

Related Change Request (CR) #: 2988

Medlearn Matters Number: MM2988

Related CR Release Date: March 19, 2004

Related CR Transmittal #: 8

Effective Date: April 1, 2004

Implementation Date: April 1, 2004

National Coverage Determination (NCD): Current Perception Threshold/Sensory Nerve Conduction Threshold Test (sNCT)

IMPORTANT NOTE: This instruction has been replaced by MM3339, the Medlearn Matters article for CR3339, Transmittal 15, titled: NCD: Sensory Nerve Conduction Threshold Test (sNCT), dated June 18, 2004. To see MM3339, go to:

<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/medlearn/matters/mmarticles/2004/MM3339.pdf>

Provider Types Affected

Physicians, suppliers, and providers

Provider Action Needed

Providers should know that the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) has reviewed its policy on sNCT and reaffirms its original national non-coverage decision on sNCT.

Background

Based on a reconsideration of current Medicare policy for sNCT, CMS reaffirms its original national non-coverage policy regarding the Current Perception Threshold/Sensory Nerve Conduction Threshold Test (sNCT). The National Coverage Determination Manual (Pub. 100-03; Chapter 1; Subsection 160.23) has been updated to reflect this most recent non-coverage determination as a result of the reconsideration review.

The revision to the National Coverage Determination Manual is an NCD, and NCDs are binding on all Medicare carriers, fiscal intermediaries, quality improvement organizations, health maintenance organizations, competitive medical plans, and health care prepayment plans.

Also, under 42 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 422.256(b), an NCD that expands coverage is also binding on Medicare+Choice Organizations. In addition, an administrative law judge may not review an NCD. (See §1869(f)(1)(A)(i) of the Social Security Act.)

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Implementation

The effective date and the implementation date for this instruction is April 1, 2004.

Additional Information

The official instruction issued to your carrier regarding this change may be found by going to:

http://www.cms.hhs.gov/manuals/transmittals/comm_date_dsc.asp

On that web page, look for CR2988 in the CR NUM column on the right, and click on the file for that CR. The revised portions of the NCD Manual are included with that CR.

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