



Changes to the Laboratory National Coverage Determination (NCD) Edit Software for October 2018

MLN Matters Number: MM10873

Related Change Request (CR) Number: 10873

Related CR Release Date: July 20, 2018

Effective Date: October 1, 2018

Related CR Transmittal Number: R4092CP

Implementation Date: October 1, 2018

PROVIDER TYPE AFFECTED

This MLN Matters Article is intended for physicians, other providers, and suppliers submitting claims to Medicare Administrative Contractors (MACs) for services provided to Medicare beneficiaries.

PROVIDER ACTION NEEDED

This article is based on Change Request (CR) 10873 which informs MACs about the changes that will be included in the October 2018 quarterly release of the edit module for clinical diagnostic laboratory services. Make sure that your billing staffs are aware of these changes.

BACKGROUND

CR 10873 announces the changes that will be included in the October 2018 quarterly release of the edit module for clinical diagnostic laboratory services. The National Coverage Determinations (NCDs) for clinical diagnostic laboratory services were developed by the laboratory negotiated rulemaking committee, and the final rule was published on November 23, 2001. Nationally uniform software was developed and incorporated in the Medicare shared systems so that laboratory claims subject to one of the 23 NCDs (Publication 100-03, Sections 190.12 - 190.34) were processed uniformly throughout the nation, effective April 1, 2003.

In accordance with Chapter 16, Section 120.2, Publication 100-04, the laboratory edit module is updated quarterly as necessary to reflect ministerial coding updates and substantive changes to the NCDs developed through the NCD process. The changes are a result of coding analysis decisions developed under the procedures for maintenance of codes in the negotiated NCDs and biannual updates of the International Classification of Diseases, Tenth Revision, Clinical Modification (ICD-10-CM) codes.

CR 10873 communicates requirements to Shared System Maintainers (SSMs) and contractors, notifying them of changes to the laboratory edit module to update it for changes in laboratory NCD code lists for October 2018. Please access the link below for the NCD spreadsheet of changes included with CR 10873:

<https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Coverage/DeterminationProcess/downloads/October2018.zip>

Note: MACs will adjust claims brought to their attention, but will not search their files to retract payment for claims already paid or retroactively pay claims.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The official instruction, CR10873, issued to your MAC regarding this change is available at <https://www.cms.gov/Regulations-and-Guidance/Guidance/Transmittals/2018Downloads/R4092CP.pdf>.

If you have questions, your MACs may have more information. Find their website at <http://go.cms.gov/MAC-website-list>.

DOCUMENT HISTORY

Date of Change	Description
July 20, 2018	Initial article released.

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