

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



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- [“ICD-10-CM/PCS Myths and Facts,”](#) Fact Sheet, ICN 902143, Downloadable only.

MLN Matters® Number: MM8895 **Revised**

Related Change Request (CR) #: CR 8895

Related CR Release Date: October 7, 2014

Effective Date: January 1, 2015

Related CR Transmittal #: R3090CP

Implementation Date: January 5, 2015

### **Ambulance Inflation Factor for CY 2015 and Productivity Adjustment**

**Note: This article was revised on October 9, 2014, to reflect the revised CR8895 issued on October 7. The CR was revised to update the Multifactor Productivity Adjustment which then adjusts the inflation factor. In addition, the CR release date, transmittal number, and the Web address for accessing the CR are revised. All other information remains the same.**

#### **Provider Types Affected**

This MLN Matters® Article is intended for physicians, other providers, and suppliers submitting claims to Medicare Administrative Contractors (MACs) for ambulance services provided to Medicare beneficiaries.

#### **Provider Action Needed**

CR8895 furnishes the CY 2015 ambulance inflation factor (AIF) for determining the payment limit for ambulance services. Make sure that your billing staffs are aware of the change.

#### **Disclaimer**

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## Background

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CR8895 furnishes the CY 2015 ambulance inflation factor (AIF) for determining the payment limit for ambulance services required by section 1834(l)(3)(B) of the Social Security Act (the Act).

Section 1834(l)(3)(B) of the Act provides the basis for an update to the payment limits for ambulance services that is equal to the percentage increase in the consumer price index for all urban consumers (CPI-U) for the 12-month period ending with June of the previous year. Section 3401 of the Affordable Care Act amended Section 1834(l)(3) of the Act to apply a productivity adjustment to this update equal to the 10-year moving average of changes in economy-wide private nonfarm business multi-factor productivity (MFP) beginning January 1, 2011. The resulting update percentage is referred to as the AIF.

The MFP for calendar year (CY) 2015 is 0.60 percent and the CPI-U for 2015 is 2.10 percent. Under to the Affordable Care Act, the CPI-U is reduced by the MFP, even if this reduction results in a negative AIF update. Therefore, the AIF for CY 2015 is 1.50 percent.

Part B coinsurance and deductible requirements apply to payments under the ambulance fee schedule. The 2015 ambulance fee schedule file will be available to MACs in November 2014. It may be updated with each quarterly Common Working File (CWF) update.

## Additional Information

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The official instruction, CR 8895 issued to your MAC regarding this change is available at <http://www.cms.gov/Regulations-and-Guidance/Guidance/Transmittals/Downloads/R3090CP.pdf> on the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) website.

If you have any questions, please contact your MAC at their toll-free number. That number is available at <http://www.cms.gov/Outreach-and-Education/Medicare-Learning-Net/work-MLN/MLNMattersArticles/index.html> under - How Does It Work.

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