
Program Memorandum Intermediaries

Department of Health &
Human Services (DHHS)
Centers for Medicare &
Medicaid Services (CMS)

Transmittal A-02-056

Date: JUNE 28, 2002

CHANGE REQUEST 2208

SUBJECT: Special Handling of End Stage Renal Disease (ESRD) Claims Containing Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System (HCPCS) Code J1955 (Levocarnitine)

It has come to our attention that there is a problem with ESRD claims hitting an edit in the April Outpatient Patient Prospective Payment System (OPPS) Outpatient Code Editor (OCE) version 3.0. The HCPCS code J1955 is currently assigned a service indicator of an 'E', a non-allowed item or service. However, since this code is payable in an ESRD setting, the service indicator should be assigned a 'B', non-allowed item or service for OPPS.

Special Handling Instructions

Until the service indicator is changed to a 'B' in the July 2002 version of the OCE, advise your providers to hold all ESRD claims (72X TOBs) with HCPCS J1955 or remove the code from the claim and submit the remaining services for payment. Adjustment bills may be submitted after successful implementation of the July OCE in order for providers to receive payment for HCPCS code J1955. You should not change claims containing HCPCS code J1955 for their providers.

Post a notice on your Web site regarding this information and include it in your next regular scheduled bulletin. If you have electronic boards or listserv that are used to communicate with your provider community, post this message to your providers using that facility.

The *effective date* for this Program Memorandum (PM) is June 28, 2002.

The *implementation date* for this PM is June 28, 2002.

These instructions should be implemented within your current operating budget.

This PM may be discarded after December 31, 2003.

If you have any questions, contact your regional office.

