

## README file for 2019 Final Rule Data Addenda B

The 2019 Final Rule Data Addenda B contains the data status indicators, data APC assignments, and data comment indicators that were used in the development of the mean costs for the HCPCS codes and APCs that are the basis of the scaled weights for the CY 2019 Final OPps. The status indicators, APC assignments, and comment indicators contained in this file differ from those in the Addenda B that is published as part of the final rule in the following ways:

Elements are present for codes that were valid for CY 2017 but which are deleted for 2018.

HCPCS codes that are assigned status indicators Q1, Q2 or Q4 for publication have data status indicator N because their default for data purposes is as a packaged service; the status indicator is changed during modeling if the payment circumstances allow the HCPCS to meet the criteria for separate payment. HCPCS codes assigned status indicator Q3 appear with their separate payment status. HCPCS codes for partial hospitalization (PHP) appear with APC 5853 in Data Addenda B, even though those codes could potentially be paid through any of the PHP APCs 5853 or 5863 depending on the site of service.

There are five columns in the file:

Column heading	Explanation
HCPCS code	The Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System code that describes a service for which the code was valid at any time during 2017 or 2018. In a few cases, if the data comment indicator is “REM”, the code is a dummy code that was created to carry a cost for a CMS-defined service for which there either is no HCPCS code or for which there was no valid HCPCS code in 2017. See data comment indicator “REM” in the table of comment indicator definitions below for more explanation.
Short Descriptor	The HCPCS short descriptor for the code. If the code is a CPT code, the short descriptor is the AMA CPT short descriptor.
2019 Final Data Status Indicator	The status indicator that is assigned to the HCPCS code for purposes of the use of the claims data in the calculation of CY 2019 OPps payment rates.
2019 Final Data APC	The APC that is assigned to the HCPCS code for purposes of the use of the claims data in the calculation of CY 2019 OPps payment rates.
2019 Final Data Comment Indicator	The comment indicator that is assigned to the HCPCS code.

The comment indicators and their definitions appear below:

<b>2019 Final Comment Indicator</b>	<b>Definition</b>
CPXX	There was a change in the SI or APC, or both, for the NPRM as compared to their assignment since June 30, 20XX.
CFXX	There was a change in the SI or APC, or both, for the final rule as compared to their assignment since December 31, 20XX
PDXX	HCPCS was proposed for deletion for 20XX.
DXX	HCPCS was deleted for 20XX
DAXX	HCPCS was deleted for April 20XX
DJXX	HCPCS was deleted for July 20XX
DOXX	HCPCS was deleted for October 20XX
NPXX	New Code for the 20XX NPRM, comments are accepted
NIXX	HCPCS was new for January 20XX
NAXX	HCPCS was new for April 20XX
NJXX	HCPCS was new for July 20XX
NOXX	HCPCS was new for October 20XX
RAXX	HCPCS had been deleted but was reinstated for 20XX
REM	The “HCPCS” code is a dummy code that was created as a vehicle by which to carry a cost that is calculated according to a set of criteria for purposes of the modeling that is necessary for budget neutrality, outlier estimation, and impact analysis purposes. For example, each composite APC has a dummy code. Similarly, services defined by codes that are new for 2019 for which there is no comparable code in the 2018 data may be assigned a dummy code for purposes of estimating the cost of the service from CY 2018 claims data using applicable criteria. Dummy codes are not included in publication Addenda B.
RVXX	HCPCS with substantial revision to its code descriptor in the next year as compared to the previous year.