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MLN Matters® Number: MM6909

Related Change Request (CR) #: 6909

Related CR Release Date: April 28, 2010

Effective Date: January 1, 2009

Related CR Transmittal #: R1957CP

Implementation Date: October 4, 2010

Note: This article was updated on November 30, 2012, to reflect current Web addresses. All other information remains unchanged.

Update to the Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System (HCPCS) Codes for Payment of Surgical Dressings in Indian Health Service (IHS) Providers

Provider Types Affected

This article is for all IHS and tribally owned and operated hospitals or hospital-based facilities including Critical Access Hospitals (CAHs) who bill Medicare for providing surgical dressings to Medicare beneficiaries.

What You Need to Know

CR 6909, from which this article is taken, provides no policy changes. It updates the list of surgical dressing Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System (HCPCS) codes that Indian Health Service (IHS) providers can bill to the specialty contractor (Trailblazer Health Enterprises, LLC). You should make sure that your billing staffs are aware of this update.

Disclaimer

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Background

Section 630 of the Medicare Modernization Act (MMA) of 2003 allows IHS providers to bill for other Medicare Part B services (not covered under section 1848 of the Social Security Act) for the 5 year period beginning January 1, 2005. These covered services, which include surgical dressings, are payable based on the lesser of the actual charges or the Durable Medical Equipment, Prosthetics, Orthotics and Supplies (DMEPOS) fee schedule amount. Section 2902 of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act indefinitely extends Section 630 of the MMA retroactive to January 1, 2010.

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) periodically updates the list of surgical dressing HCPCS codes that IHS providers can bill to the specialty contractor (Trailblazer Health Enterprises, LLC); and CR 6909, from which this article is taken, provides this update for calendar year 2009.

Note: IHS owned and operated providers, tribally owned and operated providers electing to bill as IHS, tribally operated IHS providers, and tribally owned and IHS operated providers are all referred to as IHS providers throughout this article. The term provider refers to all hospital or hospital-based facilities, including CAH's and outpatient clinics.

Effective January 1, 2009 through December 31, 2009, IHS providers can bill Trailblazer Health Enterprises, LLC for surgical dressings (including splints and casts) under revenue code 0623 (surgical dressings) on type of bill (TOB) 12X (hospital inpatient part B), 13X (hospital outpatient), or 85X (CAH) for the surgical dressings HCPCS codes payable under MMA 630 listed in the following table:

Surgical Dressing HCPCS Codes Payable to IHS Providers under MMA Section 630 for Calendar Year 2009

A6010 – A6011,	A6229
A6021 –A6024,	A6231 – A6238
A6154,	A6240 – A6248
A6196 –A6197,	A6251 – A6255
A6199,	A6257 - A6259
A6203 – A6204	A6266
A6207	A6402 –A6403,
A6209 – A6212	A6407
A6214	A6410
A6219- A6220	A6441 – A6457
A6222 – A6224	

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In addition, Medicare will pay claim lines on TOBs 12X, 13X, and 85X by IHS providers with dates of service on or after January 1, 2010, through December 31, 2010, and revenue code 0623 for any of the HCPCS listed in the above table. In addition, HCPCS code A6412 is added to this list for dates of service in 2010.

You should be aware that Trailblazer Health Enterprises, LLC will not search for, and adjust, claims that have been processed prior to the implementation date; but will adjust claims that you bring to their attention.

Additional Information

You can find the official instruction issued to Trailblazer Health Enterprises, LLC, CR 6909, at <http://www.cms.gov/Regulations-and-Guidance/Guidance/Transmittals/downloads/R1957CP.pdf> on the CMS website.

Detailed information on the HCPCS mentioned in this article, as well as other HCPCS, is available at <http://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Coding/HCPCSReleaseCodeSets/index.html> on the CMS website.

If you have any questions, please contact Trailblazer Health Enterprises, LLC at their toll-free number, which may be found at <http://www.cms.gov/Research-Statistics-Data-and-Systems/Monitoring-Programs/provider-compliance-interactive-map/index.html> on the CMS website.

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