MLN Matters
Information for Medicare Fee-for-Service Health Care Professionals

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Issue with Correct Coding Initiative Code Pair 92526/G0283

Provider Types Affected

All providers who bill Medicare fiscal intermediaries (FIs) and regional home health intermediaries (RHHIs) for electrical stimulation services using Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System (HCPCS) G0283 when billed with Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) 92526 for the treatment of swallowing dysfunction and/or oral function for feeding

Background

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) announces an erroneous indicator in the Outpatient Prospective Payment System (OPPS) outpatient code editor (OCE) for one Correct Coding Initiative (CCI) code pair edit that resulted in a line item rejection of HCPCS G0283 when billed with CPT 92526. The edit for code pair 92526/G0283 was incorrectly coded with an indicator of "0" – instead of a "1" - since the implementation of the CCI code pair on January 1, 2005, for OPPS hospitals.

Key Points

This Special Edition article outlines the method that is in place to remedy the error as follows:

- The modifier indicator for the 92526/G0283 code pair will be corrected and changed to a "1" with the OPPS OCE July 2006 Release.

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- On July 3, 2006, the "1" indicator will permit the use of modifier -59 with G0283 for reporting of this service with CPT 92526 when performed by different therapy disciplines in outpatient providers of Part B therapy services.
- In addition to the OPPS hospitals (billing with bill types 12X and 13X), this edit was effective on January 1, 2006, for the following providers:
  - Skilled nursing facilities (bill types 22X and 23X)
  - Comprehensive outpatient rehabilitation facilities (bill types 75X)
  - Outpatient physical therapy and speech language pathology service providers (74X)
  - Home health agencies (bill type 34X)

Note: After the implementation of the July 2006 OPPS OCE, FIs and RHHIs shall begin to reprocess claims where payment for HCPCS G0283 was rejected based on the “0” indicator. Until the OPPS OCE is updated in July 2006, providers should continue to bill this code pair as the CCI indicates—without a modifier—and .should NOT hold claims.

Additional Information

If you have questions, please contact your Medicare FI or RHHI at their toll-free number, which may be found at http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MLNProducts/downloads/CallCenterTollNumDirectory.pdf on the CMS web site.

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