



Related MLN Matters Article #: MM5757

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Additional Common Working File (CWF) Editing for Skilled Nursing Facility (SNF) Consolidated Billing (CB) - Part II

Key Words

MM5757, CR5757, R1365CP, CWF, Skilled, Nursing, SNF, Consolidated, CB

Provider Types Affected

Physicians and providers who bill Medicare Carriers or Part A/B Medicare Administrative Contractors (A/B MACs) for therapy services provided to Medicare beneficiaries in SNF stays

Key Points

- The effective date of the instruction is April 1, 2001.
- The implementation date is April 7, 2008.
- Since therapy services provided in a SNF must be consolidated when a beneficiary is in a SNF stay (whether covered or non-covered by Medicare) Medicare systems will reject claims with dates of service falling within a SNF stay.
- As a result of this specific change, Medicare's CWF system will reject claims with dates of service after the posted SNF claim until a discharge claim is processed.
- The entity furnishing the therapy services must look to the SNF for payment, rather than billing Medicare.
- Medicare Carriers or A/B MACs will re-open and re-process inappropriately denied claims for dates of service on or after April 1, 2001, through April 6, 2008, when providers bring such claims to their attention.
- Providers should contact their Medicare contractor to have claims re-processed that they feel were erroneously subject to these consolidated billing edits, and denied.
- However, if providers received payment directly from the SNF, they must return that payment to the SNF before requesting payment through the Medicare contractor.

Important Links

The related MLN Matters article can be found at

<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MLNMattersArticles/downloads/MM5757.pdf> on the CMS website.

The official instruction (CR5757) regarding this change may be viewed at

<http://www.cms.gov/Transmittals/downloads/R1365CP.pdf> on the CMS website. As an attachment to CR5757, providers will find the updated Medicare Claims Processing Manual, Chapter 6 (SNF Inpatient Part A Billing), Section 110.2.2 (A/B Crossover Edits).

If providers have questions regarding this issue, they may contact their carrier or A/B MAC at their toll-free number, which may be found at

<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MLNProducts/downloads/CallCenterTollNumDirectory.zip> on the CMS website.