
Program Memorandum

Carriers

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

Transmittal B-00-26

Date: MAY 2000

CHANGE REQUEST 1185

SUBJECT: Carrier Adjustments to be Made for Payment for HCPCS Code 90669, Pneumococcal (PPV) Conjugate Vaccine, Polyvalent, for Intramuscular Use

HCPCS code 90669, PPV, polyvalent, became a non-covered code for claims with dates of service on or after 01/01/2000 per Change Request 1031, Transmittal 1655, in the Medicare Carriers Manual. This change request was not released until November of 1999 and thus did not allow some carriers sufficient time to notify providers of the coding change.

Therefore, in order not to inconvenience providers and to make every effort possible to facilitate the processing and payment of claims for PPV, we are instructing carriers to implement the following action. Carriers that believe they did notify providers in a timely manner should contact their regional office for permission to be excused from taking the action outlined in this Program Memorandum (PM). If excused, they must notify the HCFA central office systems maintenance team of the decision. It will be left to the discretion of the regional office staff to determine whether carriers may be excused.

For claims with dates of service on or after 01/01/2000 through 03/31/2000 and received at the carrier site prior to close of business on 04/14/2000:

Release and process any held claims received for code 90669 that meet the above criteria, crosswalk that code to the correct code of 90732, and pay accordingly; and

Reopen and reprocess any denied claims received for code 90669 that meet the above criteria, crosswalk that code to the correct code of 90732, and pay accordingly.

To prevent duplicate payments, carriers should edit claims on a pre-pay basis to confirm that the provider has not mistakenly resubmitted claims using the correct code of 90732 when he has already been paid for those same claims that were submitted with the 90669 code.

As mass immunization for PPV coincides with mass immunization for flu, we expect that the majority of services for the 1999/2000 season will have been provided by the end of March 2000. By the end of March, providers should be well aware that the HCPCS code 90669 is no longer a covered code. Therefore, for all claims with dates of service on or after 04/01/2000, no matter when received at the carrier site, deny the 90669 code and instruct the provider to resubmit using a covered code.

All adjustments must be made by July 31, 2000.

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The *effective date* for this PM is June 12, 2000.

The *implementation date* for this PM is June 12, 2000.

Carriers may request necessary additional funding for reprocessing through the supplemental budget request process.

This PM may be discarded after December 31, 2001.

If you have any question, please contact the appropriate regional office.