



Documentation of Evaluation and Management Services of Teaching Physicians

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Related Change Request (CR) Number: CR 11171

Related CR Release Date: April 26, 2019

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Related CR Transmittal Number: R4283CP

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PROVIDER TYPE AFFECTED

This MLN Matters Article is for teaching physicians billing Medicare Administrative Contractors (MACs) for Evaluation and Management (E/M) services provided to Medicare beneficiaries.

PROVIDER ACTION NEEDED

CR 11171 represents a change in policy of documentation for teaching physicians providing evaluation and management (E/M) services. It clarifies existing language in the Medicare Claims Processing Manual, Chapter 12 (Physicians/Nonphysician Practitioners), Section 100.1.1 (Evaluation and Management (E/M) Services) to bring it in line with current documentation policy for teaching physicians and E/M services.

BACKGROUND

This manual revision clarifies existing language for the documentation policy for teaching physicians and E/M services.

The following provides these policy clarifications:

- For the purposes of payment, E/M services billed by teaching physicians require that **the medical records must demonstrate**: 1) that the **teaching physician** performed the service or **was** physically present during the key or critical portions of the service when performed by the resident; and 2) the participation of the teaching physician in the management of the patient.
- **The patient medical record must document the extent of the teaching physician's participation in the review and direction of the services furnished to each beneficiary. The extent of the teaching physician's participation may be demonstrated by the notes in the medical records made by physicians, residents, or nurses.**

Note that MACs will not search their files to reprocess claims impacted by this change. However, they will adjust such claims that you bring to their attention.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The official instruction, CR11171, issued to your MAC regarding this change is available at <https://www.cms.gov/Regulations-and-Guidance/Guidance/Transmittals/2019Downloads/R4283CP.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
May 3, 2019	Initial article released.

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