

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



NEW product from the Medicare Learning Network® (MLN)

- [“Hospice Related Services – Part B”](#) Podcast, ICN 908995, downloadable only



MLN Matters® Number: MM8482

Related Change Request (CR) #: CR 8482

Related CR Release Date: December 27, 2013

Effective Date: January 1, 2014

Related CR Transmittal #: R2844CP

Implementation Date: January 6, 2014

## 2014 Annual Update to the Therapy Code Lists

### Provider Types Affected

This MLN Matters® Article is intended for physicians, therapists, and other providers who submit claims to Medicare Administrative Contractors (MACs), including Home Health & Hospice MACs for outpatient rehabilitation therapy services provided to Medicare beneficiaries.

### Provider Action Needed

This article is based on Change Request (CR) 8482 which updates the therapy code list for Calendar Year (CY) 2014 by adding four “Always Therapy” codes, one “Sometimes Therapy” code, and deletes two current codes. The update to the therapy code list reflects those made in the CY 2014 Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System and Current Procedural Terminology, Fourth Edition (HCPCS/CPT-4). Please make sure your billing and coding staff are aware of these changes.

### Background

The Social Security Act (Section 1834(k)(5)); (see [http://www.ssa.gov/OP\\_Home/ssact/title18/1834.htm](http://www.ssa.gov/OP_Home/ssact/title18/1834.htm) on the Internet) requires that all claims for outpatient rehabilitation therapy services and all comprehensive outpatient rehabilitation facility

#### Disclaimer

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(CORF) services be reported using a uniform coding system. The HCPCS/CPT-4 is the coding system used for the reporting of these services.

CR 8482, from which this article is taken, updates the list of codes that sometimes or always describe therapy services. The additions, changes, and deletions to the therapy code list reflect those made in the CY 2014 HCPCS/CPT-4. The therapy code listing can be found at

<http://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Billing/TherapyServices/index.html> on the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services website.

CR 8482 updates the therapy code list with four "always therapy" codes, one "sometimes therapy" code, and deletes two current codes for CY 2014 as shown in the following tables.

#### Always Therapy HCPCS Codes Added for CY 2014

HCPCS Code	Short Descriptor
92521	Evaluation of speech fluency (eg, stuttering, cluttering)
92522	Evaluation of speech sound production (eg, articulation, phonological process, apraxia, dysarthria)
92523	Evaluation of language comprehension and expression (eg, receptive and expressive language)
92524	Behavioral and qualitative analysis of voice and resonance

#### Always Therapy HCPCS Codes Deleted for CY 2014

HCPCS Code	Short Descriptor
92506	Evaluation of speech, language, voice, communication, and/or auditory processing disorder, and/or aural rehabilitation status.

#### Sometimes Therapy HCPCS Code Added for CY 2014

HCPCS Code	Short Descriptor
97610*	Low frequency, non-contact, non-thermal ultrasound, including topical application(s), when performed, wound assessment, and instruction(s) for ongoing care, per day

#### Sometimes Therapy HCPCS Code Deleted for CY 2014

HCPCS Code	Short Descriptor
0183T*	Low frequency, non-contact, non-thermal ultrasound, including topical applications(s), when performed, wound assessment, and instruction(s) for ongoing care, per day

\*97610 replaces current code 0183T effective January 1, 2014

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## Additional Information

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The official instruction, CR 8482 issued to MAC regarding this change may be viewed at <http://www.cms.gov/Regulations-and-Guidance/Guidance/Transmittals/Downloads/R2844CP.pdf> on the CMS website.

If you have any questions, please contact your 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** - Generally, Medicare Part B covers one flu vaccination and its administration per flu season for beneficiaries without co-pay or deductible. Now is the perfect time to vaccinate beneficiaries. Health care providers are encouraged to get a flu vaccine to help protect themselves from the flu and to keep from spreading it to their family, co-workers, and patients. Note: The flu vaccine is not a Part D-covered drug. For more information, visit:

- [MLN Matters® Article #MM8433](#), "Influenza Vaccine Payment Allowances - Annual Update for 2013-2014 Season"
- [MLN Matters® Article #SE1336](#), "2013-2014 Influenza (Flu) Resources for Health Care Professionals"
- [HealthMap Vaccine Finder](#) - a free, online service where users can search for locations offering flu and other adult vaccines. While some providers may offer flu vaccines, those that don't can help their patients locate flu vaccines within their local community.
- The CDC website for [Free Resources](#), including [prescription-style tear-pads](#) that allow you to give a customized flu shot reminder to patients at high-risk for complications from the flu.

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