
PROGRAM MEMORANDUM INTERMEDIARIES

Department of Health
and Human Services

Health Care Financing
Administration

Transmittal No. A-00-31

Date JUNE 2000

CHANGE REQUEST 1184

**SUBJECT: Reporting a Patient's Reason for Visit on a Part A Outpatient Claim--
INFORMATION**

Effective April 1, 2000, the National Uniform Billing Committee (NUBC) is requesting that providers report the patient's reason for visit on outpatient bills in Form Locator 76. The patient's reason for visit information should be reported for all unscheduled outpatient visits when revenue codes 45X, 516, or 526 are present. The ICD-9CM diagnosis code describing the patient's stated reason for seeking care (or as stated by the patient's representative) at the time of outpatient registration will be used. Examples include: patient distress, an injury, a poisoning or a reason or condition (not an illness or injury) such as a follow up. The NUBC is requesting that providers report only one diagnosis code describing the patient's primary reason for seeking care. This condition should be determined based on the ICD-9CM directives in Volumes I and II of the ICD-9-CM coding manuals (ICD-9-CM codes 001-V.82.9). The reporting of the decimal between the third and fourth digits is unnecessary because it is implied.

UB-92 Electronic Flat File - Report the patient's reason for visit in Record Type 70, field 25.

ASC X12N 837 - For reporting in the Institutional 837 Health Care Claim transaction, use admitting diagnosis qualifier "BJ" in the HI segment.

EVEN THOUGH WE ARE INFORMING YOU OF THE NUBC'S REQUIREMENT, THIS IS NOT A MEDICARE REQUIREMENT. WE ARE PROVIDING THIS INFORMATION AS A COURTESY AND NO ACTION IS REQUIRED BY INTERMEDIARIES OR THE STANDARD SYSTEMS MAINTAINERS. HOWEVER, THE INFORMATION MAY BE REQUIRED BY OTHER PAYERS, AND PROVIDERS SHOULD REPORT THE INFORMATION ON THE CLAIM.

The *effective date* for this Program Memorandum (PM) is not applicable.

The *implementation date* for this PM is not applicable.

These instructions should be implemented within your current operating budget.

This PM may be discarded after April 1, 2001.

If you have any questions, contact: Jean M. Harris (410) 786-6168.