

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



RELEASED product from the Medicare Learning Network® (MLN)

- [“Safeguard Your Identity and Privacy Using PECOS”](#), Fact Sheet, ICN 909017, Downloadable only

MLN Matters® Number: MM9377

Related Change Request (CR) #: CR 9377

Related CR Release Date: November 20, 2015

Effective Date: April 1, 2016

Related CR Transmittal #: R3408CP

Implementation Date: April 4, 2016

## Quarterly Update to the Correct Coding Initiative (CCI) Edits, Version 22.1, Effective April 1, 2016

### Provider Types Affected

---

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

### Provider Action Needed

---

Change Request (CR) 9377 informs MACs about the release of the latest package of National Correct Coding Initiative (NCCI) edits, Version 22.1, which will be effective April 1, 2016. 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.

#### 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 2014 American Medical Association. All rights reserved.

The latest package of CCI edits, Version 22.1, effective April 1, 2016, will be available via the CMS Data Center (CDC). A test file will be available on or about January 31, 2016, and a final file will be available on or about February 14, 2016.

Version 22.1 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 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, CR9377, issued to your MAC regarding this change is available at <https://www.cms.gov/Regulations-and-Guidance/Guidance/Transmittals/Downloads/R3408CP.pdf> on the CMS website.

The CMS NCCI webpage has additional information at <https://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. That number is available at <http://www.cms.gov/Outreach-and-Education/Medicare-Learning-Network-MLN/MLNMattersArticles/index.html> under - How Does It Work.

### **Each Office Visit is an Opportunity to Recommend Influenza Vaccination.**

Protect your patients, your staff, and yourself. Medicare Part B covers one influenza vaccination and its administration each influenza season for Medicare beneficiaries. If medically necessary, Medicare may cover additional seasonal influenza vaccinations.

- [Preventive Services](#) Educational Tool
- [Influenza Vaccine Payment Allowances](#) MLN Matters Article
- [Influenza Resources for Health Care Professionals](#) MLN Matters Article
- [CDC Influenza](#) website

#### **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 2014 American Medical Association. All rights reserved.