
Program Memorandum Carriers

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

Transmittal B-00-63

Date: NOVEMBER 15, 2000

CHANGE REQUEST 1440

SUBJECT: Medicare Payment Allowance for Flu Vaccine

It has come to our attention that not all flu vaccine products are available at this time. Vaccines from particular manufacturers that may have been available earlier this year may no longer be available. Therefore, this is to clarify that in applying the methodology in Program Memorandum AB-00-110 (Payment Limit for Drugs and Biologicals) for determining the payment limit for drugs covered by Medicare, you must disregard the average wholesale price (AWP) of any flu vaccine product that is not available at this time and consider only the AWP of flu vaccine products that can be purchased at this time.

If you have processed claims for flu vaccine using a lower payment allowance that resulted from the use of the AWP of any particular vaccine product that is not available at this time, you need not reopen these claims; however, any claims that are brought to your attention may be readjudicated using the higher payment allowance.

This Program Memorandum (PM) is a clarification of procedure. Therefore, there is no effective date or implementation date.

These instructions should be implemented within your current operating budget.

This PM may be discarded after November 30, 2001.

If you have any questions, contact Heidi Adams, 410-786-1620.