

CMS Manual System	Department of Health & Human Services (DHHS)
Pub 100-04 Medicare Claims Processing	Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS)
Transmittal 4239	Date: February 15, 2019
	Change Request 11121

SUBJECT: Healthcare Provider Taxonomy Codes (HPTCs) April 2019 Code Set Update

I. SUMMARY OF CHANGES: Affected Medicare contractors shall obtain the most recent Healthcare Provider Taxonomy Codes (HPTCs) code set and use it to update their internal HPTC tables and/or reference files. The attached Recurring Update Notification applies to the Chapter 24, Section 60.6.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2019

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

IMPLEMENTATION DATE: July 1, 2019 - Contractors with the capability to do so shall implement this CR effective 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

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I. GENERAL INFORMATION

A. Background: The HPTC set is maintained by the National Uniform Claim Committee (NUCC) for standardized classification of health care providers. The NUCC updates the code set twice a year with changes effective April 1 and October 1. The HPTC list is available for view or for download from the NUCC Web site at www.nucc.org/index.php/code-sets-mainmenu-41/provider-taxonomy-mainmenu-40.

The changes to the code set include the addition of a new code and addition of definitions to existing codes. When reviewing the Health Care Provider Taxonomy code set online, revisions made since the last release can be identified by the color code; new items are green, modified items are orange, and inactive items are red.

B. Policy: The Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) requires that covered entities comply with the requirements in the electronic transaction format implementation guides adopted as national standards. The institutional and professional claim electronic standard implementation guides (X12 837-I and 837-P) each require use of valid codes contained in the HPTC set when there is a need to report provider type or physician, practitioner, or supplier specialty for a claim. Valid HPTCs are those codes approved by the NUCC for current use. Terminated codes are not approved for use after a specific date and newly approved codes are not approved for use prior to the effective date of the code set update in which each new code first appears. Although the NUCC generally posts their updates on the Washington Publishing Company (WPC) web page 3 months prior to the effective date, changes are not effective until April 1 or October 1 as indicated in each update. Specialty and/or provider type codes issued by any entity other than the NUCC are not valid, and Medicare would be guilty of non-compliance with HIPAA if Medicare contractors accepted claims that contain invalid HPTCs.

II. BUSINESS REQUIREMENTS TABLE

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

Number	Requirement	Responsibility									
		A/B MAC			D M E M A C	Shared- System Maintainers				Other	
		A	B	H H H		F I S S	M C S	V M S	C W F		
11121.1	Contractors and maintainers shall use the most cost-effective means to obtain the April 1, 2019 HPTC set which is available online at WPC and the NUCC Web sites.	X	X	X	X	X	X				CEDI

Number	Requirement	Responsibility									
		A/B MAC			D M E	Shared-System Maintainers				Other	
		A	B	H H H		F M V C	I C M W	S S S F			
11121.2	Contractors and maintainers shall update the current HPTC Tables with the April 1, 2019 HPTC list.	X	X	X	X	X	X				
11121.2.1	Contractors and maintainers having the capability to do so shall update the HPTC table, such that claims received on and after April 1, 2019 will be validated against the April 1, 2019 HPTC set.	X	X	X	X	X	X				CEDI
11121.2.2	Contractors and maintainers lacking the capability to implement the updated April 2019 HPTC set, for claims received on or after April 1, 2019, shall implement the April 2019 HPTC update as soon as they can after April 1, 2019, but not beyond July 1, 2019.	X	X	X	X	X	X				CEDI

III. PROVIDER EDUCATION TABLE

Number	Requirement	Responsibility						
		A/B MAC			D M E	C E D I		
		A	B	H H H			M A C	
11121.3	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	X	

IV. SUPPORTING INFORMATION

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

"Should" denotes a recommendation.

X-Ref Requirement Number	Recommendations or other supporting information:
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Section B: All other recommendations and supporting information: N/A

V. CONTACTS

Pre-Implementation Contact(s): Char Parks, Charlene.Parks@cms.hhs.gov , Matt Klischer, 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