



**News Flash** – Beginning with the April 2010 update, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) will now post the National Correct Coding Initiative (NCCI) Edit files in Excel 2007 and in text formats. Because Excel 2007 can support a larger number of rows, each code range will be contained in one file as opposed to multiple files. This should correct the incompatibility issues that some users experienced last quarter with the Excel 2003 files. Please be aware that Excel 2003 and earlier versions of the software have a maximum row count of 65,536. Some of the NCCI Edit files exceed the maximum row count. If you do not have Excel 2007, please use the text format to import the data into an application that can support larger files. For more information on NCCI edits and to download the files, visit <http://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Coding/NationalCorrectCodInitEd/index.html> on the CMS website.

MLN Matters® Number: MM6929

Related Change Request (CR) #: 6929

Related CR Release Date: May 21, 2010

Effective Date: October 1, 2010

Related CR Transmittal #: R1970CP

Implementation Date: October 4, 2010

**Note:** This article was updated on December 6, 2012, to reflect current Web addresses. All other information remains unchanged.

## Updated Form CMS-1500 Information

### Provider Types Affected

This is an informational article for physicians, providers and suppliers who use Form CMS-1500 to submit claims to Medicare contractors (carriers, Part A/B Medicare Administrative Contractors (A/B MACs), and Durable Medical Equipment (DME) MACs) for services provided to Medicare beneficiaries.

### What You Need to Know

This article, based on Change Request (CR) 6929, updates Form CMS-1500 information in the Medicare Claims Processing Manual by removing language allowing the use of legacy identifiers and making other technical corrections as a result of that change. As part of this update, providers are reminded that they are responsible for purchasing their own CMS-1500 forms. Forms can be obtained from printers or printed in-house as long as the forms follow the specifications approved by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services as developed by the

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American Medical Association. Photocopies of the Form CMS-1500 are NOT acceptable. Medicare will accept any type (i.e., single sheet, snap-out, continuous feed, etc.) of the Form CMS-1500 for processing. You may purchase forms from the U.S. Government Printing Office by calling 1-202-512-1800.

## Additional Information

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If you have questions, please contact your Medicare carrier and/or 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.

The official instruction issued to your Medicare carrier and/or MAC regarding this change may be viewed at <http://www.cms.gov/Regulations-and-Guidance/Guidance/Transmittals/downloads/R1970CP.pdf> on the CMS website.

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