
Program Memorandum Carriers

Department of Health and
Human Services (DHHS)
HEALTH CARE FINANCING
ADMINISTRATION (HCFA)

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Date: OCTOBER 18, 2000

CHANGE REQUEST 1355

SUBJECT: Schedule for Completing the Calendar Year (CY) 2001 Fee Schedule Updates and the Participating Physician Enrollment Procedures

This schedule is provided as a convenience for the carriers. It requires no action and has no effective or implementation dates. Any associated action will be directed through the listed Program Memorandums (PMs) and manual issuances. Dates are subject to change.

Acronyms for the responsible components:

DPAC – Division of Practitioner and Ambulatory Care
DPCP – Division of Practitioner Claims Processing
DCPC – Division of Community Post-acute Care
DHPPD – Division of Health Plan and Provider Data

Other acronyms:

DME – Durable Medical Equipment
DMEPOS – Durable Medical Equipment, Prosthetics and Orthotics
DMERC – Durable Medical Equipment Regional Carrier
HCPCS – HCFA Common Procedure Coding System
SADMERC – Statistical Analysis Durable Medical Equipment Regional Carrier

<u>DATE</u>	<u>RESPONSIBLE COMPONENT</u>	<u>ACTIVITY</u>
September 2000	DPCP	Issue PM, "Section 15900.1, Medicare Physician Fee Schedule Database (MPFSDB) 2001 File Layout," which updates the manual to correspond with the CY 2001 file layout.
	DCPC	Issue PM, "Instructions for Implementing and Updating 2001 Payment Amounts for Durable Medical Equipment, Prosthetics, Orthotics, and Supplies (DMEPOS)," to notify DMERCs, SADMERC, and local carriers of codes subject to DME gap-filling. Includes instructions on gap-filling, crosswalking and any needed adjustments to base fees as well as instructions for updating 2001 DMEPOS fee schedule and Level III codes. Also includes instructions for the maintenance process for the 2001 DMEPOS.
	DPCP	Issue PM, "2001 HCFA Common Procedure Coding System (HCPCS)."
September 15, 2000	DMERCs Carriers	DMERCs/carriers submit to DHPPD any changes to DMEPOS base year amounts.

October, 2000	DPCP	Issue PM, "Calendar Year (CY) 2001 Participation Enrollment and Medicare Participating Physicians and Suppliers Directory (MEDPARD) Procedures," which provides specifications for releasing fee schedule amounts and participation letters.
October 11, 2000	DHPPD	Release the 2001 HCPCS tape electronically. Available after 8 p.m. e.s.t.. (This date is dependent upon receipt of tape from the American Medical Association.)
October 15 - 31, 2000		Final rule implementing CY 2001 relative value units and payment policies to be published.
October 19, 2000	DHPPD	Release the 2001 MPFSDB to carriers electronically. DHPPD to include 2000 fee schedule amount.
October 26, 2000	DPCP	Mail hard copy of data from 2001 MPFSDB. Files will include procedure codes, status code indicators, relative value units, and payment policy indicators. ROs will use in validation efforts.
October 31, 2000		Default date for Congress to act on recommendations for CY 2001 update.
November 1, 2000	DHPPD	Release clinical lab pricing files to carriers.
November 3, 2000	DCPC/ DHPPD	Release 2001 DMEPOS fee schedules to the DMERCs, SADMERC, and local carriers.
November 9, 2000	DPAC/ DHPPD	Release the 2001 physician fee schedule amounts to the intermediaries, Palmetto GBA for Railroad Retirement Board (RRB), and the Civilian Health Medical Program for the Uniformed Services (CHAMPUS) for nationally priced codes. Also available on the HCFA Home Page if the final rule has been published.
November 8, 2000	Carriers	Begin delivery of participation enrollment information to providers via first class mail or equivalent delivery for receipt no later than 11/17/2000.
November 16, 2000	DMERCs Carriers (If applicable)	Submit DME gap-filled amounts to DHPPD.
	Carriers	Furnish 2001 physician fee schedule amounts to DHPPD for local and carrier priced codes.
November 17 - December 31, 2000	Carriers	Process participation elections and withdrawals postmarked before 01/01/2001.
November 21, 2000	DHPPD	Furnish clinical lab pricing files to intermediaries, Indian Health Service (IHS), United Mine Workers (UMW) and

RRB. Also available on the HCFA home page.

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November 24, 2000	DHPPD	Furnish physician fee schedule amounts to HIS and the UMW. Carriers Furnish reasonable charge pricing files to intermediaries, IHS, UMW, RRB and State Medicaid Agencies. Furnish local and carrier priced codes to State Medicaid Agencies.
December 7, 2000	DHPPD	Release 2001 DMEPOS fee schedule amounts to intermediaries, RRB, IHS, and UMW. Also available on the HCFA Home Page.
December 3, 2000		Medicaid Furnish clinical lab pricing files to the State Medicaid Bureau Agencies.
December 11, 2000	DHPPD	Furnish 2001 physician fee schedule amounts to intermediaries, IHS, UMW and RRB for local carrier priced codes.
December 15, 2000	DHPPD	Compute 2001 floors, ceilings, and pricing amounts from DME gap-filled amounts for new 2001 codes and release to carriers, intermediaries, DMERCs, SADMERC, RRB, IHS, and UMW.
January 01, 2001	Carriers FIs State Agencies United Health Care DMERCS	Implement 2001 fee schedule amounts.
	Carriers FIs	Implement 2001 HCPCS update.
January 30, 2001	Carriers ROs	Send updated provider file to RRB.
February 2001	DPAC/ DHPPD	Issue PM, "Changes to the 2001 Medicare Physician Fee Schedule Database" and transmit files. (First quarterly update.)
May 2001	DPAC/ DHPPD	Issue PM, "Changes to the 2001 Medicare Physician Fee Schedule Database" and transmit files. (Second quarterly update.)
August 2001	DPAC/ DHPPD	Issue PM, "Changes to the 2001 Medicare Physician Fee Schedule Database" and transmit files. (Third quarterly update.)

The *effective date* for this Program Memorandum (PM) is not applicable. This PM is only informational.

The *implementation date* for this PM is not applicable. This PM is only informational.

These instructions should be implemented within your current operating budget.

This PM may be discarded after December 31, 2001.

If you have any questions, contact the appropriate regional office.