



Quarterly Update to the Medicare Physician Fee Schedule Database (MPFSDB) – October 2019 Update

MLN Matters Number: MM11402

Related Change Request (CR) Number: 11402

Related CR Release Date: August 16, 2019

Effective Date: January 1, 2019

Related CR Transmittal Number: R4362CP

Implementation Date: October 7, 2019

PROVIDER TYPES AFFECTED

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

PROVIDER ACTION NEEDED

CR 11402 informs providers that the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) issued payment files to the MACs based on the 2019 Medicare Physician Fee Schedule (MPFS) Final Rule. CR 11402 amends those payment files. Please make sure your billing staffs are aware of these changes.

BACKGROUND

The updated payment files are effective for services you deliver from January 1, 2019, through December 31, 2019.

Section 1848(c)(4) of the Social Security Act authorizes the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to establish ancillary policies necessary to implement relative values for physicians' services.

Summary of Changes for October 2019

1. Codes 96931 and 96934 (the global components) are changing their Relative Value Units (RVUs) as indicated in Table 1. The rationale behind this change is that the global codes (96931/96934) need to sum to the values of the professional and technical component codes (96932 and 96933 for 96931, respectively; and 96935 and 96936 for 96934, respectively). These changes apply to services as of January 1, 2019.

Table 1: Changes for the October Update to the 2019 MPFSDB

Code	Action
96931	Malpractice RVU = 0.06
96934	Non-Facility and Facility PE RVU = 1.71; Malpractice RVU = 0.05

2. The short descriptor for HCPCS Code Q5115 is being updated (as shown in Table 2) to coincide with the changes published in CR 11296, and is effective for claims with dates of service on and after July 1, 2019. You can review the article related to CR 11296 at <https://www.cms.gov/Outreach-and-Education/Medicare-Learning-Network-MLN/MLNMattersArticles/downloads/MM11296.pdf>.

Table 2: Updated Short Descriptor

Code	Action
Q5115	Short descriptor = Inj truxima 10 mg

The following “J” and “Q” code updates are effective for dates of service October 1, 2019, and after. See CR 11422 for additional information. (An MLN Matters article related to CR 11422 will be available at <https://www.cms.gov/Outreach-and-Education/Medicare-Learning-Network-MLN/MLNMattersArticles/downloads/MM11422.pdf>.) See Table 3 for a list of the code updates.

Table 3: Code Updates

Code	Action
J0121	Procedure Status = E; there are no RVUs, payment policy indicators do not apply.
J0122	Procedure Status = E; there are no RVUs, payment policy indicators do not apply.
J0222	Procedure Status = E; there are no RVUs, payment policy indicators do not apply.
J0291	Procedure Status = E; there are no RVUs, payment policy indicators do not apply.
J0593	Procedure Status = E; there are no RVUs, payment policy indicators do not apply.
J0641	Short Descriptor = Inj., levoleucovorin, 0.5 mg
J1096	Procedure Status = E; there are no RVUs, payment policy indicators do not apply.
J1097	Procedure Status = E; there are no RVUs, payment policy indicators do not apply.
J1303	Procedure Status = E; there are no RVUs, payment policy indicators do not apply.
J1942	Procedure Status = I
J1943	Procedure Status = E; there are no RVUs, payment policy indicators do not apply.

Code	Action
J1944	Procedure Status = E; there are no RVUs, payment policy indicators do not apply.
J2794	Short Descriptor = Inj risperdal consta, 0.5mg
J2798	Procedure Status = E; there are no RVUs, payment policy indicators do not apply.
J3031	Procedure Status = E; there are no RVUs, payment policy indicators do not apply.
J3111	Procedure Status = E; there are no RVUs, payment policy indicators do not apply.
J7311	Short Descriptor = Inj., retisert, 0.01 mg
J7313	Short Descriptor = Inj., iluvien, 0.01 mg
J7314	Procedure Status = E; there are no RVUs, payment policy indicators do not apply.
J7331	Procedure Status = E; there are no RVUs, payment policy indicators do not apply.
J7332	Procedure Status = E; there are no RVUs, payment policy indicators do not apply.
J7401	Procedure Status = E; there are no RVUs, payment policy indicators do not apply.
J9118	Procedure Status = E; there are no RVUs, payment policy indicators do not apply.
J9119	Procedure Status = E; there are no RVUs, payment policy indicators do not apply.
J9204	Procedure Status = E; there are no RVUs, payment policy indicators do not apply.
J9210	Procedure Status = E; there are no RVUs, payment policy indicators do not apply.
J9269	Procedure Status = E; there are no RVUs, payment policy indicators do not apply.
J9313	Procedure Status = E; there are no RVUs, payment policy indicators do not apply.
Q4122	Short Descriptor = Dermacell, awm, porous sq cm
Q4165	Short Descriptor = Keramatrix, Kerasorb sq cm
Q4184	Short Descriptor = Cellesta or duo per sq cm
Q4205	Procedure Status = E; there are no RVUs, payment policy indicators do not apply.
Q4206	Procedure Status = E; there are no RVUs, payment policy indicators do not apply.
Q4208	Procedure Status = E; there are no RVUs, payment policy indicators do not apply.
Q4209	Procedure Status = E; there are no RVUs, payment policy indicators do not apply.
Q4210	Procedure Status = E; there are no RVUs, payment policy indicators do not apply.

Code	Action
Q4211	Procedure Status = E; there are no RVUs, payment policy indicators do not apply.
Q4212	Procedure Status = E; there are no RVUs, payment policy indicators do not apply.
Q4213	Procedure Status = E; there are no RVUs, payment policy indicators do not apply.
Q4214	Procedure Status = E; there are no RVUs, payment policy indicators do not apply.
Q4215	Procedure Status = E; there are no RVUs, payment policy indicators do not apply.
Q4216	Procedure Status = E; there are no RVUs, payment policy indicators do not apply.
Q4217	Procedure Status = E; there are no RVUs, payment policy indicators do not apply.
Q4218	Procedure Status = E; there are no RVUs, payment policy indicators do not apply.
Q4219	Procedure Status = E; there are no RVUs, payment policy indicators do not apply.
Q4220	Procedure Status = E; there are no RVUs, payment policy indicators do not apply.
Q4221	Procedure Status = E; there are no RVUs, payment policy indicators do not apply.
Q4222	Procedure Status = E; there are no RVUs, payment policy indicators do not apply.
Q4226	Procedure Status = E; there are no RVUs, payment policy indicators do not apply.
Q5116	Procedure Status = E; there are no RVUs, payment policy indicators do not apply.
Q5117	Procedure Status = E; there are no RVUs, payment policy indicators do not apply.
Q5118	Procedure Status = E; there are no RVUs, payment policy indicators do not apply.

Note: MACs will not search their files to retract payment for claims already paid or to retroactively pay claims. However, they will adjust claims that you bring to their attention.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The official instruction, CR 11402, issued to your MAC regarding this change is available at <https://www.cms.gov/Regulations-and-Guidance/Guidance/Transmittals/2019Downloads/R4362CP.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
August 16, 2019	Initial article released.

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