



Quarterly Update to the National Correct Coding Initiative (NCCI) Procedure-to-Procedure (PTP) Edits, Version 27.2, Effective July 1, 2021

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Related Change Request (CR) Number: 12226

Related CR Release Date: March 31, 2021

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Related CR Transmittal Number: R10690CP

Implementation Date: July 6, 2021

PROVIDER TYPE AFFECTED

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

PROVIDER ACTION NEEDED

CR 12226 provides the quarterly update to the National Correct Coding Initiative (NCCI) Procedure-to-Procedure (PTP) edits. Please be sure your billing staffs know of the updates.

BACKGROUND

CMS developed the NCCI to:

- Promote national correct coding methodologies
- Control improper coding that leads to inappropriate payment in Part B claims

Version 27.2 will include all previous versions and updates from January 1, 1996, to the present.

In the past, NCCI was organized in two tables: Column 1/Column 2 Correct Coding Edits and Mutually Exclusive Code (MEC) Edits. In order to simplify the use of NCCI edit files (two tables), on April 1, 2012, CMS consolidated these two edit files into the Column One/Column Two Correct Coding edit file. Separate consolidations have occurred for the 2 practitioner NCCI edit files and the 2 NCCI edit files used for the Outpatient Code Editor (OCE). You only need to search the Column One/Column Two Correct Coding edit file for active or previously deleted edits.

CMS no longer publishes a Mutually Exclusive edit file on its website for either practitioner or outpatient hospital services, since all active and deleted edits will appear in the single Column One/Column Two Correct Coding edit file. We didn't delete the edits previously contained in the

Mutually Exclusive edit file. We moved them to the Column One/Column Two Correct Coding edit file. Refer to the [CMS NCCI webpage](#) for additional information.

The coding policies are based on coding conventions defined in the American Medical Association's Current Procedural Terminology manual, national and local policies and edits, coding guidelines developed by national societies, analysis of standard medical and surgical practice, and review of current coding practice.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The official instruction, CR 12226, issued to your MAC regarding this change is available at <https://www.cms.gov/files/document/r10690cp.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
March 31, 2021	Initial article released.

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