Program Memorandum Carriers

Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) HEALTH CARE FINANCING ADMINISTRATION (HCFA)

Transmittal B-00-46

Date: AUGUST 31, 2000

CHANGE REQUEST 1337

SUBJECT: Changes to Correct Coding Edits, Version 6.2, Effective September 5, 2000

NOTE: This instruction replaces Transmittal B-00-33, Change Request 1176.

The latest package of correct coding initiative (CCI) edits, version 6.2, effective September 5, 2000 is now available via the HCFA Data Center (HDC). All commercial (HBOC) edits have been deleted from the file. The final files, with the updated effective date, were available as of August 21, 2000. The updated version of 6.2 includes all previous versions and updates from January 1, 1996 to the present and is organized in two tables; Comprehensive/Component Edits (CCE) and Mutually Exclusive Code (MEC) edits.

The regional office correct coding initiative (ROCCI) representatives can access the files from the HDC in the same manner they download the previous versions. The filenames for the regions are:

Final File:

MU00.@BF12372.CCIALL.MEEDITS.FINAL02.V62 MU00.@BF12372.CCIALL.CMPEDITS.FINAL02.V62

The carriers will need to use specific job control language in order to access version 6.2 (final 01) through the network data mover. The filenames for the carriers are:

Final File:

MU00.@BF12372.CCINDM.MEEDITS.FINAL02.V62 MU00.@BF12372.CCINDM.CMPEDITS.FINAL02.V62

The CCE and MEC files will maintain the file formats contained in Medicare Carrier Manual (MCM) §4630.M (revised August 1999). The CCI adds, deletes, and correct coding modifier changes lists were released via GroupWise.

Please note the change in naming convention for the final CCI files. This change will also apply to test files. The original final or test file will be named "Final 01" or "Test 01," and any revisions to this original final or test file will be named "Final 02," "Test 02," "Final 03," "Test 03," etc. This will enable the contractor to easily identify the most recent file when changes such as the effective date are necessitated.

Due to current procedure terminology copyrights, immediate corrections, if any, will be included in one of the above electronic notifications.

Within three business days of this version's implementation (Final 02) carriers are to send an email note to tdoyle@hcfa.gov confirming the implementation.

Carriers need not search their files to either retract payment or to retroactively pay claims for deleted CCI edits. However, carriers should adjust claims if they are brought to their attention. Carriers <u>must not</u> retroactively adjust claims for the deleted HBOC edits. Denials based upon the HBOC edits should not be automatically retroactively adjusted. However,

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carriers may adjust claims for the deleted HBOC edits if requested by a provider/beneficiary and additional information has been provided indicating that the services were in fact unrelated and separately payable.

Carriers need not pursue any overpayment/underpayment occurrences due to the effective date of the PM and the delayed implementation date of this PM.

The effective date for this Program Memorandum (PM) is September 5, 2000.

The *implementation date* for this PM is September 5, 2000.

These instructions should be implemented within your current operating budget.

This PM may be discarded after August 28, 2001.

If you have any questions, contact Kimberly Downin at 410-786-0188 or Ted Doyle at 410-786-7703 .