

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



The ICD-10-related implementation date is now October 1, 2015. The switch to the new code set will affect every aspect of how your organization provides care, but with adequate planning and preparation, you can ensure a smooth transition for your practice. Keep Up to Date on ICD-10. Please visit the [ICD-10](#) website for the latest news and resources to help you prepare.

MLN Matters® Number: MM8035

Related Change Request (CR) #: CR 8035

Related CR Release Date: August 31, 2012

Effective Date: October 1, 2012

Related CR Transmittal #: R2540CP

Implementation Date: October 1, 2012

## October 2012 Integrated Outpatient Code Editor (I/OCE) Specifications Version 13.3

### Provider Types Affected

This MLN Matters® Article is intended for providers submitting claims to Medicare contractors (Fiscal Intermediaries (FIs), Medicare Administrative Contractors (MACs), and/or Regional Home Health Intermediaries (RHHIs)) for outpatient services provided to Medicare beneficiaries that are paid under the Outpatient Prospective Payment System (OPPS) and also for outpatient claims from any non-OPPS provider not paid under the OPPS, and for claims for limited services provided by a home health agency not under the Home Health Prospective Payment System, or for claims for services to a hospice patient for the treatment of a non-terminal illness.

### Provider Action Needed



#### CAUTION – What You Need to Know

This article is based on Change Request (CR) 8035, which describes changes to be implemented in the October 2012 Outpatient Prospective Payment System (OPPS) and

#### Disclaimer

This article was prepared as a service to the public and is not intended to grant rights or impose obligations. This article may contain references or links to statutes, regulations, or other policy materials. The information provided is only intended to be a general summary. It is not intended to take the place of either the written law or regulations. We encourage readers to review the specific statutes, regulations and other interpretive materials for a full and accurate statement of their contents. CPT only copyright 2011 American Medical Association.

Integrated Outpatient Code Editor (I/OCE) updates. Be sure your billing staff is aware of these changes.

## Background

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Medicare's I/OCE routes all institutional outpatient claims (including non-OPPS hospital claims) through a single integrated OCE which eliminates the need to update, install, and quarterly maintain two separate OCE software packages. It will be utilized under the OPPS and Non-OPPS for hospital outpatient departments, community mental health centers, all non-OPPS providers, and for limited services when provided by a home health agency not under the Home Health Prospective Payment System, or to a hospice patient for the treatment of a non-terminal illness.

CR 8035, from which this article is taken, informs the FIs, A/B MACs, RHHIs and the Fiscal Intermediary Shared System (FISS) that the I/OCE was updated for October 1, 2012, and provides them with the instruction and specification changes to be implemented in the October 2012 OPPS and I/OCE updates.

The full list of I/OCE specifications can now be found at <http://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Coding/OutpatientCodeEdit/index.html> on the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) website.

A summary of the changes for October 2012 can be found in Appendix M, and the [Preliminary Summary of Data Changes Integrated OCE v 13.3 document](#) that are attachments to CR8305, and that summary is captured in the following key points:

- Effective January 1, 2006, Medicare removed ICD-9-CM diagnosis code 7511 (Atresia and stenosis of small intestine) from the list of pediatric diagnoses, age 0-17 years old. Edit 2 is affected.
- Effective January 1, 2012, Medicare removed the procedure/device code pair requirements for procedure code 57288;
- Effective June 27, 2012, apply a mid-quarter National Coverage Determination approval date to code 43755;
- Implement version 18.3 of the NCCI (as modified for applicable institutional providers)

## Additional Information

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The official instruction, CR 8035 issued to your FI, RHHI, or A/B MAC regarding this change may be viewed at <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/Regulations-and-Guidance/Guidance/Transmittals/Downloads/R2540CP.pdf> on the CMS website.

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If you have any questions, please contact your FI, RHHI, 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.

**News Flash - Influenza Season is Around the Corner** - As your patients age, their immune systems may weaken. This weakening can make seniors more susceptible to complications from seasonal influenza (flu). Now is the perfect time to remind your patients that seasonal influenza vaccination is the best defense against the flu. Medicare provides coverage for one flu vaccine and its administration per influenza season for seniors and other Medicare beneficiaries with no co-pay or deductible. Talk with your Medicare patients about their risk for getting the flu and start protecting your patients as soon as your 2012-2013 seasonal flu vaccine arrives. Also, don't forget to immunize yourself and your staff. *Know what to do about the flu.*

*Remember* – The influenza vaccine plus its administration is a covered Part B benefit. The influenza vaccine is NOT a Part D covered drug. CMS will provide information and a link to the 2012-2013 Influenza Vaccine prices when they are available.

For more information on coverage and billing of the flu vaccine and its administration, please visit the [CMS Medicare Learning Network® Preventive Services Educational Products](#) and [CMS Immunizations](#) web pages. While some providers may offer the flu vaccine, others can help their patients locate a vaccine provider within their local community. [HealthMap Vaccine Finder](#) is a free, online service where users can search for locations offering flu vaccines.

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