

UMeNewsletter

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CMS UPDATE

Update – Delay on Payments

- CMS contractors will hold claims for the first ten business days of January (January 1-15) for 2010 dates of services.
- The impact of this delay is expected to be minimal as Medicare has a 14 day payment cycle.

Update – Consultation Codes

- Effective January 1, 2010 Medicare eliminated inpatient consultation codes (99251-99255) and outpatient consultation codes (99241-99245)
- All Medicaid Products and Medicare HMO's are following the same guidelines.
- Please note that consultation codes were not eliminated by the AMA.
- Other commercial insurances are still accepting consult codes.
- Medicare will not accept these codes even if they are secondary insurance.
- Per CMS this new rule will provide minor increases in RVU's for some inpatient and outpatient E&M codes to offset losses that will result in the elimination of these codes

Update – Consultation Codes

- Practices need to pay extra attention selecting the right codes based on patients' insurance.
- To assist in these changes, United Medical LLC, coders have developed a simple flowsheet. Please refer to the charts on the following page for an easier decision.

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Consultation Codes Updates



CMS UPDATE

CONSULT CODES OBSOLETE BY 2010

MEDICARE ,MEDICAID, DPCI UNISON & MEDICARE HMO'S

OFFICE OR OUTPATIENT HSP

PLEASE USE NEW PATIENT E&M CODES BELOW: 2010

These codes are to be used for a new patient visit/ new consultation/ or an established patient who has not seen the dr or provider in the group for 3 years

ESTABLISHED E&M CODES: 2010

These codes are to be used if the patient is established patient to the dr or the group, has seen the dr within 3 years and also for pre-op consultations

99241	=	99201	= or =	99211
99242	=	99202	= or =	99212
99243	=	99203	= or =	99213
99244	=	99204	= or =	99214
99245	=	99205	= or =	99215

HOSPITAL CONSULTATION CODES OBSOLETE BY 2010- MEDICARE & HMOs, MEDICAID, DPCI, UNISON

99251
99252
99253- detailed history detailed examination medical decision making - low
99254- detailed history detailed examination medical decision making: moderate
99255- comprehensive hx comprehensive examination medical decision making: high

PLEASE USE THE INITIAL HOSPITAL CODES : 2010

(AI) MODIFIER NEEDED IF ADMITTING PHYSICIAN!

NO CODE
NO CODE
99221- detailed history detailed examination medical decision making-low
99222- detailed history detailed examination medical decision making: moderate
99223- comprehensive history comprehensive examination medical decision making: high