CMS Manual System	Department of Health & Human Services (DHHS)				
Pub 100-04 Medicare Claims Processing	Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS)				
Transmittal 4167	Date: November 16, 2018				
	Change Request 11038				

SUBJECT: Remittance Advice Remark Code (RARC), Claims Adjustment Reason Code (CARC), Medicare Remit Easy Print (MREP) and PC Print Update

**I. SUMMARY OF CHANGES:** The purpose of this Change Request (CR) is to update the RARC and CARC lists and to instruct ViPS Medicare System (VMS) and Fiscal Intermediary Shared System (FISS) to update MREP and PC Print. This Recurring Update Notification applies to Chapter 22, Sections 40.5, 60.1, and 60.2 of Publication (Pub.) 100-04 (Medicare Claims Processing Manual).

### **EFFECTIVE DATE: April 1, 2019**

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

**IMPLEMENTATION DATE: April 1, 2019** 

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** 

# **Attachment - Recurring Update Notification**

Pub. 100-04 Transmittal: 4167 Date: November 16, 2018 Change Request: 11038

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### I. GENERAL INFORMATION

**A. Background:** The Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA) instructs health plans to be able to conduct standard electronic transactions adopted under HIPAA using valid standard codes. Medicare policy states that CARCs and RARCs, as appropriate, which provide either supplemental explanation for a monetary adjustment or policy information that generally applies to the monetary adjustment, are required in the remittance advice and coordination of benefits transactions.

The CMS instructs contractors to conduct updates based on the code update schedule that results in publication three times per year – around March 1, July 1, and November 1. This Recurring Update Notification applies to Chapter 22, Sections 40.5, 60.1, and 60.2 of Pub. 100-04 (Medicare Claims Processing Manual).

The CMS provides this CR as a code update notification indicating when updates to CARC and RARC lists are made available on the Washington Publishing Company (WPC) website. The Shared System Maintainers (SSMs) have the responsibility to implement code deactivation, making sure that any deactivated code is not used in original business messages and allowing the deactivated code in derivative messages. The SSMs must make sure that Medicare does not report any deactivated code on or after the effective date for deactivation as posted on the WPC website. If any new or modified code has an effective date later than the implementation date specified in this CR, contractors must implement on the date specified on the WPC website (http://wpc-edi.com/Reference/).

A discrepancy between the dates may arise, as the WPC website is only updated three times per year and may not match the CMS release schedule. For this recurring CR, the Medicare Administrative Contractors (MACs) and the SSMs must get the complete list for both CARC and RARC from the WPC website to obtain the comprehensive lists for both code sets and determine the changes that are included on the code list since the last code update CR (CR 10620).

**B. Policy:** HIPAA and 45 CFR Part 162

### II. BUSINESS REQUIREMENTS TABLE

"Shall" denotes a mandatory requirement, and "should" denotes an optional requirement.

Number	Requirement	Re	Responsibility							
		A/B MAC			DME	Share	Other			
		Α	В	ННН		FISS	MCS	VMS	CWF	
					MAC					
11038.1	Contractors shall update	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		
	reason and remark codes that									
	have been modified and apply									
	to Medicare by April 1, 2019,									

Number	Requirement	Responsibility								
		Α	A/B I	MAC	DME	tainers	Other			
		A	В	ННН	MAC	FISS	MCS	VMS	CWF	
	based on changes to the CARC and RARC lists published on November 1, 2018 by WPC.  NOTE: Some modifications									
	may become effective at a future date.									
11038.1.1	Contractors shall obtain the actual effective date of the modification from the WPC website and make sure that modifications are implemented on the effective date (which may be later than the implementation date mentioned in this CR) for those code modifications that are being used by Medicare. Most modifications are effective on the publication day, but some modifications may become effective at a future date.  NOTE: This is the effective date of the modification of the code, not the implementation date or start date of the code itself.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		
11038.2	Contractors shall update reason and remark codes to include new codes that apply to Medicare by April 1, 2019, based on changes to the CARC and RARC lists published on November 1, 2018 by WPC.  NOTE: Some new codes may become effective at a future date.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		
11038.2.1	Contractors shall make sure that new codes are implemented on the effective date ("start date" at the WPC website) of the new code that may be later than the	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		

