

Medlearn Matters Number: MM4268

Related Change Request (CR) #: 4268

Related CR Release Date: December 30, 2005

Effective Date: January 1, 2006

Related CR Transmittal #: R798CP

Implementation Date: January 3, 2006

Emergency Update to the 2006 Medicare Physician Fee Schedule (MPFS)

Provider Types Affected

Physicians, suppliers, and providers billing Medicare carriers and/or fiscal intermediaries (FIs) for services paid under the MPFS and provided to Medicare beneficiaries

Provider Action Needed



STOP – Impact to You

This article is based on Change Request (CR) 4268, which amends payment files issued to Medicare carriers based upon the November 21, 2005, MPFS Final Rule.



CAUTION – What You Need to Know

CR4268 includes a new G-code for intravenous infusion of immunoglobulin (G0332), new G-codes for the 2006 Oncology Demonstration Project, and changes to CPT code status indicators, global periods, and relative value units.



GO – What You Need to Do

See the *Background* section of this article for further details regarding these changes.

Background

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) issued payment files to carriers based upon the MPFS Final Rule published in the November 21, 2005, Federal Register (http://www.access.gpo.gov/su_docs/fedreg/a051121c.html), and the Social Security Act (Section 1848(c)(4) (http://www.ssa.gov/OP_Home/ssact/title18/1848.htm)) authorizes CMS to

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establish ancillary policies necessary to implement relative values for physicians' services.

CR4268 amends the November 21, 2005, MPFS Final Rule payment files and includes a new G-code (G0332 - Intravenous Infusion of Immunoglobulin) and additional new G-codes for the 2006 Oncology Demonstration Project. There are corrected descriptors for codes G0332, G9050-G9130, 0137T, 0001F, 0005F, and J7640. The coverage indicator on the HCPCS files should be a "C" for Category III codes 0144T-0154T. In addition, CR4268 includes changes to several Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) codes with respect to:

- Status indicators;
- Global periods; and
- Relative value units.

See Attachment 1 of CR4268 for the complete list of changes to G-codes and CPT codes included in this Emergency Update to the 2006 MPFS Database.

Implementation

The implementation date for this instruction is January 3, 2006.

Additional Information

For complete details, please see CR4268, the official instruction issued to your carrier/intermediary regarding this change. That instruction may be viewed at <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/Transmittals/downloads/R798CP.pdf> on the CMS web site.

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

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