

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services



MLN Matters® Number: MM9806 **Revised** Related Change Request (CR) #: CR 9806

Related CR Release Date: November 16, 2016 Effective Date: October 1, 2016

Related CR Transmittal #: R3656CP Implementation Date: December 5, 2016

Changes to the Laboratory National Coverage Determination (NCD) Edit Software for January 2017

Note: This article was revised on November 17, 2016, to reflect the revised CR issued on November 16. In the article, the implementation date is now December 5, 2016. Also, 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 services provided to Medicare beneficiaries.

Provider Action Needed

Change Request (CR) 9806 announces changes that will be included in the January 2017 quarterly release of the edit module for clinical diagnosis laboratory services. Make sure your billing staffs are aware of these changes to ensure proper billing to Medicare.

Background

The National Coverage Determinations (NCDs) for clinical diagnostic laboratory services were developed by the laboratory negotiated rulemaking committee and the final rule was published on November 23, 2001. Medicare developed nationally uniform software that was incorporated in the Medicare shared systems so that laboratory claims subject to one of the 23 NCDs (Publication 100-03, Sections 190.12-190.34) were processed uniformly throughout the United States effective April 1, 2003.

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CR9806 communicates requirements to Medicare system maintainers and the MACs regarding changes to the NCD code lists used for laboratory claims edit software for January 2017. The changes are a result of coding analysis decisions developed under the procedures for maintenance of codes in the negotiated NCDs and biannual updates of the ICD-10-CM codes. Please see Section II (Business Requirements Table) of CR9806 for the lengthy list of codes added or deleted. Note that where codes are deleted, the effective date of deletion is September 30, 2016 and the effective date for codes added is October 1, 2016.

Additional Information

The official instruction, CR9806 issued to your MAC regarding this change is available at <https://www.cms.gov/Regulations-and-Guidance/Guidance/Transmittals/Downloads/R3656CP.pdf>.

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-Network-MLN/MLNMattersArticles/index.html>.

Document History

- November 16, 2016 - Article revised to show a revised implementation date of December 5, 2016
- September 23, 2016 - initial issuance

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