



## **2020 Annual Update of Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System (HCPCS) Codes for Skilled Nursing Facility (SNF) Consolidated Billing (CB) Update**

MLN Matters Number: MM11441

Related Change Request (CR) Number: 11441

Related CR Release Date: August 30, 2019

Effective Date: January 1, 2020

Related CR Transmittal Number: R4385CP

Implementation Date: January 6, 2020

### **PROVIDER TYPES AFFECTED**

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This MLN Matters Article is intended for physicians, other providers, and suppliers submitting claims to Medicare Administrative Contractors (MACs), including Home Health & Hospice (HH&H) MACs and Durable Medical Equipment (DME) MACs, for services provided to Medicare beneficiaries who are in a Part A covered Skilled Nursing Facility (SNF) stay.

### **PROVIDER ACTION NEEDED**

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CR 11441 makes changes to HCPCS codes and Medicare Physician Fee Schedule (MPFS) designations that will be used to revise Medicare's Common Working File (CWF) edits to allow MACs to make appropriate payments in accordance with policy for SNF Consolidated Billing (CB) in Chapter 6, Section 110.4.1 and Chapter 6, Section 20.6 in the Medicare Claims Processing Manual (<https://www.cms.gov/Regulations-and-Guidance/Guidance/Manuals/downloads/clm104c06.pdf>). Make sure your billing staffs are aware of these changes.

### **BACKGROUND**

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CWF currently has edits in place for claims received for beneficiaries in a Part A covered SNF stay, as well as for beneficiaries in a non-covered stay. These edits allow only those services excluded from CB to be separately paid. Barring any delay in the MPFS, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) will provide the new code files to CWF by November 1, 2019.

As soon as possible after the final MPFS is released, CMS will post the new code files at <http://www.cms.gov/SNFConsolidatedBilling/>. It is important and necessary for the provider/MAC community to view the "General Explanation of the Major Categories" file located at the bottom of each year's update in order to understand the Major Categories including

additional exclusions not driven by HCPCS codes.

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The official instruction, CR11441, issued to your MAC regarding this change is available at <https://www.cms.gov/Regulations-and-Guidance/Guidance/Transmittals/2019Downloads/R4385CP.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
September 3, 2019	Initial article released.

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