

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



**News Flash** – Over the last year, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) has listened to your feedback about the Medicare online enrollment system, Provider Enrollment, Chain, and Ownership System (PECOS). As a result, we've made upgrades in order to reduce data entry time and increase access to information. Providers and staff using internet-based PECOS will now be able to digitally sign and certify your application and to see more information such as whether a request for revalidation has been sent to you by your Medicare contractor. You will be able to switch from Topic View to Fast Track View to review all of your enrollment information in a single screen. Overall, the system will be easier for you to use. Learn more about PECOS at <http://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Provider-Enrollment-and-Certification/MedicareProviderSupEnroll/InternetbasedPECOS.html> and be on the look-out for more enhancements in the coming months!

MLN Matters® Number: MM7600 **Revised**

Related Change Request (CR) #: 7600

Related CR Release Date: April 27, 2012

Effective Date: April 1, 2012

Related CR Transmittal #: R2462CP and R209FM

Implementation Date: October 1, 2012

## **New Physician Specialty Code for Sleep Medicine and Sports Medicine**

**Note:** This article was revised on May 9, 2012, to correct a typographical error in the second sentence of the "Provider Action Needed" Section. All other information is the same.

### **Provider Types Affected**

This MLN Matters® Article is intended for physicians, non-physician practitioners, and suppliers who bill Medicare Carriers, Medicare Administrative Contractors (A/B MACs), or Durable Medical Equipment (DME) MACs for sleep medicine service and/or sports medicine services provided to Medicare beneficiaries.

### **Provider Action Needed**

Effective April 2, 2012, you will need to use physician specialty code (C0) for sleep medicine services. In addition, claims submitted to DME MACs for sports medicine service should use the sports medicine specialty code of 23.

#### **Disclaimer**

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You should make sure that your billing staffs are aware of this new specialty code for sleep medicine services.

## Background

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Medicare physician and non-physician practitioner specialty codes describe the specific or unique types of medical services that physicians and non-physician practitioners provide. While physicians self-designate their Medicare physician specialty on the Medicare enrollment application (CMS-855I) or Internet-based Provider Enrollment, Chain, and Ownership System (PECOS) when they enroll in the Medicare program, non-physician practitioners are assigned a Medicare specialty code when they enroll. The specialty code becomes associated with the claims submitted by physicians or non-physician practitioners. Medicare contractors also use specialty code data to develop claims processing edits.

## New Specialty Code

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CR 7600 announces that the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) has established a new physician specialty code for Sleep Medicine. This new physician specialty code, which will be effective April 2, 2012, is C0. PECOS and your carrier or A/B MAC will recognize and use this new code as a valid primary and/or secondary specialty code for Sleep Medicine. Also, a new specialty code is established for sports medicine and that code is 23.

## Additional Information

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You can find more information about the new sleep medicine specialty code by going to CR7600, located at <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/Regulations-and-Guidance/Guidance/Transmittals/Downloads/R2462CP.pdf> on the CMS website. A related transmittal that updates the "Medicare Financial Management Manual" is at <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/Regulations-and-Guidance/Guidance/Transmittals/Downloads/R209FM.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.hhs.gov/Outreach-and-Education/Medicare-Learning-Network-MLN/MLNProducts/downloads/CallCenterTollNumDirectory.zip> on the CMS website.

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