



MLN Matters®



Official Information Health Care Professionals Can Trust



The Medicare Appeals Process: Five Levels to Protect Providers, Physicians and Other Suppliers brochure has been updated and is now available to order print copies or as a downloadable PDF file. To view the PDF file, go to <http://www.cms.gov/Outreach-and-Education/Medicare-Learning-Network-MLN/MLNProducts/downloads/MedicareAppealsProcess.pdf> or to order hard copies, please visit the MLN Product Ordering Page at http://cms.meridianksi.com/kc/pfs/pfs_lnkfrm_fl.asp?lgnfrm=reqprod&function=pfs on the CMS website.

MLN Matters Number: MM5970

Related Change Request (CR) #: 5970

Related CR Release Date: March 21, 2008

Effective Date: April 21, 2008

Related CR Transmittal #: R1480CP

Implementation Date: April 21, 2008

Website for Additions and Deletions of ZIP Codes Requiring a Plus Four ZIP Code Extension

Note: This article was updated on July 12, 2013, to reflect current Web addresses. All other information remains unchanged.

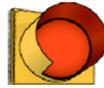
Provider Types Affected

Physicians, providers, and other health care providers submitting claims to Medicare Fiscal Intermediaries (FIs), carriers, Part A/B Medicare Administrative Contractors (A/B MACs) or Regional Home Health Intermediaries (RHHIs) for services paid under the Medicare Physician Fee Schedule (MPFS) and for anesthesia services.

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Provider Action Needed



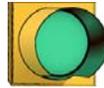
STOP – Impact to You

The ZIP code where services are rendered determines the payment locality for services paid under the MPFS and for anesthesia services. Certain ZIP codes fall into more than one payment locality and require a plus four ZIP code extension to ensure proper payment. (See the MLN Matters article at <http://www.cms.gov/Outreach-and-Education/Medicare-Learning-Network-MLN/MLNMattersArticles/Downloads/MM5208.pdf> on the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) website for further details regarding ZIP code reporting.)



CAUTION – What You Need to Know

The CMS will begin posting additions and deletions to the list of ZIP codes that require a plus four ZIP code extension on their website. A complete list of all ZIP codes requiring a plus four ZIP code extension will also be posted.



GO – What You Need to Do

Make certain your billing staffs are aware of these resources for checking plus four ZIP code extension requirements.

Key Points of CR5970

- To access a file containing the quarterly additions and deletions to the list of ZIP Codes requiring a plus four extension refer to <http://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Medicare-Fee-for-Service-Payment/ProspMedicareFeeSvcPmtGen/index.html> on the CMS website. The file is named "ZIP Code to Carrier Locality" and can be found in the Downloads section of this web page.
- To access a file containing all ZIP Codes requiring a plus four extension, refer to <http://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Medicare-Fee-for-Service-Payment/ProspMedicareFeeSvcPmtGen/index.html> on the CMS website. The file is named "ZIP Codes Requiring +4 Ext" and can be found in the Downloads section of this web page.
- Upon release of a new quarterly update, the previous quarter's additions and deletions are incorporated into the file name "ZIP Codes Requiring +4 Ext" file and are not included in the "ZIP Code Changes" file.

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Additional Information

To see the official instruction (CR5970) issued to your Medicare FI, carrier, A/B MAC or RHHI refer to <http://www.cms.gov/Regulations-and-Guidance/Guidance/Transmittals/downloads/R1480CP.pdf> on the CMS website.

If you have questions, please contact your Medicare FI, carrier, A/B MAC or RHHI at their toll-free number, which may be found at <http://www.cms.gov/Research-Statistics-Data-and-Systems/Monitoring-Programs/provider-compliance-interactive-map/index.html> on the CMS website.

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