



New Physician Specialty Code for Undersea and Hyperbaric Medicine

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Related Change Request (CR) Number: 10666

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Related CR Transmittal Number:
R4087CP, R306FM

Implementation Date: January 7, 2019

PROVIDER TYPES AFFECTED

This MLN Matters Article is intended for physicians, providers and suppliers billing Medicare Administrative Contractors (MACs) for services provided to Medicare beneficiaries.

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

Change Request (CR) 10666 informs you that the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) has established a new Physician Specialty code for Undersea and Hyperbaric Medicine. This new code is D4. Make sure your billing staffs are aware of these changes.

BACKGROUND

Physicians self-designate their Medicare physician specialty on the Medicare enrollment application (CMS-855I or CMS-855O) or via the Internet-based Provider Enrollment, Chain and Ownership System (PECOS) when they enroll in the Medicare program. Medicare physician specialty codes describe the specific/unique types of medicine that physicians (and certain other suppliers) practice. Specialty codes are used by CMS for programmatic and claims processing purposes.

The CMS-855I and CMS-855O paper applications will be updated to reflect the new physician specialty in the future. In the interim, providers shall select the 'Undefined physician type' option on the enrollment application and specify Undersea and Hyperbaric Medicine in the space provided.

Existing enrolled providers who want to update their specialty to reflect the new specialty must submit a change of information application to their Medicare Administrative Contractor (MAC). Providers may submit an enrollment application to initially enroll or update their specialty within 60 days of the implementation date of the new specialty.

MACs will recognize Undersea and Hyperbaric Medicine (D4) as a valid specialty type for the following edits:

- Ordering/Referring
- Critical Access Hospital (CAH) Method II Attending and Rendering
- Attending, operating, or other physician or non-physician practitioner listed on a CAH claim

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The official instructions, CR10666, issued to your MAC are available at <https://www.cms.gov/Regulations-and-Guidance/Guidance/Transmittals/2018Downloads/R306FM.pdf> and <https://www.cms.gov/Regulations-and-Guidance/Guidance/Transmittals/2018Downloads/R4087CP.pdf>.

If you have questions, your MACs may have more information. Find their website at <http://go.cms.gov/MAC-website-list>.

DOCUMENT HISTORY

Date of Change	Description
July 13, 2018	Initial article released.

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