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Implementation of ICD-10-CM/PCS

Dear Physician,

The compliance date for implementation of ICD-10-CM/Procedure Coding System (PCS) is October 1, 2015, for all Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act-covered entities, which includes suppliers of durable medical equipment, prosthetics, orthotics and supplies (DMEPOS).

Physicians are strongly encouraged to engage in an open dialogue with their DMEPOS suppliers to verify the DMEPOS item(s) they are ordering are properly supported by the ICD-10 diagnosis code(s) documented within the medical records. This will ensure your Medicare patients receive the DMEPOS items they need and facilitate DMEPOS supplier claims payment.

Although the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) has allowed for some additional flexibility in regards to claims auditing for physician services for the first 12 months following implementation, certain DMEPOS policies, especially those based on local coverage determinations (LCDs) and national coverage determinations (NCDs) require ICD-10 guidelines be followed for dates of service on and after October 1, 2015 for appropriate processing and claim reimbursement. This means that for certain DMEPOS items ordered for Medicare beneficiaries, only designated ICD-10 diagnosis codes will be allowable within the claims processing system for proper reimbursement. Not only must the appropriate ICD-10 diagnosis code, with the maximum level of specificity, be provided to the DMEPOS supplier for claim submission; that ICD-10 diagnosis code must be supported and documented appropriately within the patient's medical record.

Sincerely,

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