Program Memorandum
Intermediaries/Carriers

Transmittal AB-03-053   Date: MAY 2, 2003

CHANGE REQUEST 2615

SUBJECT: **Availability of Online Screens for the Laboratory National Coverage Determinations (NCDs)**

In a final rule published in the *Federal Register* dated November 23, 2001, (66 FR 58788) Medicare promulgated 23 NCDs for clinical diagnostic laboratory services. In Program Memorandums (PMs) AB-02-110 and PM AB-02-110A, Change Request 2130, dated July 31, 2002, we provided a national electronic automated edit module to be used in the processing of claims for laboratory services associated with the 23 NCDs. The edit module applies the NCDs and ensures that laboratory claims are processed consistently throughout the country.

As part of our soliciting comments on the specifications for the NCD laboratory edit module, several contractors requested an online version of the edit module so that their staff could review the logic and narrative of the laboratory edits. In response to those comments, we have instructed Computer Science Corporation to develop an online version of the edit module for use by our contractors.

The online screens for the laboratory edit module will be available for contractors to download from the CMS data center using connect:direct beginning April 1, 2003. The shared system maintainers will incorporate the screen into their systems in a manner that will allow for optional use by the local contractors. Use of the online screens at the local contractors is voluntary. The development of the online screens was made at the request of several contractors and is not mandatory for claims processing. The functional specifications for the online inquiry module is attached.

The online screens will utilize information from the edit tables that are used in the edit module software. Thus, when the edit tables are updated quarterly, the screens will access the updated information without any further action on the part of contractors.

The *effective date* for this PM is October 1, 2003.

The *implementation date* for this PM is October 1, 2003.

These instructions should be implemented within your current operating budget.

This PM may be discarded after March 31, 2004.

If you have any questions, contact Jackie Sheridan-Moore at 410-786-4635.

Attachment

CMS-Pub. 60AB

National Coverage Determinations Edit Module Online Inquiry

Specification
Version 1.0

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Document Control Number NCD-1141

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Introduction

Background

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) issued a Program Memorandum AB-02-030 containing the instructions for 23 National Coverage Determinations (NCDs) that were included in a final rule published in the Federal Register (66 FR 58788). To meet the requirements of this Program Memorandum, an edit module was developed and implemented by all standard systems in January 2003. The design consisted of an edit module and a table module for diagnosis-to-procedure edits for each NCD.

The ability to view the diagnosis-to-procedure table was not included in the original edit module. This document describes the on-line process that will allow the Medicare standard systems and contractors to view the diagnosis-to-procedure table for assistance in resolution when errors occur in processing claims with NCD codes.

Purpose

The need exists for contractors to be able to view the contents of the NCD edit table in order to better answer questions about the specifics and resolve errors that may occur in the NCD module edits. This module will allow users to view the contents of the NCD edit table in several different ways.

Functional Overview

The NCD online inquiry module will allow the standard systems and the contractors access to the NCD edit table that is used by the NCD Edit Module. This online module will contain the following screens:

- A main screen that will allow for inquiring into the NCD edit table in several ways.
- A screen that will display all the diagnosis codes for a procedure code/date of service.
- A screen that will display all the diagnosis codes for a specific procedure code, along with their effective dates.
- A screen that will display all the procedure codes in the table, along with their effective dates

Technical Description

The NCD online inquiry module will be a mainframe-based CICS system. The program ID will be VNCXX101, and the CICS transaction ID will be VNCD.

Entry to the Program

The NCD online inquiry program will allow entrance using the two (2) methods described in Table 1. The method used is completely at the discretion of the standard system.

Table 1: NCD Online Table Entry Methods

Method	Description
Option 1 – Direct Entry	Enter transaction "VNCD" on a blank CICS screen.

Option 2 – START from another program	Issue a CICS "START" command from another program.
	
	Example:
	EXEC CICS START
	       TRANSID (START-TRANID)
	       FROM (WS-NCD-COMMAREA)
	       LENGTH (LENGTH OF WS-NCD-COMMAREA)
	       TERMID(EIBTRMID)
	END-EXEC.

