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| <b>CMS Manual System</b>                     | <b>Department of Health &amp; Human Services (DHHS)</b>   |
| <b>Pub 100-04 Medicare Claims Processing</b> | <b>Centers for Medicare &amp; Medicaid Services (CMS)</b> |
| <b>Transmittal 3336</b>                      | <b>Date: August 21, 2015</b>                              |
|  | <b>Change Request 9260</b>                                |

**SUBJECT: Healthcare Provider Taxonomy Codes (HPTCs) October 2015 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: October 1, 2015**

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

**IMPLEMENTATION DATE: January 4, 2016 - Contractors with the capability to do so shall implement this CR effective October 1, 2015.**

*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.*

| <b>R/N/D</b> | <b>CHAPTER / SECTION / SUBSECTION / TITLE</b> |
|--------------|---|
| 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

|                    |                          |                              |                             |
|--------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| <b>Pub. 100-04</b> | <b>Transmittal: 3336</b> | <b>Date: August 21, 2015</b> | <b>Change Request: 9260</b> |
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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 Washington Publishing Company (WPC) Web site at [www.wpc-edi.com/codes](http://www.wpc-edi.com/codes).

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:** 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 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.

The effective date is the date of the transaction.

## II. BUSINESS REQUIREMENTS TABLE

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

| Number | Requirement   | Responsibility |   |   |             |                                  |   |   |   |       |
|--------|---|----------------|---|---|-------------|----------------------------------|---|---|---|-------|
|        |   | A/B<br>MAC     |   |   | D<br>M<br>E | Shared-<br>System<br>Maintainers |   |   |   | Other |
|        |   | A              | B | H |             | F                                | M | V | C |       |
|        |   |                |   | H | M           | I                                | C | M | W |       |
|        |   |                |   | H | A           | S                                | S | S | F |       |
|        |   |                |   | C | S           |                                  |   |   |   |       |
| 9260.1 | Contractors and maintainers shall use the most cost effective means to obtain the October 1, 2015, 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 I S S                   | M C S S | V M S | C W F |       |
| 9260.2   | Contractors and maintainers shall update the current HPTC Tables with the October 2015 HPTC list.  | X              | X | X     | X     | X                         | X       |       |       |       |
| 9260.2.1 | Contractors and maintainers having the capability to do so shall update the HPTC table such that claims received on and after October 1, 2015, will be validated against the October 1, 2015, HPTC set.  | X              | X | X     | X     |                           | X       |       |       | CEDI  |
| 9260.2.2 | Contractors and maintainers lacking the capability to implement the updated October 2015 HPTC set for claims received on or after October 1, 2015, shall implement the October 2015 HPTC update as soon as they can after October 1, 2015, but not beyond January 4, 2016. | 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 |       |         |
| 9260.3 | MLN Article: A provider education article related to this instruction will be available at <a href="http://www.cms.gov/Outreach-and-Education/Medicare-Learning-Network-MLN/MLNMattersArticles/">http://www.cms.gov/Outreach-and-Education/Medicare-Learning-Network-MLN/MLNMattersArticles/</a> shortly after the CR is released. You will receive notification of the article release via the established "MLN Matters" listserv. Contractors shall post this article, or a direct link to this article, on their Web sites and include information about it in a listserv message within 5 business days after receipt of the notification from CMS announcing the availability of the article. In addition, the provider education article shall be included in the contractor's next regularly scheduled bulletin. Contractors are free to supplement MLN Matters articles with localized information that would benefit their provider community in billing and administering the Medicare program correctly. | X              | X | X     | X     |         |

### IV. SUPPORTING INFORMATION

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

"Should" denotes a recommendation.

| <b>X-Ref Requirement Number</b> | <b>Recommendations or other supporting information:</b> |
|---------------------------------|---|
|---------------------------------|---|

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

## **V. CONTACTS**

**Pre-Implementation Contact(s):** Shannon Seales, shannon.seales1@cms.hhs.gov , Matthew Klischer, 410-786-7488 or Matthew.klischer@cms.hhs.gov , Charles Watson, charles.watson@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**