Update to Publication 100-04, Chapter 18 and Publication 100-02, Chapter 15, Section to Add Data Regarding Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) and its Administration to Current Claims Processing Requirements and Other General Updates

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Implementation Date: May 16, 2022

Provider Types Affected

This MLN Matters Article is for physicians, hospitals, and other providers billing Medicare Administrative Contractors (MACs) for COVID-19 services they provide to Medicare patients.

Provider Action Needed

Make sure your billing staffs knows about updates to the Medicare Claims Processing and Benefits Policy Manuals to:

- Add information for COVID-19 claims processing
- Revise the centralized billing enrollment process to streamline provider enrollment

Background

In response to the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency (PHE), CMS created new Category II HCPCS codes for COVID-19 vaccines and their administration. CR 12634 adds payment processing instructions for the COVID-19 vaccines and their administration. We make Medicare payments for the COVID-19 vaccines and their administration in the same way as influenza and pneumococcal vaccines.

The revised manual instructions also:

- Remove duplicate data and language
- Update outdated language
- Streamline the approval process for Medicare centralized billers for flu, pneumococcal, and COVID-19
We’ve added COVID-19 to the list of preventive vaccines that Medicare Part B covers without coinsurance or deductible.

Key updates to the Medicare Claims Processing Manual, Chapter 18 are:

- Addition of a link to the COVID-19 HCPCS codes
- Revisions to Section 10.2, which covers billing requirements for COVID-19
- Revisions to Section 10.2.5.2, which covers Part B payment instructions
- Revisions to Section 10.3.1.1 give information to providers applying for centralized billing

The key update to the Medicare Benefit Policy Manual, Chapter 15 is in Section 60. This section covers services and supplies provided incident to a physician’s or a non-physician practitioner’s professional service.

More Information

CR 12634 is the official instruction for this change. We issued it via 2 transmittals. The first updates Chapter 18 of the Medicare Claims Processing Manual. The second updates Chapter 15 of the Medicare Benefit Policy Manual.

For more information, find your MAC’s website.

Document History

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<th>Date of Change</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>April 14, 2022</td>
<td>Initial article released.</td>
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