

CMS Manual System	Department of Health & Human Services (DHHS)
Pub 100-20 One-Time Notification	Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS)
Transmittal 12103	Date: June 27, 2023
	Change Request 13163

Transmittal 11990 issued April 21, 2023, is being rescinded and replaced by Transmittal 12103, dated June 27, 2023, to remove all references contained in this CR directing the MCS contractor to retrieve and load the ASC Code Pair file by revising the background section and Business Requirement (BR) 13163.1 and deleting BR 13163.1.4. The MACs who process this file shall continue to pull the file into the processing environments under the existing design. This CR is also removing any reference to the End Date - 8 characters - YYYYMMDD format being a required data element by revising BR 13163.1.1. All other information remains the same.

SUBJECT: Update the Multi-Carrier System (MCS) to Reduce the Ambulatory Surgical Center (ASC) Code Pair at the Appropriate Rate

I. SUMMARY OF CHANGES: The purpose of this Change Request (CR) is to create MCS maintained audits to apply the reduction rate for the ASC code pairs.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2023 - October 2023 release (coding, testing and implementation) – BRs 13163.1 – 13163.4.1.3 and 13163.7 – 13163.10 • Retrieve and load of the ASC code pair file. • Create the new change/compare report. • Add file copy functionality. • Create the three new SSM audits and the functionality to read the ASC code pair file for the multiplier percentage for the reduction audit.; January 1, 2024 - January 2024 release (coding, testing, and implementation) – BRs 13163.5, 13163.6, and 13163.11-13163.11.3 • Add an ASC code pair file online screen. • Add an ASC code pair file MCSDT window • Add the functionality to automatically build PJ/PL segments for the three new SSM audits during the file load process.

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

IMPLEMENTATION DATE: October 2, 2023 - October 2023 release (coding, testing and implementation) – BRs 13163.1 – 13163.4.1.3 and 13163.7 – 13163.10 • Retrieve and load of the ASC code pair file. • Create the new change/compare report. • Add file copy functionality. • Create the three new SSM audits and the functionality to read the ASC code pair file for the multiplier percentage for the reduction audit.; January 2, 2024 - January 2024 release (coding, testing, and implementation) – BRs 13163.5, 13163.6, and 13163.11-13163.11.3 • Add an ASC code pair file online screen. • Add an ASC code pair file MCSDT window • Add the functionality to automatically build PJ/PL segments for the three new SSM audits during the file load process.

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:

One Time Notification

Attachment - One-Time Notification

Pub. 100-20	Transmittal: 12103	Date: June 27, 2023	Change Request: 13163
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SUBJECT: Update the Multi-Carrier System (MCS) to Reduce the Ambulatory Surgical Center (ASC) Code Pair at the Appropriate Rate

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I. GENERAL INFORMATION

A. Background: The purpose of this CR is to create MCS maintained audits to apply the reduction rate for the ASC code pair.

The current design of the MCS does not allow for the user to assign multiple reduction rates to an ASC code pair under a single audit. This requires the user to establish individual audits for each reduction rate percentage listed on the ASC code pair file. The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) updates the ASC code pair file on a quarterly basis, requiring the creation of an audit for each new code pair on the file. The number of audits available are being exhausted.

The pass-through devices on the code pair file should only be billed with one of the procedures for which it is paired. Currently, there is not a pass-through device-to-procedure code audit in MCS to reject claims when a pass-through device is billed with a procedure that is not included as part of a pair on the ASC code pair file.

Due to the level of effort involved for this CR, the coding, testing and implementation shall be split between the October 2023 and January 2024 releases. The October release shall include the system changes required to process the ASC code pair file as well as setting up the new MCS hard coded audits. The January release shall

include the new online screen, MCSDT window, and automating the creation of PJ/PL segments for the three audits. During the initial set-up of the audits, the PJ/PL segments shall be manually built by MCS.

October 2023 release (coding, testing and implementation) – Business Requirements (BRs) 13163.1 – 13163.4.1.3 and 13163.7 – 13163.10

- The Part B MAC shall retrieve and load of the ASC code pair file under existing design. No system's change shall occur to automat this process.
- Create the new change/compare report.
- Add file copy functionality.
- Create the three new SSM audits and the functionality to read the ASC code pair file for the multiplier percentage for the reduction audit.

