice a year with changes effective April 1 and October 1. The HPTC set is available for view or for download from the Washington Publishing Company (WPC) Web site at <http://www.wpc-edi.com/codes> on the Internet.

CR 8021 implements the NUCC HPTC code set that is effective on October 1, 2012. The changes for October consist of the addition of two new HPTCs, both under the Individual Section, for Dental Provider types:

- 125J00000X Dental Therapist Classification; and
- 125K00000X Advanced Practice Dental Therapist Classification.

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There are no other changes to the October 2012 code set.

Medicare does not use HPTCs to adjudicate its claims. It would not expect to see these codes on a Medicare claim. However, currently, it validates any HPTC that a provider happens to supply against the NUCC HPTC code set.

Additional Information

The official instruction, CR 8021 issued to your carrier or B MAC regarding this change may be viewed at <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/Regulations-and-Guidance/Guidance/Transmittals/Downloads/R2534CP.pdf> on the CMS website.

If you have any questions, please contact your carrier or 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.

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