Communications Area

STARTing the program will require specific information in the communications area. Copybook VNCCA101 will be provided and will contain the following information:

```
 *
 *      COMMUNICATIONS AREA COPYBOOK FOR PROGRAM VNCXX101
 *
  01  (*)-NCD-COMMAREA.
      05  (*)-PROC-CODE                 PIC X(05).
      05  (*)-DIAG-CODE                 PIC X(05).
      05  (*)-DATE-OF-SERVICE           PIC S9(07) COMP-3.
      05  (*)-RETURN-TRANID             PIC X(04).
      05   FILLER                       PIC X(82).
```

The calling program should populate the communications area as follows before the START command is executed:

- Proc code – a valid procedure code – optional (required if diag code entered)
- Diag code – a valid diagnosis code - optional
- Date of service – optional
- Return tranid – transaction id that is to be started after exiting VNCXX101.

<u>Screen Descriptions</u>

If the program is entered directly from CICS, the following screen will be displayed:

```
                        NCD EDIT MODULE                    VNCM101
                         DISPLAY TABLE


             PROCEDURE CODE ===>    _____

             DIAGNOSIS CODE ===>    _____

          DATE OF SERVICE ===>    __ / __ / ____
                                  (MM / DD / YYYY)


                  RESPONSE ===>






    NCD MODULE DATE: 11/21/02 14:20
    CLEAR - EXIT
```

The user will enter one or more fields to inquire into the NCD edit table, or leave all fields blank to display the entire table.

If the program was started with a START, the screen above will be bypassed. Data will be passed to the program in the communications area described above. It will contain the same fields as are on the screen, and the program will continue in the same manner as when the fields are entered on the screen.

Either on the initial screen or in the communications area, all fields may be left blank, or any combination of fields may be entered, with the exception that if a diagnosis code is entered, a procedure code must also be entered. The actions described in sections 0- 0 will be taken based on the data entered.

Option 1

If the data entered on the initial screen is a procedure code, diagnosis code, and date of service, but the date of service is not entered, the current date is used. The program reads the NCD table and displays the appropriate response for that procedure/diagnosis combination.

```
02/20/03                    NCD EDIT MODULE                      VNCM101
11:32:41                     DISPLAY TABLE

                    PROCEDURE CODE ===>   87088

                    DIAGNOSIS CODE ===>   0042

                    DATE OF SERVICE ===>  04 / 01 / 2003
                                          (MM / DD / YYYY)

                    ACTION ===>           4 - DENY LIST 3




NCD TABLE DATE: 02/20/03 07.46
CLEAR - EXIT
```

Option 2

If the data entered on the initial screen is a procedure code and the date of service and the diagnosis code is not entered, the program will display all of the diagnosis codes in the lists related to that procedure code, which are effective on the date of service. The codes will be shown under the following headings:

List 1 – Covered Diagnoses
List 2 – Diagnoses Non-Covered by Statute
List 3 – Diagnoses Not Medically Necessary

```
02/20/03                    NCD EDIT MODULE                      VNCM102
11:45:49                     DISPLAY TABLE                        PAGE: 01
PROCEDURE CODE:  87088
DATE OF SERVICE: 04/01/2003
---- LIST 1 COVERED DIAGNOSES ----
0031        0380        03810-03811  03819      0382       0383
03840-03844 03849       0388         0389       2762       2764
2866        2880        2888         30653      30659      51882
570         5800        5804         58081      58089      5809
5830        5831        5832         5834       5836       5837
58381       58389       5839         5845       5849       585
586         59000-59001 59010-59011  5902       5903       59080-59081
5909        5920        5921         5929       5930       5931
5932        5933        5934         5935       5936       59370-59373
59381-59382 59389       5939         5940       5941       5942
5948        5949        5950         5951       5952       5953
5954        59581-59582 59589        5959       5970       59780-59781
59789       59800-59801 5990         5997       6000       6001
6002        6003        6009         6010       6011       6012
6013        6014        6018         6019       6020       6021
6022        6023        6028         6029       6040       60490-60491


CLEAR-EXIT    PF3-RETURN    PF7-BACK    PF8-FORWARD
```

