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Related CR Release Date: August 26, 2005
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Effective Date: January 1, 2005
Implementation Date: October 3, 2005

Medlearn Matters Number: MM4031
Revised

October Update to the 2005 Medicare Physician Fee Schedule Database

Note: This article was revised because CR4031 was revised on August 26, 2005. The CR release date and transmittal number (see above) were changed in the article to coincide with the revised CR. All other information in the article remains the same.

Provider Types Affected

Physicians and providers billing Medicare carriers or intermediaries for services paid under the Medicare Physician Fee Schedule

Provider Action Needed

Physicians, suppliers, and providers should be aware of the changes to the Medicare Physician Fee Schedule Database and identify those changes that affect their practice.

Background

CR4031 amends payment files issued to Medicare carriers and intermediaries based upon the November 15, 2004, Final Rules for the 2005 Medicare Physician Fee Schedule Database.

Additional Information

The changes to the fee schedule involve numerous CPT/HCPCS codes. While many of these changes are effective retroactive to January 1, 2005, please note that your carrier/FI will not reprocess claims already processed, unless you request them to do so.

The complete details of these changes to the October update to the 2005 Medicare Fee Schedule Database are described in an attachment to CR4031, which is the official instruction issued to your carrier/intermediary. That instruction may be viewed by going to

http://www.cms.hhs.gov/manuals/transmittals/comm_date_dsc.asp on the CMS web site. From that web page, look for CR4031 in the CR NUM column on the right, and click on the file for that CR.

If you have any questions, please contact your Medicare carrier/intermediary at their toll-free number, which may be found at <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/medlearn/tollnums.asp> on the CMS web site.

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