



News Flash – The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) has launched its website for agency-wide information and education on Versions 5010, D.0 and 3.0. As you may already know, Version 5010 is the new version of the X12 standards for HIPAA transactions; version D.0 is the new version of the National Council for Prescription Drug Program (NCPDP) standards for pharmacy and supplier transactions; and version 3.0 is a new NCPDP standard for Medicaid pharmacy subrogation. Visit the new website at <http://www.cms.gov/Regulations-and-Guidance/HIPAA-Administrative-Simplification/Versions5010andD0/index.html> to view background information on the new standards, regulatory information, the latest outreach messages from CMS, educational resources, resources specific to D.0 and 3.0, as well as implementation information for the Medicare Fee-For-Service systems. CMS plans to add additional information as it becomes available so bookmark the site today!

MLN Matters® Number: MM6533 **Revised**

Related Change Request (CR) #: 6533

Related CR Release Date: October 27, 2009

Effective Date: April 1, 2010

Related CR Transmittal #: R2003CP

Implementation Date: April 5, 2010

New Physician Specialty Code for Geriatric Psychiatry

Note: This article was updated on December 28, 2012, to reflect current Web addresses. This article was previously revised on July 20, 2010, to reflect the revised CR 6533, which was issued by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services on July 19, 2010. In this article, the CR release date, transmittal number, and the Web address for accessing CR 6533 were revised. All other information remains the same.

Provider Types Affected

This article is for physicians and non-physician practitioners who bill Medicare carriers and Medicare Administrative Contractors (A/B MAC) for providing psychiatric care to geriatric Medicare beneficiaries.

What You Need to Know

Effective April 1, 2010, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) will establish a new physician specialty code (code 27) for Geriatric Psychiatry. In

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addition, the codes 32, 74, and 75 are being removed from the physician specialty section of the Medicare Claims Processing Manual, because they are non-physician specialty codes. You should ensure that your billing staffs are aware of this new specialty code.

Background

When enrolling in Medicare, physicians self-designate their Medicare physician specialty on the Medicare enrollment application (CMS-855I) or Internet-based Provider Enrollment, Chain and Ownership System; and non-physician practitioners are assigned a Medicare specialty code. This specialty code becomes associated with the claims that the physician or non-physician practitioner submits, and describes the specific/unique types of medicine that physicians and non-physician practitioners (and certain other suppliers) practice. Moreover, CMS uses these specialty codes for programmatic and claims processing purposes.

CR 6533, from which this article is taken, announces that effective April 1, 2010, CMS will establish a new physician specialty code for Geriatric Psychiatry. For care you provide on or after that effective date, your carrier or A/B MAC will recognize and use specialty code 27 as a valid primary and/or secondary specialty code for Geriatric Psychiatry services provided by both individuals and organizations.

Additional Information

You can find more information about the new physician specialty code for geriatric psychiatry services by going to CR 6533, located at <http://www.cms.gov/Regulations-and-Guidance/Guidance/Transmittals/downloads/R2003CP.pdf> on the CMS website. If you have any questions, please contact your carrier or A/B MAC 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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