Option 3

If the data entered on the initial screen is a procedure code, and the diagnosis code and date of service are not entered, the program displays all of the diagnosis codes with their effective dates related to that procedure code.

```
02/20/03                        NCD EDIT MODULE                       VNCM103
11:50:00                        DISPLAY TABLE                         PAGE: 10
PROCEDURE CODE:  87088
DATE OF SERVICE: ALL

    DIAGNOSIS CODES   ACTION          EFFECTIVE DATE   TERMINATION DATE
    7806              0 - APPROVE       11/25/2002
    78079             0 - APPROVE       11/25/2002
    7809              0 - APPROVE       11/25/2002       12/31/2002
    78099             0 - APPROVE       11/25/2002
    7850              0 - APPROVE       11/25/2002
    78550 - 78551     0 - APPROVE       11/25/2002
    78559             0 - APPROVE       11/25/2002
    7880              0 - APPROVE       11/25/2002
    7881              0 - APPROVE       11/25/2002
    78820 - 78821     0 - APPROVE       11/25/2002
    78829             0 - APPROVE       11/25/2002
    78830 - 78837     0 - APPROVE       11/25/2002
    78839             0 - APPROVE       11/25/2002
    78841 - 78843     0 - APPROVE       11/25/2002
    7885              0 - APPROVE       11/25/2002
    78861 - 78862     0 - APPROVE       11/25/2002
CLEAR-EXIT    PF3-RETURN    PF7-BACK    PF8-FORWARD
```

Option 4

If no data is entered on the initial screen, or only the date of service is entered, a list of all the procedure codes in the table will be displayed. If a date of service was entered, only those procedure codes that are effective in the NCD edit module on the date of service will be displayed. To display diagnosis codes for a procedure code on the screen, the user may enter 'S' next to a procedure code, and the VNCM103 screen will be displayed, as pictured in section 0 above.

```
02/20/03                        NCD EDIT MODULE                       VNCM104
11:49:23                        DISPLAY TABLE                         PAGE: 03

DATE OF SERVICE: ALL

    S    PROCEDURE CODE        EFFECTIVE DATE        EXPIRATION DATE
    _    85014                  11/25/2002
    _    85018                  11/25/2002
    _    85021                  11/25/2002            03/31/2003
    _    85022                  11/25/2002            03/31/2003
    _    85023                  11/25/2002            03/31/2003
    _    85024                  11/25/2002            03/31/2003
    _    85025                  11/25/2002
    _    85027                  11/25/2002
    _    85031                  11/25/2002            03/31/2003
    _    85048                  11/25/2002
    _    85590                  11/25/2002            03/31/2003
    _    85595                  11/25/2002            03/31/2003
    _    85610                  11/25/2002
    _    85730                  11/25/2002
    _    86300                  11/25/2002
    _    86301                  11/25/2002
CLEAR-EXIT    PF3-RETURN    PF7-BACK    PF8-FORWARD
```

Program Navigation

Table 2 contains the methods used to navigate through the NCD on-line screens.

Table 2: NCD On-line Screen Navigation

If key selected is…	Then
Clear	The <CLEAR> key will terminate the program from any screen.
PF3	The <PF3> key will return to the previous screen. If there is no previous screen, the program ends.
PF7	The <PF7> key will page to the previous screen of data.
PF8	The <PF8> key will page to the next screen of data.

Exiting The Program

When the program ends, control will be returned to CICS (if entered directly from CICS) or to the STARTing program, depending on the method that started the on-line process. If the program was STARTed from another program, the RETURN-TRANSID will be started with a START command.

Installation Procedures

The load modules are delivered to the CMS data center for retrieval by the standard system data centers. The modules are in a partitioned dataset and the load modules have a block size of 6144 and RECFM=U.

If a START command will be used to enter VNCXX101, install the communications area copybook in the programs that will start the module. This communications area is described in section 0 above.

Install the PPT entries for CICS modules

Table 3 contains the PPT entries to be added.

Table 3 - PPT Entries

Program ID	Language	Usage
VNCXX101	COBOL	
VNCM101	ASM	MAP
VNCM102	ASM	MAP
VNCM103	ASM	MAP
VNCM104	ASM	MAP

Install the PCT entry for the CICS module
Table 4 contains the PCT entries to be added.

Table 4 - PCT Entries

Transid	Program
VNCD	VNCXX101

Install the load modules in the load library
Table 5 contains the load modules to be installed.

Table 5 - Load Modules

Program ID
VNCXX101
VNCM101
VNCM102
VNCM103
VNCM104