

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



REVISED product from the Medicare Learning Network®

- [“Ambulance Fee Schedule”](#) Fact sheet, ICN 006835

MLN Matters® Number: MM9031 **Revised**      Related Change Request (CR) #: CR 9031

Related CR Release Date: February 18, 2015      Effective Date: July 1, 2015

Related CR Transmittal #: R1471OTN      Implementation Date: July 6, 2015

### Renaming PPS-FLX6- PAYMENT Field in the Inpatient Prospective Payment System (IPPS) Pricer Output

**Note: This article was revised on February 23, 2015, to reflect the revised CR9031 issued on February 18. In the article, 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 providers and suppliers submitting institutional claims to Medicare Administrative Contractors (MACs) for services provided to Medicare beneficiaries.

#### Provider Action Needed

Change Request (CR) 9031 informs MACs about the changes to the PPS-FLX6- PAYMENT field in the IPPS PRICER output record, created in CR8546. The field will be renamed to identify the field as the Hospital Acquired Condition (HAC) Reduction Amount. Make sure that your billing staffs are aware of these changes.

#### 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. CPT only copyright 2014 American Medical Association.

## Background

Section 3008 of the Affordable Care Act established a program, beginning in Fiscal Year (FY) 2015, for IPPS hospitals to improve patient safety by imposing financial penalties on hospitals that perform poorly with regard to certain Hospital Acquired Conditions (HACs). HACs are conditions that patients did not have when they were admitted to the hospital, but which developed during the hospital stay. Under the HAC Reduction Program, hospitals that rank in the lowest-performing quartile of selected HAC measures will be subject to a reduction of what they would otherwise be paid under the IPPS.

The HAC payment reduction amount is currently displayed in the PPS-FLX6- PAYMENT field. The new name for this field will be HAC PAYMENT AMT.

## Additional Information

The official instruction, CR9031 issued to your MAC regarding this change is available at <http://www.cms.gov/Regulations-and-Guidance/Guidance/Transmittals/Downloads/R1471OTN.pdf> on the CMS website.

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

**Seasonal Flu Vaccinations** - For information on coverage and billing of the influenza vaccine and its administration, please refer to [MLN Matters® Article #MM8890](#), “Influenza Vaccine Payment Allowances - Annual Update for 2014-2015 Season” and [MLN Matters® Article #SE1431](#), “2014-2015 Influenza (Flu) Resources for Health Care Professionals.”

Also, check out the following resources from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC): [Influenza \(Flu\)](#) web page for the latest information on flu including the CDC 2014-2015 recommendations for the prevention and control of influenza, antiviral information, CDC flu mobile app, Q&As, toolkit for long term care employers, and other free resources. Review the CDC’s [Antiviral Drugs](#) website for information about how antiviral medications can be used to prevent or treat influenza when influenza activity is present in your community, and view the updated “Influenza Antiviral Medications: Summary for Clinicians.” A CDC Health Update reminding clinicians about the importance of flu antiviral medications was distributed via the CDC Health Alert Network on January 9, 2015, and is available at <http://emergency.cdc.gov/HAN/han00375.asp> on the Internet.

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