

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



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MLN Matters® Number: MM8025

Related Change Request (CR) #: CR 8025

Related CR Release Date: November 2, 2012

Effective Date: April 1, 2013

Related CR Transmittal #: R2581CP

Implementation Date: April 1, 2013

Outpatient Laboratory Services Rendered in a Critical Access Hospital (CAH)

Provider Types Affected

This MLN Matters® Article is intended providers submitting claims to Medicare contractors (Fiscal Intermediaries (FIs) and A/B Medicare Administrative Contractors (MACs)) for services provided to Medicare beneficiaries.

Provider Action Needed

This article is based on Change Request (CR) 8025 which informs Medicare contractors about the implementation of the necessary system changes to apply beneficiary cost sharing for non clinical-diagnostic laboratory services rendered in an outpatient Critical Access Hospital (CAH) setting. Make sure that your billing staffs are aware of these changes. See the Background and Additional Information Sections of this article for further details regarding these changes.

Background

Currently, all outpatient laboratory services, other than clinical diagnostic laboratory services, do not have coinsurance and/or deductible applied to them. Medicare beneficiaries are not liable for any coinsurance, deductible, copayment, or other cost sharing amounts for outpatient clinical diagnostic

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laboratory services. However, there are non-clinical diagnostic laboratory services for which coinsurance and deductible should be applicable. CR8025 implements the necessary system changes to apply beneficiary cost sharing for non clinical-diagnostic laboratory services rendered in an outpatient CAH setting.

Per the regulation at CFR 413.70(b)(3)(iii), payment to a CAH, other than for clinical diagnostic laboratory tests, is subject to the Part B deductible and coinsurance amounts as determined under 410.152(k), 410.160, and 410.161. Medicare contractors will apply the correct coinsurance and deductible based on the HCPCS file.

Additional Information

The official instruction, CR8025 issued to your FI or A/B MAC, regarding this change may be viewed at <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/Regulations-and-Guidance/Guidance/Transmittals/Downloads/R2581CP.pdf> on the 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.

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