

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



NEW product from the Medicare Learning Network® (MLN)

- [“Vaccine Payments Under Medicare Part D”](#), Fact Sheet, ICN 908764, downloadable

MLN Matters® Number: MM8511

Related Change Request (CR) #: CR 8511

Related CR Release Date: November 29, 2013

Effective Date: April 1, 2014

Related CR Transmittal #: R2830CP

Implementation Date: April 7, 2014

Quarterly Update to the Correct Coding Initiative (CCI) Edits, Version 20.1, Effective April 1, 2014

Provider Types Affected

This MLN Matters® Article is intended for physicians, other providers, and suppliers submitting claims to Medicare contractors (carriers and A/B Medicare Administrative Contractors (A/B MACs)) for services to Medicare beneficiaries.

Provider Action Needed

This article is based on Change Request (CR) 8298 which informs Medicare contractors about the release of the latest package of CCI edits, Version 20.1, which will be effective April 1, 2014. Make sure that your billing staffs are aware of these changes.

Background

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) developed the National CCI to promote national correct coding methodologies and to control improper coding that leads to inappropriate payment in Part B claims. The coding policies developed are based on coding conventions defined in the American Medical Association's Current Procedural Terminology manual, national and local policies

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and edits, coding guidelines developed by national societies, analysis of standard medical and surgical practice, and review of current coding practice.

Version 20.1 will include all previous versions and updates from January 1, 1996, to the present. In the past, CCI was organized in two tables: Column 1/Column 2 Correct Coding Edits and Mutually Exclusive Code (MEC) Edits. In order to simplify the use of NCCI edit files (two tables), on April 1, 2012, CMS consolidated these two edit files into the Column One/Column Two Correct Coding edit file. Separate consolidations have occurred for the two practitioner NCCI edit files and the two NCCI edit files used for needs defined (OCE). It will only be necessary to search the Column One/Column Two Correct Coding edit file for active or previously deleted edits. CMS no longer publishes a Mutually Exclusive edit file on its website for either practitioner or outpatient hospital services, since all active and deleted edits will appear in the single Column One/Column Two Correct Coding edit file on each website. **The edits previously contained in the Mutually Exclusive edit file are NOT being deleted but are being moved to the Column One/Column Two Correct Coding edit file.**

Additional Information

The official instruction, CR 8511 issued to your MAC regarding this change may be viewed at <http://www.cms.gov/Regulations-and-Guidance/Guidance/Transmittals/Downloads/R2830CP.pdf> on the CMS website.

Additional information on the CCI edits is available at <http://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Coding/NationalCorrectCodInitEd/index.html> 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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