

CMS Manual System	Department of Health & Human Services (DHHS)
Pub 100-04 Medicare Claims Processing	Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS)
Transmittal 13462	Date: November 14, 2025
	Change Request 14234

SUBJECT: Instructions for Retrieving the January 2026 Medicare Physician Fee Schedule Database (MPFSDB) Datasets from the Cloud Service

I. SUMMARY OF CHANGES: The purpose of this Change Request (CR) is to provide instructions for the Medicare contractors to download, test, and implement the datasets for the annual January MPFSDB update. In addition, Medicare contractors will need to be prepared to implement up to three revised MPFS payment datasets for the January update in the event that technical errors are discovered or any other corrections are required. This recurring update notification applies to Publication 100-04, Chapter 23, Section 30.1.

EFFECTIVE DATE: January 1, 2026

**Unless otherwise specified, the effective date is the date of service.*

IMPLEMENTATION DATE: January 5, 2026

Disclaimer for manual changes only: The revision date and transmittal number apply only to red italicized material. Any other material was previously published and remains unchanged. However, if this revision contains a table of contents, you will receive the new/revised information only, and not the entire table of contents.

II. CHANGES IN MANUAL INSTRUCTIONS: (N/A if manual is not updated)

R=REVISED, N=NEW, D=DELETED-Only One Per Row.

R/N/D	CHAPTER / SECTION / SUBSECTION / TITLE
N/A	N/A

III. FUNDING:

For Medicare Administrative Contractors (MACs):

The Medicare Administrative Contractor is hereby advised that this constitutes technical direction as defined in your contract. CMS does not construe this as a change to the MAC Statement of Work. The contractor is not obligated to incur costs in excess of the amounts allotted in your contract unless and until specifically authorized by the Contracting Officer. If the contractor considers anything provided, as described above, to be outside the current scope of work, the contractor shall withhold performance on the part(s) in question and immediately notify the Contracting Officer, in writing or by e-mail, and request formal directions regarding continued performance requirements.

IV. ATTACHMENTS:

Recurring Update Notification

Number	Requirement	Responsibility								
		A/B MAC			DME MAC	Shared-System Maintainers				Other
		A	B	HHH		FISS	MCS	VMS	CFW	
	mail notification via the Functional Workgroups as soon as the 2026 final rule goes on display (around November 1, 2025).									
14234.1.1	Medicare contractors shall download and test the January 2026 MPFSDB datasets (including the Anesthesia Conversion Factor dataset) from the cloud service around November 1, 2025.	X	X	X						Hybrid Cloud Data Center (HCDC), MAP, PCS
14234.2	In the event that corrections are required and replacement January 2026 MPFSDB payment datasets are issued, contractors shall be prepared to retrieve up to three replacement payment datasets from the cloud service.	X	X	X		X				Hybrid Cloud Data Center (HCDC), MAP, PCS
14234.2.1	The CMS shall notify the contractors when the replacement datasets are available for retrieval through an e-mail notification via the Part A and Part B Functional Workgroups.									CMS
14234.2.2	Contractors shall be ready to implement any replacement datasets no later than the January 5, 2026, implementation date of this CR, unless otherwise directed by CMS. (NOTE: Replacement datasets will not be issued under this CR too far into January, when claims are no longer routinely being held for the January	X	X	X						CMS, MAP

Number	Requirement	Responsibility								
		A/B MAC			DME MAC	Shared-System Maintainers				Other
		A	B	HHH		FISS	MCS	VMS	CWF	
	Release. Any revisions after then will need a separate instruction.)									
14234.2.3	Contractors shall post any revised MPFS fees on their websites as soon as possible, but no later than 10 business days after receipt of the datasets, if replacement datasets are issued.	X	X	X					MAP	
14234.3	<p>The CMS shall notify the Common Working File (CWF) maintainer via e-mail when the January 2026 MPFSDB datasets, described in requirement 1 and requirement 2 (when replacement datasets are issued), are available for downloading, along with the names for the datasets below to facilitate duplicate billing edits:</p> <p>1) Duplicate Radiology editing;</p> <p>2) Duplicate Diagnostic editing;</p> <p>3) Pathology editing, and;</p> <p>4) Relative Value Units (RVU) and payment indicator files.</p>								CMS	
14234.3.1	For the new datasets (and when replacement datasets are issued), the CWF shall compare the existing data to the new data and install any necessary changes.							X		

IV. PROVIDER EDUCATION

None

Impacted Contractors: None

V. SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Section A: Recommendations and supporting information associated with listed requirements:

"Should" denotes a recommendation.

X-Ref Requirement Number	Recommendations or other supporting information:
	N/A

Section B: All other recommendations and supporting information: N/A

VI. CONTACTS

Post-Implementation Contact(s): Contact your Contracting Officer's Representative (COR).

VII. FUNDING

Section A: For Medicare Administrative Contractors (MACs):

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ATTACHMENTS: 0