

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES  
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services



**News Flash** – The “Bone Mass Measurement” brochure is designed to provide education on the bone mass measurement benefit, and includes information on methods of bone measurement (bone density), coverage information, and risk factors. This brochure has been updated and is now available in downloadable format, free of charge, from the Medicare Learning Network at [http://www.CMS.gov/MLNproducts/downloads/bone\\_mass.pdf](http://www.CMS.gov/MLNproducts/downloads/bone_mass.pdf) on the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) website.

MLN Matters® Number: MM7511

Related Change Request (CR) #: 7511

Related CR Release Date: July 29, 2011

Effective Date: October 1, 2011

Related CR Transmittal #: R2265CP

Implementation Date: October 3, 2011

## **Quarterly Update to Correct Coding Initiative (CCI) Edits, Version 17.3, effective October 1, 2011**

### **Provider Types Affected**

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Physicians and providers submitting claims to Medicare Carriers and/or Part A/B Medicare Administrative Contractors (A/B MACs) for services provided to Medicare beneficiaries are impacted by this issue.

### **Provider Action Needed**

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This article is based on Change Request (CR) 7511, which provides a reminder for physicians to take note of the quarterly updates to Correct Coding Initiative (CCI) edits. The last quarterly release of the edit module was issued in July 2011.

### **Background**

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

#### **Disclaimer**

This article was prepared as a service to the public and is not intended to grant rights or impose obligations. This article may contain references or links to statutes, regulations, or other policy materials. The information provided is only intended to be a general summary. It is not intended to take the place of either the written law or regulations. We encourage readers to review the specific statutes, regulations and other interpretive materials for a full and accurate statement of their contents. CPT only copyright 2010 American Medical Association.

The coding policies developed are based on coding conventions defined in the:

- American Medical Association's (AMA's) Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) Manual;
- National and local policies and edits;
- Coding guidelines developed by national societies;
- Analysis of standard medical and surgical practice; and by
- Review of current coding practice.

The latest package of CCI edits, Version 17.3, is effective October 1, 2011, and includes all previous versions and updates from January 1, 1996, to the present. It will be organized in the following two tables:

- Column 1/Column 2 Correct Coding Edits, and
- Mutually Exclusive Code (MEC) Edits.

Additional information about CCI, including the current CCI and MEC edits, is available at <http://www.cms.gov/NationalCorrectCodInitEd> on the CMS website.

## Additional Information

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The CCI and MEC file formats are defined in the "Medicare Claims Processing Manual," Chapter 23, Section 20.9, which is available at <http://www.cms.gov/manuals/downloads/clm104c23.pdf> on the CMS website. The official instruction, CR7511, issued to your carrier or A/B MAC regarding this change can be found at <http://www.cms.gov/Transmittals/downloads/R2265CP.pdf> on the CMS website. If you have any questions, please contact your carrier or A/B MAC at their toll-free number, which may be found at <http://www.cms.gov/MLNProducts/downloads/CallCenterTollNumDirectory.zip> on the CMS website.

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