NOTE: The Peraton is manually building the PJ/PL segments for the new audits to function with the October 2023 release.

January 2024 release (coding, testing, and implementation) – BRs 13163.5, 13163.6, and 13163.11-13163.11.3

- Add an ASC code pair file online screen.
- Add an ASC code pair file MCSDT window
- Add the functionality to automatically build PJ/PL segments for the three new SSM audits during the file load process.

B. Policy: N/A

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	
13163.1	The A/B MAC Part B shall be responsible for retrieving the ASC code pair file from the CMS mainframe utilizing the existing functionality.		X							
13163.1.1	The CMS shall redesign the ASC code pair file to include the following fields and the MCS shall accept these fields in the following format: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Device code - 5 characters (Required) • Procedure code - 5 characters (Required) 						X			CMS

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			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Procedure Percent Multiplier - 9v9(4) (9.9999) For example, 63% would be displayed as 06300. If there is no reduction, the multiplier can be all zeros. (Required) Effective Date - 8 characters - YYYYMMDD format (Required) End Date - 8 characters - YYYYMMDD format (Optional data element/as applicable) 											
13163.1.2	The CMS shall redesign the ASC code pair file so the MCS can identify a record as deleted, by making the effective date and the end date equal.							X			CMS	
13163.1.3	The CMS shall make a test version of the redesigned ASC code pair file available to the MCS by mid to late May of 2023. The contractors shall, upon notification from the CMS retrieve the test version of the revised ASC code pair file.							X			CMS, VDC	
13163.1.4	This requirement has been deleted.							X			VDC	
13163.1.5	The contractor shall design a new on request load job to update the MCS Master ASC Code Pair file.							X			VDC	
13163.1.6	The contractor shall add the ASC Code Pair file to the MCS COPY screen to allow for the user to copy/import the file.							X				
13163.2	The CMS shall create an initial full file replacement of all ASC code pairs that are valid for dates of service on or after October 1, 2023.										CMS	
13163.2.1	The contractors shall, upon notification from the CMS in early August 2023, receive the October 2023 version of the revised ASC code pair file to use for beta testing.										CMS, MIST, VDC	
13163.2.2	The contractors shall, upon notification from the CMS in early September 2023, receive the October 2023 version of the revised ASC code pair file to use for		X								CMS, RRB-SMAC, VDC	

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			
	User Acceptance Testing (UAT) period.											
13163.2.3	The contractors shall apply the end-date of September 30, 2023 to any local ASC code pair audits.		X									MIST, RRB-SMAC
13163.3	The CMS shall create partial update ASC code pair files containing any new or updated records, as needed. These are referred to as the Quarterly File Updates.							X				CMS
13163.4	The contractor shall create an MCS master ASC code pair file for internal use/storage.							X				
13163.4.1	The contractor shall provide a change report to identify add, change, and delete records by comparing an updated CMS ASC code pair file to existing records on the MCS master ASC code pair file.							X				
13163.4.1 .1	The contractor shall define an add record as, the device code, procedure code, and effective date are not currently on the MCS ASC master code pair file.							X				
13163.4.1 .2	The contractor shall define a change record as, the device code, procedure code, effective date or effective date and end date are on the MCS master ASC code pair file and one or more of the existing elements has changed.							X				
13163.4.1 .3	The contractor shall define a delete record as, the device code, procedure code, and the effective date are on the MCS ASC master code pair file and an end date the same as the effective date for the same device code, procedure code combination is received.							X				
13163.5	The contractor shall display the ASC code pair file records on an online mainframe screen.							X				
13163.6	The contractor shall display the ASC code pair file records on an MCS Desktop Tool (MCSDT) window.							X				
13163.7	The contractor shall create a mechanism to read the ASC code pair and the specific reduction amount tied							X				

