

MLN Matters Number: MM4254

Related Change Request (CR) #: 4254

Related CR Release Date: January 20, 2006

Effective Date: April 1, 2006

Related CR Transmittal #: R815CP

Implementation Date: April 3, 2006

Healthcare Provider Taxonomy Codes (HPTC) Update

Note: This article was revised to contain web addresses that conform to the new CMS web site and to show they are now MLN Matters articles. All other information remains the same.

Provider Types Affected

Physicians, suppliers, and providers billing Medicare carriers, including durable medical equipment regional carriers (DMERCs) and/or fiscal intermediaries (FIs), including regional home health intermediaries (RHHIs), for Part A and Part B services.

Provider Action Needed



STOP – Impact to You

This article is based on Change Request (CR) 4254 which informs Medicare contractors (carriers, durable medical equipment regional carriers (DMERCs), fiscal intermediaries (FIs) and regional home health intermediaries (RHHIs)) to obtain the most recent Healthcare Provider Taxonomy Codes (HPTC) and use it to update their internal HPTC tables.



CAUTION – What You Need to Know

HIPAA requires that submitted data, which is part of a named code set, be valid data from that code set. Claims accepted with invalid data are non-compliant. Because health care provider taxonomy is a named code set in the 837 Institutional and Professional implementation guides, Medicare must validate the inbound taxonomy codes against their internal HPTC tables.

Disclaimer

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 2007 American Medical Association.



GO – What You Need to Do

See the *Background* section of this article for further details.

Background

The Healthcare Provider Taxonomy Codes (HPTC) set is an external non-medical data code set designed for use in classifying health care providers according to provider type or practitioner specialty in an electronic environment (specifically within the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) Accredited Standards Committee (ASC) health care claim transaction).

HPTCs are scheduled for update twice per year (April and October). The HPTC list is available from the Washington Publishing Company at <http://www.wpc-edi.com/codes/taxonomy> in two forms:

- A free Adobe PDF download of the HPTC list; and
- An electronic representation of the list (available for purchase) which facilitates the automatic loading of the code set.

Note: Claims received with invalid data are non-compliant with HIPAA and will not be processed by Medicare.

Implementation

The implementation date for this instruction is April 3, 2006.

Additional Information

For complete details, please see the official instruction issued to your carrier/DMERC/intermediary regarding this change. That instruction may be viewed at <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/Transmittals/downloads/R815CP.pdf> on the CMS website.

If you have any questions, please contact your carrier/DMERC/intermediary at their toll-free number, which may be found at <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MLNProducts/downloads/CallCenterTollNumDirectory.zip> on the CMS website.

Disclaimer

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.