



**News Flash** – The Medicare Learning Network® (MLN) has developed a new educational tool, the Medicare Quarterly Provider Compliance Newsletter, to advise physicians, suppliers, and other Fee-For-Service providers about how to avoid common billing errors and other erroneous activities when dealing with the Medicare Program. The newsletter will be issued on a quarterly basis and highlight the “top” issues of that particular quarter as identified through a variety of sources. In this first edition, a number of issues that impact a variety of provider types are presented in order to introduce the newsletter to a wide audience of providers. For more information, please read the first edition of the newsletter at [http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MLNProducts/downloads/MedQtrlyComp\\_Newsletter\\_ICN904943.pdf](http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MLNProducts/downloads/MedQtrlyComp_Newsletter_ICN904943.pdf) on the CMS website.

MLN Matters® Number: MM7184

Related Change Request (CR) #: 7184

Related CR Release Date: November 5, 2010

Effective Date: January 1, 2011

Related CR Transmittal #: R2084CP

Implementation Date: January 3, 2011

## New Waived Tests

### Provider Types Affected

This article is for clinical diagnostic laboratories billing Medicare Carriers or Part A/B Medicare Administrative Contractors (MACs) for laboratory tests.

### Provider Action Needed



#### STOP – Impact to You

If you do not have a valid, current, Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments of 1998 (CLIA) certificate and submit a claim to your Medicare Carrier or A/B MAC for a Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) code that is considered to be a laboratory test requiring a CLIA certificate, your Medicare payment may be impacted.



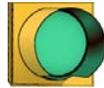
#### CAUTION – What You Need to Know

CLIA requires that for each test it performs, a laboratory facility must be appropriately certified. The CPT codes that the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid

#### Disclaimer

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Services (CMS) considers to be laboratory tests under CLIA (and thus requiring certification) change each year. CR 7184, from which this article is taken, informs carriers and MACs about the latest new CPT codes that are subject to CLIA edits.



### GO – What You Need to Do

Make sure that your billing staffs are aware of these CLIA-related changes for 2010 and that you remain current with certification requirements.

## Background

Listed below are the latest tests approved by the Food and Drug Administration as waived tests under CLIA. The tests are valid as soon as they are approved. The CPT codes for the following new tests MUST have the modifier QW to be recognized as a waived test. Note, however, that the tests mentioned on the first page of the list attached to CR 7184 (i.e., CPT codes 81002, 81025, 82270, 82272, 82962, 83026, 84830, 85013, and 85651) do not require a QW modifier to be recognized as a waived test.

CPT Code	Effective Date	Description
G0430QW	January 1, 2010	American Screening Corporation OneScreen Drug Test Cups
84443QW	March 2, 2010	Aventir Biotech LLC, Forsure TSH Test {Whole Blood}
84443QW	March 4, 2010	BTNX, Inc Rapid Response Thyroid Stimulating Hormone (TSH) Test Cassette
G0430QW	April 21, 2010	CLIAwaived, Inc. Rapid Drug Test Cup {OTC}
G0430QW	April 21, 2010	Millennium Laboratories Clinical Supply, Inc Multi-Drug Pain Med Screen Cup
G0430QW	May 10, 2010	US Diagnostics ProScreen Drugs of Abuse Cup {OTC}
G0430QW	July 1, 2010	Ameditech, Inc ImmuTest Drug Screen Cup
G0430QW	July 4, 2010	Quik Test USA, Inc. Multi-Drug of Abuse Urine Test
G0430QW	July 4, 2010	Screen Tox Multi-Drug of Abuse Urine Test
82274QW, G0328QW	July 8, 2010	Consult Diagnostics Immunochemical Fecal Occult Blood Test (iFOBT)

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CPT Code	Effective Date	Description
G0430QW	July 19, 2010	Alfa Scientific Designs, Inc. Instant-View Drug of Abuse Urine Cassette Test
G0430QW	July 19, 2010	Alfa Scientific Designs, Inc. Instant-View Drug of Abuse Urine Cup Test
G0430QW	August 18, 2010	American Screening Corporation Reveal Multi-Drug Testing Cups
87880QW	August 18, 2010	PSS Consult Diagnostics Strep A Dipstick

## Additional Information

The official instruction, CR 7184 issued to your carrier or A/B MAC regarding this change may be viewed at <http://www.cms.gov/Transmittals/downloads/R2084CP.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/MLNProducts/downloads/CallCenterTollNumDirectory.zip> on the CMS website.

**News Flash - Each Office Visit is an Opportunity.** Medicare patients give many reasons for not getting their annual flu vaccination, but the fact is that there are 36,000 flu-related deaths in the United States each year, on average. More than 90% of these deaths occur in people 65 years of age and older. Please talk with your Medicare patients about the importance of getting their annual flu vaccination. This Medicare-covered preventive service will protect them for the entire flu season. And remember, vaccination is important for health care workers too, who may spread the flu to high risk patients. **Don't forget to immunize yourself and your staff. Protect your patients. Protect your family. Protect yourself. Get Your Flu Vaccine - Not the Flu.** Remember – Influenza vaccine plus its administration are covered Part B benefits. Note that influenza vaccine is NOT a Part D covered drug. For information about Medicare's coverage of the influenza vaccine and its administration, as well as related educational resources for health care professionals and their staff, please visit [http://www.cms.gov/MLNProducts/Downloads/Flu\\_Products.pdf](http://www.cms.gov/MLNProducts/Downloads/Flu_Products.pdf) and <http://www.cms.gov/AdultImmunizations> on the CMS website.

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