Quarterly Update to the National Correct Coding Initiative (NCCI) Procedure to Procedure (PTP) Edits, Version 23.2, Effective July 1, 2017

MLN Matters Number: MM10082

Related CR Release Date: April 14, 2017

Related CR Transmittal Number: R3748CP

Related Change Request (CR) Number: CR10082

Effective Date: July 1, 2017

Implementation Date: July 3, 2017

PROVIDER TYPES AFFECTED

This MLN Matters® Article is intended for physicians, other providers, and suppliers submitting claims to Medicare Administrative Contractors (MACs) for services provided to Medicare beneficiaries.

PROVIDER ACTION NEEDED

Change Request (CR) 10082 informs Medicare Administrative Contractors (MACs) about the update to the National Correct Coding Initiative (NCCI) procedure to procedure edits (PTP). This notice applies to Chapter 23, Section 20.9 of the Medicare Claims Processing Manual. Make sure your billing staffs are aware of these changes.

BACKGROUND

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) developed the NCCI to promote national correct coding methodologies and to control improper coding that leads to inappropriate payment in Part B claims.

Version 23.2 will include all previous versions and updates from January 1, 1996, to the present. In the past, CCI was organized in two tables: Column 1/Column 2 Correct Coding Edits and Mutually Exclusive Code (MEC) Edits. In order to simplify the use of NCCI edit files (two tables), on April 1, 2012, CMS consolidated these two edit files into the Column One/Column Two Correct Coding edit file. Separate consolidations have occurred for the two practitioner NCCI edit files and the two NCCI edit files used for the Outpatient Code Editor (OCE). It will only be necessary to search the Column One/Column Two Correct Coding edit file for active or previously deleted edits. CMS no longer publishes a Mutually Exclusive edit file on its website for either practitioner or outpatient hospital services, since all active and deleted edits will appear in the single Column One/Column Two Correct Coding edit file on each website. **The edits previously contained in the Mutually Exclusive edit file are NOT being deleted but**

are being moved to the Column One/Column Two Correct Coding edit file. Refer to the CMS NCCI webpage for additional information at http://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Coding/NationalCorrectCodInitEd/index.html.

The coding policies developed are based on coding conventions defined in the American Medical Association's Current Procedural Terminology manual, national and local policies and edits, coding guidelines developed by national societies, analysis of standard medical and surgical practice, and review of current coding practice.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The official instruction, CR10082, issued to your MAC regarding this change is available at https://www.cms.gov/Regulations-and-Guidance/Guidance/Transmittals/2017Downloads/R3748CP.pdf.

If you have any questions, please contact your MAC at their toll-free number. That number is available at https://www.cms.gov/Research-Statistics-Data-and-Systems/Monitoring-Programs/Medicare-FFS-Compliance-Programs/Review-Contractor-Directory-Interactive-Map/.

DOCUMENT HISTORY

Date of Change	Description
April 14, 2017	Initial Article Released

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