Number	Requirement	Responsibility								Other
		A/B MAC			D M E M A C	Shared- System Maintainers				
		A	B	H H H		F I S S	M C S	V M S	C W F	
	to the code pair.									
13163.7.1	The contractor shall ensure the following are included: the device code, the procedure code, effective date, end date, and the reduction multiplier percentage to be applied.							X		
13163.7.2	The contractor shall create a new MCS maintained audit, effective for dates of service on and after October 1, 2023 to reduce the allowance for the procedure code by the multiplier percentage when billed in conjunction with the associated pass-through device code, for the same date of service and by the same provider. The services may be on the same or different claims.		X					X		RRB-SMAC
13163.7.2 .1	The contractor shall determine the reduction percentage by reading the MCS master ASC code pair file. The reduction shall be applied at the detail line for date(s) of service applicable to the code pair combination and its effective date (on or after) and/or on the effective and end date.							X		
13163.7.2 .2	The contractor shall apply the reduction percentage to the first code pair identified by going through the MCS Master ASC code pair file (look-up table) sequentially, in the order they appear if one pass through device could pair with multiple procedure codes.							X		
13163.7.2 .3	The contractor shall take the reduction for each code pair, if there is more than one (1) unit of service for a device code on the same date of service.							X		
13163.7.2 .4	The contractor shall ensure that no code pair is offset more than once and the number of code pairs receiving an offset should be no more than the units of a device code.							X		

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		
13163.7.2 .5	<p>The contractors shall use the following messaging when reducing these services:</p> <p>Claim Adjustment Group Code: CO (Contractual Obligation).</p> <p>CARC 59 - Processed based on multiple or concurrent procedure rules.</p> <p>MSN 30.1 - The approved amount is based on a special payment method.</p>		X								
13163.7.3	The contractor shall add the new audit to the H99THCEA SPITAB. The audit shall be displayed on the H99RBEA1 and H99RBEA2 reports with a CMS standard setting of 'Active', effective for dates of service on and after October 1, 2023.						X				
13163.8	Contractors shall create a new MCS maintained audit effective for dates of service on and after October 1, 2023 to 'return as unprocessable' a claim, if an ASC code pair file pass-through device is billed without an associated procedure code on the same date of service by the same provider.		X				X				RRB-SMAC
13163.8.1	<p>The contractors shall use the following messaging when returning these services as unprocessable:</p> <p>Claim Adjustment Group Code: CO (Contractual Obligation).</p> <p>CARC 16: Claim/service lacks information or has submission/billing error(s).</p> <p>RARC M51 – Missing/Incomplete/Invalid other procedure code.</p>		X								RRB-SMAC
13163.8.2	The contractor shall add the new audit to the H99THCEA SPITAB. The audit shall be displayed on the H99RBEA1 and H99RBEA2 reports with a CMS standard setting of 'Active', effective for dates of service on and after October 1, 2023.						X				

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			
13163.9	The contractor shall create a new MCS maintained audit effective for dates of service on and after October 1, 2023 to suspend a claim for manual review, if an ASC code pair file pass-through device is billed after the associated procedure code has been paid on the same date of service by the same provider.		X					X				
13163.9.1	The contractor shall add the new audit to the H99THCEA SPITAB. The audit shall be displayed on the H99RBEA1 and H99RBEA2 reports with a standard setting of 'Active', effective for dates of service on and after October 1, 2023.							X				
13163.10	The System Control Code (SCC) file set-up shall be loaded to the MAC's processing regions for the new MCS maintained audits. The MACs shall review the SCC segments and perform the necessary local file maintenance. The MACs shall be responsible for ensuring all fields are updated to the correct MAC specific values prior to the first production cycle. It shall be noted, the PJ/PL segments cannot be manually updated.		X					X				RRB-SMAC
13163.11	The contractor shall automate the creation of PJ/PL segments for the new MCS audits.							X				
13163.11.1	The CMS shall make a test version of the redesigned ASC code pair file available to the MCS by mid to late August of 2023 for the testing of the January code. The contractors shall, upon notification from the CMS retrieve the test version of the revised ASC code pair file.							X				CMS, VDC
13163.11.2	The contractors shall, upon notification from the CMS in early November 2023, receive a revised ASC code pair file to use for the January beta testing.											CMS, MIST, VDC
13163.11.3	The contractors shall, upon notification from the CMS in early December 2023, receive a revised ASC code pair file to use for the January user acceptance testing.		X									CMS, RRB-SMAC, VDC

III. PROVIDER EDUCATION TABLE

Number	Requirement	Responsibility				
		A/B MAC			D M E	C E D I
		A	B	H H H		
	None					

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:

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

V. CONTACTS

Pre-Implementation Contact(s): Cathleen Gurreri, 443-934-2913 or cathleen.gurreri@cms.hhs.gov

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

VI. FUNDING

Section A: 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.

ATTACHMENTS: 0