

## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

### Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services



**MLN Matters® Number: MM9847**

**Related Change Request (CR) #: CR 9847**

**Related CR Release Date: November 4, 2016**

**Effective Date: January 1, 2017**

**Related CR Transmittal #: R3646CP**

**Implementation Date: January 3, 2017**

### **Quarterly Update to the Correct Coding Initiative (CCI) Edits, Version 23.0, Effective January 1, 2017**

#### **Provider Types Affected**

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

#### **Provider Action Needed**

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Change Request (CR) 9847 instructs MACs of the normal update to the Correct Coding Initiative (CCI) Procedure to Procedure (PTP) edits, effective January 1, 2017. Make sure that your billing staffs are aware of these changes.

#### **Background**

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The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) developed the National CCI to promote national correct coding methodologies and to control improper coding that leads to inappropriate payment in Part B claims.

The latest package of CCI PTP edits, Version 23.0, effective January 1, 2017, will be available via the CMS Data Center (CDC). A test file will be available on or about November 2, 2016, and a final file will be available on or about November 17, 2016.

Version 23.0 will include all previous versions and updates from January 1, 1996, to the present. In the past, CCI was organized in two tables: Column 1/Column 2 Correct Coding Edits and Mutually Exclusive Code (MEC) Edits. In order to simplify the use of CCI edit files (two tables), on April 1, 2012, CMS consolidated these two edit files into the Column

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One/Column Two Correct Coding edit file. Separate consolidations have occurred for the two practitioner NCCI edit files and the two NCCI edit files used for OCE. It will only be necessary to search the Column One/Column Two Correct Coding edit file for active or previously deleted edits.

CMS no longer publishes a Mutually Exclusive edit file on its website for either practitioner or outpatient hospital services, since all active and deleted edits will appear in the single Column One/Column Two Correct Coding edit file. The edits previously contained in the Mutually Exclusive edit file are NOT being deleted but are being moved to the Column One/Column Two Correct Coding edit file. Refer to the CMS NCCI webpage for additional information at

<http://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Coding/NationalCorrectCodInitEd/index.html>.

### Additional Information

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The official instruction, CR9847, issued to your MAC regarding this change, is available at <https://www.cms.gov/Regulations-and-Guidance/Guidance/Transmittals/Downloads/R3646CP.pdf>.

If you have any questions, please contact your MAC at their toll-free number. That number is available at <https://www.cms.gov/Research-Statistics-Data-and-Systems/Monitoring-Programs/Medicare-FFS-Compliance-Programs/Review-Contractor-Directory-Interactive-Map/>.

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