



## Changes to the Laboratory National Coverage Determination (NCD) Edit Software for July 2021

MLN Matters Number: MM12171 **Revised**

Related Change Request (CR) Number: 12171

Related CR Release Date: **June 15, 2021**

Effective Date: July 1, 2021

Related CR Transmittal Number: **R10854CP**

Implementation Date: July 6, 2021

**Note: We revised this Article due to a revised CR 12171. The CR revision didn't affect the content of this Article. We did change the CR release date, transmittal number, and the web address of the CR. All other information is the same.**

### Provider Types Affected

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This MLN Matters Article is for physicians, providers and suppliers billing Medicare Administrative Contractors (MACs) for services they provide to Medicare patients.

### Provider Action Needed

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This Article announces changes in the July 2021 quarterly release of the edit module for clinical diagnostic laboratory services. Please be sure your billing staffs are aware of these updates.

### Background

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The laboratory negotiated rulemaking committee developed the National Coverage Determinations (NCDs) for clinical diagnostic laboratory services, and the final rule was published on November 23, 2001. Nationally uniform software was developed and incorporated in the Medicare shared systems, so they process laboratory claims subject to one of the 23 NCDs (see Medicare National Coverage Determination, [Sections 190.12 - 190.34](#)) uniformly throughout the nation, effective April 1, 2003.

In accordance with the Medicare Claims Processing Manual, [Chapter 16](#), Section 120.2, we update the laboratory edit module as necessary to reflect ministerial coding updates and substantive changes to the NCDs developed through the NCD process. The changes are a result of coding analysis decisions developed under the procedures for maintenance of codes in the negotiated NCDs and biannual updates of the ICD-10-CM codes.

CR 12171 communicates requirements to Medicare's Shared System Maintainers (SSMs) and MACs, notifying them of changes to the laboratory edit module to update it for changes in laboratory NCD code lists for July 2021.

You may access the [NCD spreadsheet we include with CR 12171](#).

Note: MACs won't search their files to either retract payment for claims already paid or to retroactively pay claims unless you bring such claims to their attention.

## More Information

[CR 12171](#) is the official instruction we issued to your MAC regarding this change.

For more information, contact your [MAC](#).

## Document History

| Date of Change | Description  |
|----------------|--|
| June 16, 2021  | We revised this Article due to a revised CR 12171. The CR revision didn't affect the content of this Article. We did change the CR release date, transmittal number, and the web address of the CR. All other information is the same. |
| March 23, 2021 | Initial article released.  |

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