



Changes to the Laboratory National Coverage Determination (NCD) Edit Software for January 2020

MLN Matters Number: MM11485

Related Change Request (CR) Number: 11485

Related CR Release Date: **October 29, 2019**

Effective Date: **January 1, 2020** unless otherwise indicated in CR11485

Related CR Transmittal Number: **R4424CP**

Implementation Date: January 6, 2020

Note: We revised this article on October 30, 2019, due to an updated Change Request (CR) 11485, which removed an invalid code for NCD 190.14. In the article, the CR Release Date, transmittal number and link to the transmittal were updated. All other information is unchanged.

PROVIDER TYPES AFFECTED

This MLN Matters article is for physicians, providers, and suppliers billing Medicare Administrative Contractors (MACs) for services provided to Medicare beneficiaries.

PROVIDER ACTION NEEDED

CR 11485 announces changes to be included in the January 2020 quarterly release of the edit module for clinical diagnostic laboratory services. Please make sure your billing staffs are aware of these changes.

BACKGROUND

The laboratory negotiated rulemaking committee developed the National Coverage Determinations (NCDs) for clinical diagnostic laboratory services, and the final rule was published on November 23, 2001. Nationally uniform software was developed and incorporated in the Medicare shared systems so that laboratory claims subject to one of the 23 NCDs (see Chapter 1, Part 3, sections 190.12 through 190.34 of the Medicare NCD Manual (Pub. 100-03) were processed uniformly throughout the nation, effective April 1, 2003.

Per Chapter 16, Section 120.2 of the Medicare Claims Processing Manual, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) updates the laboratory edit module quarterly as necessary to reflect ministerial coding updates and substantive changes to the NCDs developed through the NCD process. The changes are a result of coding analysis decisions developed under the procedures for maintenance of codes in the negotiated NCDs and biannual updates of the International Classification of Diseases, Tenth Revision, Clinical Modification (ICD-10-CM) codes.

CR 11485 communicates requirements to Medicare's Shared System Maintainers (SSMs) and MACs, notifying them of changes to the laboratory edit module to update it for changes in

laboratory NCD code lists for January 2020. Please access <https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Coverage/DeterminationProcess/downloads/January2020.zip> for the NCD spreadsheet included with CR 11485.

Note: MACs will not search their files to either retract payment for claims already paid or to retroactively pay claims unless you bring such claims to their attention.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The official instruction, CR 11485, issued to your MAC regarding this change is available at <https://www.cms.gov/Regulations-and-Guidance/Guidance/Transmittals/2019Downloads/R4424CP.pdf>

If you have questions, your MACs may have more information. Find their website at <http://go.cms.gov/MAC-website-list>.

DOCUMENT HISTORY

Date of Change	Description
October 30, 2019	We revised this article due to an updated CR which removed an invalid code for NCD 190. In the article, the CR Release Date, transmittal number and link to the transmittal were updated. All other information remains the same.
September 30, 2019	Initial article released.

Disclaimer: Paid for by the Department of Health & Human Services. This article was prepared as a service to the public and is not intended to grant rights or impose obligations. This article may contain references or links to statutes, regulations, or other policy materials. The information provided is only intended to be a general summary. It is not intended to take the place of either the written law or regulations. We encourage readers to review the specific statutes, regulations and other interpretive materials for a full and accurate statement of their contents. CPT only copyright 2018 American Medical Association. All rights reserved.

Copyright © 2013-2019, the American Hospital Association, Chicago, Illinois. Reproduced by CMS with permission. No portion of the AHA copyrighted materials contained within this publication may be copied without the express written consent of the AHA. AHA copyrighted materials including the UB-04 codes and descriptions may not be removed, copied, or utilized within any software, product, service, solution or derivative work without the written consent of the AHA. If an entity wishes to utilize any AHA materials, please contact the AHA at 312-893-6816. Making copies or utilizing the content of the UB-04 Manual, including the codes and/or descriptions, for internal purposes, resale and/or to be used in any product or publication; creating any modified or derivative work of the UB-04 Manual and/or codes and descriptions; and/or making any commercial use of UB-04 Manual or any portion thereof, including the codes and/or descriptions, is only authorized with an express license from the American Hospital Association. To license the electronic data file of UB-04 Data Specifications, contact Tim Carlson at (312) 893-6816. You may also contact us at ub04@healthforum.com

The American Hospital Association (the "AHA") has not reviewed, and is not responsible for, the completeness or accuracy of any information contained in this material, nor was the AHA or any of its affiliates, involved in the preparation of this material, or the analysis of information provided in the material. The views and/or positions presented in the material do not necessarily represent the views of the AHA. CMS and its products and services are not endorsed by the AHA or any of its affiliates.