

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services



News Flash – The “Bone Mass Measurement” brochure is designed to provide education on the bone mass measurement benefit, and includes information on methods of bone measurement (bone density), coverage information, and risk factors. This brochure has been updated and is now available in downloadable format, free of charge, from the Medicare Learning Network at http://www.CMS.gov/MLNproducts/downloads/bone_mass.pdf on the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) website.

MLN Matters® Number: MM7511

Related Change Request (CR) #: 7511

Related CR Release Date: July 29, 2011

Effective Date: October 1, 2011

Related CR Transmittal #: R2265CP

Implementation Date: October 3, 2011

Quarterly Update to Correct Coding Initiative (CCI) Edits, Version 17.3, effective October 1, 2011

Provider Types Affected

Physicians and providers submitting claims to Medicare Carriers and/or Part A/B Medicare Administrative Contractors (A/B MACs) for services provided to Medicare beneficiaries are impacted by this issue.

Provider Action Needed

This article is based on Change Request (CR) 7511, which provides a reminder for physicians to take note of the quarterly updates to Correct Coding Initiative (CCI) edits. The last quarterly release of the edit module was issued in July 2011.

Background

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) developed the National Correct Coding Initiative (CCI) to promote national correct coding methodologies and to control improper coding that leads to inappropriate payment in Part B claims.

Disclaimer

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The coding policies developed are based on coding conventions defined in the:

- American Medical Association's (AMA's) Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) Manual;
- National and local policies and edits;
- Coding guidelines developed by national societies;
- Analysis of standard medical and surgical practice; and by
- Review of current coding practice.

The latest package of CCI edits, Version 17.3, is effective October 1, 2011, and includes all previous versions and updates from January 1, 1996, to the present. It will be organized in the following two tables:

- Column 1/Column 2 Correct Coding Edits, and
- Mutually Exclusive Code (MEC) Edits.

Additional information about CCI, including the current CCI and MEC edits, is available at <http://www.cms.gov/NationalCorrectCodInitEd> on the CMS website.

Additional Information

The CCI and MEC file formats are defined in the "Medicare Claims Processing Manual," Chapter 23, Section 20.9, which is available at <http://www.cms.gov/manuals/downloads/clm104c23.pdf> on the CMS website. The official instruction, CR7511, issued to your carrier or A/B MAC regarding this change can be found at <http://www.cms.gov/Transmittals/downloads/R2265CP.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.

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