

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



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- [“Items and Services That Are Not Covered Under the Medicare Program”](#)  
Booklet (ICN: 906765)

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Related Change Request (CR) #: CR 9192

Related CR Release Date: May 29, 2015

Effective Date: October 1, 2015

Related CR Transmittal #: R3269CP

Implementation Date: October 5, 2015

## Quarterly Update of HCPCS Codes Used for Home Health Consolidated Billing Enforcement

### Provider Types Affected

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This MLN Matters® Article is intended for Home Health Agencies (HHAs) and other providers submitting claims to Medicare Administrative Contractors (MACs) for home health services provided to Medicare beneficiaries.

### Provider Action Needed

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This article, based on Change Request (CR) 9192, provides the quarterly update to the list of Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System (HCPCS) codes used by Medicare systems to enforce consolidated billing of HH services. CR 9192 announces the addition of HCPCS codes 97607 and 97608, negative pressure wound therapies, to the HH consolidated billing therapy code list, effective for services on or after October 1, 2015. These codes replace codes G0456 and G0457, negative pressure wound therapies, which are deleted from the HH consolidated billing therapy code list. In addition, code A7048 replaces code A7043 on the HH Consolidated billing non-routine supply code list, effective for services on or after October 1, 2015. Be sure your staffs are aware of this update.

#### Disclaimer

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## Background

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The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) periodically updates the lists of HCPCS codes that are subject to the consolidated billing provision of the HH Prospective Payment System (HH PPS). With the exception of therapies performed by physicians, supplies incidental to physician services and supplies used in institutional settings, services appearing on this list that are submitted on claims to MACs will not be paid separately on dates when a beneficiary for whom such a service is being billed is in a home health episode (that is, under a home health plan of care administered by an HHA). Medicare will only directly reimburse the primary HHAs that have opened such episodes during the episode periods. Therapies performed by physicians, supplies incidental to physician services and supplies used in institutional settings are not subject to HH consolidated billing.

The HH consolidated billing code lists are updated annually, to reflect the annual changes to the HCPCS code set itself. Additional updates may occur as frequently as quarterly in order to reflect the creation of temporary HCPCS codes (for example, 'K' codes) throughout the calendar year. The new coding identified in each update describes the same services that were used to determine the applicable HH PPS payment rates. No additional services will be added by these updates; that is, new updates are required by changes to the coding system, not because the services subject to HH consolidated billing are being redefined.

## Key Points

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Effective for claims with dates of service on or after October 1, 2015, the following HCPCS code is added to the HH consolidated billing non-routine supply code list and will replace code A7043, which is deleted from the same list effective October 1, 2015:

- A7048 - Vacuum drainage collection unit and tubing kit, including all supplies needed for collection unit change, for use with implanted catheter, each.

Effective for claims with dates of service on or after October 1, 2015, the following HCPCS codes are added to the HH consolidated billing therapy code list and will replace HCPCS codes G0456 and G0457, which are deleted from this list, effective on October 1, 2015:

- HCPCS 97607 - Negative pressure wound therapy, (e.g., vacuum assisted drainage collection), utilizing disposable, non-durable medical equipment including provision of exudate management collection system, topical application(s), wound assessment, and instructions for ongoing care, per session; total wound(s) surface area less than or equal to 50 square centimeters; and
- HCPCS 97608 - Negative pressure wound therapy, (e.g., vacuum assisted drainage collection), utilizing disposable, non-durable medical equipment including provision of exudate management collection system, topical application(s), wound assessment, and instructions for ongoing care, per session; total wound(s) surface area greater than 50 square centimeters.

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## Additional Information

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The official instruction, CR 9192, issued to your MAC regarding this change, is available at <http://www.cms.gov/Regulations-and-Guidance/Guidance/Transmittals/Downloads/R3269CP.pdf> on the 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” on the CMS website.

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