

**Alert****CHANGE**
HEALTHCARE

March 20, 2020

COVID-19 Medicare Day Supply Adjustment

Dear Valued Client,

This notification is to inform you of the following recent publication provided by the Medicare Part B DME MACs, and the accommodations Change Healthcare is making to help you adjust to the COVID-19 waiver allowances.

March 19, 2020

Billing of Part B Drugs to DME MACs During COVID-19 Pandemic – Dispensing Amounts

Joint DME MAC Article

<https://med.noridianmedicare.com/web/jadme/policies/dmd-articles/2020>

Under current Medicare rules for immunosuppressive drugs used after an organ transplant, oral anticancer drugs and intravenous immune globulin (IVIG) utilization requirements generally limit dispensing of drug amounts to a 30-day supply. With the recent COVID-19 pandemic, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), under their National Emergency authority, is allowing Medicare beneficiaries to obtain amounts of Part B drugs in excess of the current monthly (30-day) limitation. This change is effective for claims with dates of service on or after March 1, 2020.

If a treating practitioner prescribes more than a monthly (30-day) amount, the CR modifier (CATASTROPHE/DISASTER RELATED) must be added to the HCPCS code billed. In addition, suppliers are instructed to enter "COVID-19" in the NTE 2400 (line note) or NTE 2300 (claim note) segments of the American National Standard Institute (ANSI X12) format or field 498-PP of the National Council for Prescription Drug Program (NCPDP) format. These abbreviations may also be used in Item 19 of the CMS-1500 claim form.

In the event of an audit, review contractors will identify these claims by the "COVID-19" entry and assess if the amount was reasonable and necessary, based on the nature of the particular drug, the patient's diagnosis, the extent and likely duration of disruptions to the drug supply chain during the COVID-19 national emergency, and other relevant factors.

Refer to the applicable Local Coverage Determinations and related Policy Articles for additional

coverage, coding and documentation requirements.

What does this mean for my pharmacy?

Change Healthcare has adjusted the MedRx day-supply edits to accommodate the adjusted supply limitations for those drugs indicated in the above publication.

In order to allow claims for these items to process more than a 30-day supply for the Medicare Part B drug categories referenced by the DME MACs, the following needs to be provided:

- The 'CR' Modifier needs to be submitted in the Procedure Modifier Code field: 459-ER.
- The COVID-19 Narrative must be provided following your normal process for submitting narratives. If entering the narrative on your own using the MedRx Secure website, check to see if a narrative already exists, and then add the prefix "COVID-19," to the beginning of any existing narrative, rather than replacing the narrative on file.

Change Healthcare continues to monitor this rapidly evolving situation and will provide updates as circumstances change. If you have any questions regarding this notification, please contact Pharmacy Support at 866.379.6389. Change Healthcare is proud to be your business partner and remains committed to your success.

Thanks for your attention,

Change Healthcare

Was this communication helpful?



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