

Related Change Request (CR) #: 3128

Medlearn Matters Number: MM3128

Related CR Release Date: February 20, 2004

Effective Date: January 1, 2004

Implementation Date: April 5, 2004

Transmittal #: R105CP

First Update to the 2004 Medicare Physician Fee Schedule Database

Provider Types Affected

Physicians, suppliers, and providers.

Provider Action Needed

Physicians, suppliers, and providers should note the changes to the Medicare Physician Fee Schedule Database, and identify those changes that impact their practice.

Background

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) issued payment files to carriers based upon the November 7, 2003 and January 7, 2004 Final Rules. This update of the fee schedule corrects mistakes that were in those payment files. Details of the changes may be found in the actual change request that was released and which is available at:

http://www.cms.hhs.gov/manuals/pm_trans/R105CP.pdf

Also, note the following requirements:

- Unless otherwise stated, changes will be retroactive to January 1, 2004.
- Carriers and intermediaries **will not search their files to either retract payment for claims already paid or to retroactively pay claims based on the corrected rates. However, carriers will adjust claims brought to their attention by the provider.**

Implementation

The implementation date is April 5, 2004.

Additional Information

If you have any questions, please contact your carrier/intermediary at their toll-free number, which may be found at: <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/medlearn/tollnums.asp>.

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