
Program Memorandum Intermediaries/Carriers

Department of Health &
Human Services (DHHS)
Centers for Medicare &
Medicaid Services (CMS)

Transmittal AB-02-105

Date: JULY 31, 2002

CHANGE REQUEST 2272

SUBJECT: Medical Review of Medicare Payments for Nail Debridement Services

The Office of Inspector General has recommended that CMS conduct medical review in order to identify and collect nail debridement overpayments. You must periodically perform data analysis to detect potentially inappropriate billing for nail debridement services. You must target a medical review probe on specific providers or review broadly on these services where data indicate the need. Follow the Progressive Corrective Action process to obtain the corrective action. Should those efforts result in the medical review of claims you must recover any inappropriate payments.

The *effective date* for this Program Memorandum (PM) is September 14, 2002.

The *implementation date* for this PM is September 14, 2002.

These instructions should be implemented within your current operating budget. You must modify your medical review strategy to include the resource allocation necessary to implement this PM.

This PM may be discarded after September 1, 2003.

If you have any questions, contact Dan Schwartz at (410) 786-4197.