

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services



Revised product from the Medicare Learning Network® (MLN)

- [ICD-10-CM/PCS Billing and Payment Frequently Asked Questions, Fact Sheet \(ICN 908974\)](#)

MLN Matters® Number: MM9248

Related Change Request (CR) #: CR 9248

Related CR Release Date: July 10, 2015

Effective Date: October 1, 2015

Related CR Transmittal #: R3290CP

Implementation Date: October 5, 2015

October 2015 Quarterly Average Sales Price (ASP) Medicare Part B Drug Pricing Files and Revisions to Prior Quarterly Pricing Files

Provider Types Affected

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

Provider Action Needed

Change Request (CR) 9248 which instructs MACs to download and implement the October 2015 Average Sales Price (ASP) drug pricing files and, if released by CMS, the July 2015, April 2015, January 2015, and October 2014, ASP drug pricing files for Medicare Part B drugs. Medicare will use these files to determine the payment limit for claims for separately payable Medicare Part B drugs processed or reprocessed on or after October 5, 2015, with dates of service October 1, 2015, through December 31, 2015. MACs will not search and adjust claims that have already been processed unless brought to their attention. Make sure your billing staffs are aware of these changes.

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Background

The Average Sales Price (ASP) methodology is based on quarterly data submitted to CMS by manufacturers. CMS will supply Medicare contractors with the ASP and Not Otherwise Classified (NOC) drug pricing files for Medicare Part B drugs on a quarterly basis. Payment allowance limits under the OPSS are incorporated into the Outpatient Code Editor (OCE) through separate instructions that can be located in the “Medicare Claims Processing Manual” ([Chapter 4 \(Part B Hospital \(Including Inpatient Hospital Part B and OPSS\)\), Section 50 \(Outpatient PRICER\)](#)).

The following table shows how the quarterly payment files will be applied:

Files	Effective Dates of Service
October 2015 ASP and ASP NOC	October 1, 2015, through December 31, 2015
July 2015 ASP and ASP NOC	July 1, 2015, through September 30, 2015
April 2015 ASP and ASP NOC	April 1, 2015, through June 30, 2015
January 2015 ASP and ASP NOC	January 1, 2015, through March 31, 2015
October 2014 ASP and ASP NOC	October 1, 2014, through December 31, 2014

NOTE: The absence or presence of a HCPCS code and its associated payment limit does not indicate Medicare coverage of the drug or biological. Similarly, the inclusion of a payment limit within a specific column does not indicate Medicare coverage of the drug in that specific category. The local MAC processing the claim shall make these determinations.

Additional Information

The official instruction, CR9248 issued to your MAC regarding this change is available at <http://www.cms.gov/Regulations-and-Guidance/Guidance/Transmittals/Downloads/R3290CP.pdf> on the CMS website.

If you have any questions, please contact your MAC at their toll-free number. That number is available at <http://www.cms.gov/Outreach-and-Education/Medicare-Learning-Network-MLN/MLNMattersArticles/index.html> under - How Does It Work.

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