Number	Requirement	Responsibility								
		A	/B 1	MAC	DME	Share	d-Syste	m Main	tainers	Other
		A	В	ННН	MAC	FISS	MCS	VMS	CWF	
	implementation date mentioned in this CR. Most new codes become effective on the publication day, but some new codes may become effective at a future date.									
11038.3	Contractors shall make necessary programming changes so that no deactivated reason and remark code is reported in the remittance advice and no deactivated reason code is reported in the Coordination of Benefits (COB) claim by April 1, 2019.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		CEDI
	NOTE: Check the updated lists as posted on the WPC website to capture deactivations that were included in previous CR(s). WPC publishes lists for already deactivated codes and to be deactivated future codes.									
11038.3.1	Contractors shall review the reason and remark codes, dated November 1, 2018, for "Stop" dates for inclusion in the April 2019 update.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		CEDI
11038.4	Contractors shall update any crosswalk between the standard reason and remark codes and the shared system internal codes provided to the contractors and make any standard code deactivated since the last update unavailable for use by the contractors by April 1, 2019.					X	X			CEDI
11038.5	Contractors shall make necessary programming changes so that deactivated reason and remark codes are allowed in derivative messages after the deactivation implementation date per this CR or as posted					X	X			CEDI

Number	Requirement	Responsibility								
		A	\/B	MAC	DME	Share	Other			
		A	В	ННН	MAC	FISS	MCS	VMS	CWF	
	on the WPC website when:									
	Medicare is not primary;									
	• The COB claim is received after the deactivation effective date; and									
	• The date in DTP03 in Loop 2430 or 2330B in COB 837 transaction is less than the deactivation effective date as posted on the WPC website.									
11038.6	Contractors shall make necessary programming changes so that deactivated reason and remark codes are allowed, even after the deactivation implementation date in a Reversal and Correction situation, when a value of 22 in CLP02 identifies the claim to be a corrected claim, and in Medicare Secondary Payer claims, when forwarded to Medicare by primary payers before the deactivation date and Medicare adjudication is done after deactivation date.					X	X			CEDI
11038.7	VMS shall update MREP software by April 1, 2019. This update shall be based on the CARC and RARC lists as posted on WPC website on or about November 1, 2018.							X		
11038.8	FISS shall update the PC Print software by April 1, 2019. This update shall be based on the CARC and RARC lists as posted on WPC website on or about November 1, 2018.					X				

## III. PROVIDER EDUCATION TABLE

Number	Requirement	Re	spoi	nsibility	,	
			A/ M/	AC	DME MAC	CEDI
		A	В	ННН		
11038.9	MLN Article: CMS will make available an MLN Matters provider education article that will be marketed through the MLN Connects weekly newsletter shortly after the CR is released. MACs shall follow IOM Pub. No. 100-09 Chapter 6, Section 50.2.4.1, instructions for distributing MLN Connects information to providers, posting the article or a direct link to the article on your website, and including the article or a direct link to the article in your bulletin or newsletter. You may supplement MLN Matters articles with localized information benefiting your provider community in billing and administering the Medicare program correctly. Subscribe to the "MLN Matters" listserv to get article release notifications, or review them in the MLN Connects weekly newsletter.	X	X	X	X	X

### IV. SUPPORTING INFORMATION

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

<sup>&</sup>quot;Should" denotes a recommendation.

X-Ref Requirement Number	Recommendations or other supporting information:

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

### V. CONTACTS

 $\label{lem:contact} \textbf{Pre-Implementation Contact}(s): \textbf{Carla Douglas}, \textbf{carla.douglas@cms.hhs.gov} \ , \textbf{Matthew Klischer}, \textbf{matthew.klischer@cms.hhs.gov}$ 

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

### VI. FUNDING

### **Section A: For Medicare Administrative Contractors (MACs):**

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## **ATTACHMENTS: 0**