



Changes to the Laboratory National Coverage Determination (NCD) Edit Software for January 2018

MLN Matters Number: MM10309 **Revised**

Related Change Request (CR) Number: CR10309

Related CR Release Date: November 21, 2017

Effective Date: October 1, 2017

Related CR Transmittal Number: R3925CP

Implementation Date: January 2, 2018

Note: The article was revised on November 21, 2017, to reflect a revised CR10309 issued on November 21. In the article, the CR release date, transmittal number, and the Web address of the CR are revised. All other information remains the same.

PROVIDER TYPE AFFECTED

This MLN Matters® Article is intended for physicians, providers, and suppliers submitting claims to Medicare contractors (Regional Home Health Intermediaries (RHHIs) and A/B Medicare Administrative Contractors (A/B MACs)) for services to Medicare beneficiaries.

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

This article is based on Change Request (CR) 10309 which informs MACs about the changes that will be included in the January 2018 quarterly release of the edit module for clinical diagnostic laboratory services. CR10309 applies to Chapter 16, Section 120.2, Publication 100-04. Make sure that your billing staffs are aware of these changes.

See the Background and Additional Information Sections of this article for further details regarding these changes.

BACKGROUND

CR10309 announces the changes that will be included in the January 2018 quarterly release of the edit module for clinical diagnostic laboratory services. NCDs for clinical diagnostic laboratory services were developed by the laboratory negotiated rulemaking committee, and the final rule was published on November 23, 2001. Nationally uniform software was developed and 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 nation effective April 1, 2003.

In accordance with Chapter 16, Section 120.2, Publication 100-04, the laboratory edit module is updated quarterly as necessary to reflect ministerial coding updates and substantive changes to the NCDs developed through the NCD process. 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 International Classification of Diseases, Tenth Revision, Clinical Modification (ICD-10-CM) codes. CR 10309 communicates requirements to Shared System Maintainers (SSMs) and contractors, notifying them of changes to the laboratory edit module to update it for changes in laboratory NCD code lists for January 2018. Please access the link below for the NCD spreadsheets included with CR10309:

<https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Coverage/DeterminationProcess/downloads/CR207300-January2018.zip>.

MACs will adjust claims brought to their attention, but will not search their files to retract payment for claims already paid or retroactively pay claims.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The official instruction, CR10309, issued to your MAC regarding this change is available at <https://www.cms.gov/Regulations-and-Guidance/Guidance/Transmittals/2017Downloads/R3925CP.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/>.

DOCUMENT HISTORY

Date of Change	Description
November 22, 2017	The article is revised to reflect a revised CR10309 issued on November 21. In the article, the CR release date, transmittal number, and the Web address of the CR are revised. All other information remains the same.
October 12, 2017	Initial article released.

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