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# Program Memorandum Carriers

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Department of Health &  
Human Services (DHHS)  
Centers for Medicare &  
Medicaid Services (CMS)

Transmittal B-01-57

Date: SEPTEMBER 21, 2001

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## CHANGE REQUEST 1872

### **SUBJECT: New Specialty Code for Pain Management**

The purpose of this Program Memorandum (PM) is to establish a new physician specialty code for Pain Management. The new code is "72" which is presently listed as reserved. Physicians choosing this specialty code are not required to accept assignment unless he/she enters into a participating supplier agreement. Carriers are to enroll these physicians, if they are not already enrolled, using the general enrollment instructions found in Chapter 10 of the Program Integrity Manual.

Carriers will change a current physician specialty code to pain management only if the physician requests the change. Publish information about the creation of the new code and instructions on how the physician can change the specialty code in your next Carrier bulletin or newsletter, and on your website.

Specialty code "72" will be added to the Unique Provider Identifier Number Registry process. For further instructions, see the MCM Part 4, Professional Relations §1000.

**The *effective date* for this PM is January 1, 2002**

**The *implementation date* for this PM is January 1, 2002.**

**These instructions should be implemented within your current operating budget.**

**This PM may be discarded after January 1, 2003.**

**If you have any questions, contact Sue Hensley at 410-786-7491.**