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# **PROGRAM MEMORANDUM CARRIERS**

**Department of Health  
and Human Services**

**Health Care Financing  
Administration**

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**Transmittal No. B-00-32**

**Date: JUNE 2000**

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**Change Request Number 1234**

**SUBJECT: CPT Codes 99214 and 99233**

The 1999 Chief Financial Officer (CFO) audit report identified a significantly high incidence of upcoding for CPT codes 99214 and 99233. In many instances the upcoding involved more than one level of service. In response to this audit finding and consistent with our program goal to pay claims correctly the first time, carriers are directed to focus their medical review of evaluation and management codes on CPT codes 99214 and 99233 until further notice. Data analysis should be done specifically for these two codes and complex medical review conducted as indicated. Concurrently, the carriers should conduct intensive outreach and educational efforts on these codes.

*This Program Memorandum (PM) should be implemented upon receipt.*

**These instructions should be implemented within your current operating budget.**

**This PM may be discarded after January 1, 2001.**

**Contact person for this PM is Peggye Wilkerson (410) 786-4857.**

**HCFA-Pub. 60B**