



Quarterly Update to the Medicare Physician Fee Schedule Database (MPFSDB) - October 2018 Update

MLN Matters Number: MM10898

Related Change Request (CR) Number: 10898

Related CR Release Date: August 10, 2018

Effective Date: January 1, 2018

Related CR Transmittal Number: R4109CP

Implementation Date: October 1, 2018

PROVIDER TYPES AFFECTED

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

PROVIDER ACTION NEEDED

Change Request (CR) 10898 amends payment files issued to MACs based upon the 2018 Medicare Physician Fee Schedule (MPFS) Final Rule. Make sure your billings staffs are aware of these changes.

BACKGROUND

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) issued payment files to the MACs based upon the 2018 MPFS Final Rule, published in the Federal Register on November 15, 2017, to be effective for services furnished from January 1, 2018, through December 31, 2018.

CR 10898 presents a summary of the changes for the October update to the 2018 MPFS. Section 1848(c)(4) of the Social Security Act authorizes the Secretary to establish ancillary policies necessary to implement relative value units (RVU) for physicians' services. Unless otherwise stated, these changes are effective for dates of service on and after January 1, 2018.

The HCPCS codes listed below have been added to the Medicare Physician Fee Schedule Database (MPFSDB) effective for dates of service on and after October 1, 2018.

| HCPCS | ACTION |
|-------|---|
| G9978 | Non-Facility & Facility PE RVU = 0.23. All other MPFS indicators & RVUs = 99201 |
| G9979 | Non-Facility & Facility PE RVU = 0.42. All other MPFS indicators & RVUs = 99202 |

| HCPCS | ACTION |
|-------|---|
| G9980 | Non-Facility & Facility PE RVU = 0.60. All other MPFS indicators & RVUs = 99203 |
| G9981 | Non-Facility & Facility PE RVU = 1.01. All other MPFS indicators & RVUs = 99204 |
| G9982 | Non-Facility & Facility PE RVU = 1.32. All other MPFS indicators & RVUs = 99205 |
| G9983 | Non-Facility & Facility PE RVU = 0.20. All other MPFS indicators & RVUs = 99212 |
| G9984 | Non-Facility & Facility PE RVU = 0.41. All other MPFS indicators & RVUs = 99213 |
| G9985 | Non-Facility & Facility PE RVU = 0.62. All other MPFS indicators & RVUs = 99214 |
| G9986 | Non-Facility & Facility PE RVU = 0.88. All other MPFS indicators & RVUs = 99215 |
| G9987 | Non-Facility & Facility PE RVU = 1.06. All other MPFS indicators & RVUs = G9187 |

The following “Q” codes are effective on or after July 1, 2018 (see CR 10626 for additional information on HCPCS code Q9994 and CR 10624 on HCPCS codes Q5105 and Q5106). HCPCS code Q5108 is effective July 12, 2018. See CR 10834 for more information on HCPCS Q5108:

| Code | Action |
|-------|--|
| Q9994 | Procedure Status = X; there are no RVUs, payment policy indicators do not apply. |
| Q5105 | Procedure Status = E; there are no RVUs, payment policy indicators do not apply. |
| Q5106 | Procedure Status = E; there are no RVUs, payment policy indicators do not apply. |
| Q5108 | Procedure Status = E; there are no RVUs, payment policy indicators do not apply. |

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

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The official instruction, CR 10898, issued to your MAC regarding this change is available at <https://www.cms.gov/Regulations-and-Guidance/Guidance/Transmittals/2018Downloads/R4109CP.pdf>.

If you have questions, your MACs may have more information. Find their website at <http://go.cms.gov/MAC-website-list>.

DOCUMENT HISTORY

| Date of Change | Description |
|-----------------|---------------------------|
| August 10, 2018 | Initial article released. |

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 2017 American Medical Association. All rights reserved.

Copyright © 2018, the American Hospital Association, Chicago, Illinois. Reproduced with permission. No portion of the AHA copyrighted materials contained within this publication may be copied without the express written consent of the AHA. AHA copyrighted materials including the UB-04 codes and descriptions may not be removed, copied, or utilized within any software, product, service, solution or derivative work without the written consent of the AHA. If an entity wishes to utilize any AHA materials, please contact the AHA at 312-893-6816. Making copies or utilizing the content of the UB-04 Manual, including the codes and/or descriptions, for internal purposes, resale and/or to be used in any product or publication; creating any modified or derivative work of the UB-04 Manual and/or codes and descriptions; and/or making any commercial use of UB-04 Manual or any portion thereof, including the codes and/or descriptions, is only authorized with an express license from the American Hospital Association. To license the electronic data file of UB-04 Data Specifications, contact Tim Carlson at (312) 893-6816 or Laryssa Marshall at (312) 893-6814. You may also contact us at ub04@healthforum.com

The American Hospital Association (the "AHA") has not reviewed, and is not responsible for, the completeness or accuracy of any information contained in this material, nor was the AHA or any of its affiliates, involved in the preparation of this material, or the analysis of information provided in the material. The views and/or positions presented in the material do not necessarily represent the views of the AHA. CMS and its products and services are not endorsed by the AHA or any of its affiliates.