

Related Change Request (CR) #: 3419
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 Implementation Date: September 24, 2004

Medlearn Matters Number: MM3419

MMA Drug Pricing Update – Payment Limit for J9045 (Carboplatin Injection) and J9310 (Rituximab Cancer Treatment)

Provider Types Affected

Physicians, suppliers, and providers.

Provider Action Needed

Affected providers are advised that Medicare carriers are updating the payment limits (listed in this article) for HCPCS drug code J9045 (Carboplatin injection) and J9310 (Rituximab cancer treatment), effective with dates of service on or after April 1, 2004, and on or before December 31, 2004.

Background

The payment limits for Carboplatin injection and Rituximab cancer treatment, Medicare Part B drugs meeting the exceptions process described in Section 303(b) of Medicare Prescription Drug, Improvement, and Modernization Act of 2003 (MMA) are being updated for claims with such services provided between April 1, 2004 through December 31, 2004, inclusive. The old and new rates for J9045 (Carboplatin injection) and J9310 (Rituximab cancer treatment) with the new rate for dates of service on or after April 1, 2004 and on or before December 31, 2004 are as follows where payment is not made on a cost or prospective payment basis:

Status	HCPCS	Short Description	AWP %	2004 Payment Limit for Drugs (other than ESRD drugs separately billed by independent ESRD Facilities and drugs infused through DME)
OLD	J9045	Carboplatin injection	88	\$137.54
NEW	J9045	Carboplatin injection	86	\$135.15
OLD	J9310	Rituximab cancer treatment	81	\$427.28
NEW	J9310	Rituximab cancer treatment	83	\$438.38

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The payment limits for J9045 and J9310 supercede the payment limits published in Change Request (CR) 3161 (Transmittal 119) dated March 15, 2004. Note that the absence or presence of a HCPCS code and its associated payment limit does not indicate Medicare coverage of the drug.

Implementation

The implementation date for this instruction is September 24, 2004.

Additional Information

For complete details, please see the official instruction issued to your carrier regarding this change. That instruction may be viewed by going to:

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

From that Web page, look for CR3419 in the CR NUM column on the right, and click on the file for that CR.

If you have any questions, please contact your carrier at their toll-free number, which may be found at:

<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/medlearn/tollnums.asp>

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