CMS Manual System	Department of Health & Human Services (DHHS)
Pub 100-04 Medicare Claims Processing	Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS)
Transmittal 2835	**Date: December 13, 2013**
	Change Request 8539

SUBJECT: Quarterly Update of HCPCS Codes Used for Home Health Consolidated Billing Enforcement

I. SUMMARY OF CHANGES: This Change Request provides a quarterly update to the list of HCPCS codes used by Medicare systems to enforce consolidated billing of home health services. The attached Recurring Update Notification applies to Chapter 10, section 20.

EFFECTIVE DATE: April 1, 2014
IMPLEMENTATION DATE: April 7, 2014

Disclaimer for manual changes only: The revision date and transmittal number apply only to red italicized material. Any other material was previously published and remains unchanged. However, if this revision contains a table of contents, you will receive the new/revised information only, and not the entire table of contents.

II. CHANGES IN MANUAL INSTRUCTIONS: (N/A if manual is not updated)
R=REVISED, N=NEW, D=DELETED

R/N/D	CHAPTER / SECTION / SUBSECTION / TITLE
N/A	

III. FUNDING:
For Fiscal Intermediaries (FIs), Regional Home Health Intermediaries (RHHIs) and/or Carriers:
No additional funding will be provided by CMS; Contractors activities are to be carried out with their operating budgets

For Medicare Administrative Contractors (MACs):
The Medicare Administrative Contractor is hereby advised that this constitutes technical direction as defined in your contract. CMS does not construe this as a change to the MAC statement of Work. The contractor is not obliged to incur costs in excess of the amounts allotted in your contract unless and until specifically authorized by the Contracting Officer. If the contractor considers anything provided, as described above, to be outside the current scope of work, the contractor shall withhold performance on the part(s) in question and immediately notify the Contracting Officer, in writing or by e-mail, and request formal directions regarding continued performance requirements.

IV. ATTACHMENTS:

Recurring Update Notification

Unless otherwise specified, the effective date is the date of service.

Attachment - Recurring Update Notification

Pub. 100-04	Transmittal: 2835	Date: December 13, 2013	Change Request: 8539

SUBJECT: Quarterly Update of HCPCS Codes Used for Home Health Consolidated Billing Enforcement

EFFECTIVE DATE: April 1, 2014
IMPLEMENTATION DATE: April 7, 2014

I. GENERAL INFORMATION

A. Background: The CMS periodically updates the lists of Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System (HCPCS) codes that are subject to the consolidated billing provision of the Home Health Prospective Payment System (HH PPS). With the exception of therapies performed by physicians, supplies incidental to physician services and supplies used in institutional settings, services appearing on this list that are submitted on claims to Medicare contractors will not be paid separately on dates when a beneficiary for whom such a service is being billed is in a home health episode (i.e., under a home health plan of care administered by a home health agency). Medicare will only directly reimburse the primary home health agencies that have opened such episodes during the episode periods. Therapies performed by physicians, supplies incidental to physician services and supplies used in institutional settings are not subject to HH consolidated billing.

The HH consolidated billing code lists are updated annually, to reflect the annual changes to the HCPCS code set itself. Additional updates may occur as frequently as quarterly in order to reflect the creation of temporary HCPCS codes (e.g., 'K' codes) throughout the calendar year. The new coding identified in each update describes the same services that were used to determine the applicable HH PPS payment rates. No additional services will be added by these updates; that is, new updates are required by changes to the coding system, not because the services subject to HH consolidated billing are being redefined.

This recurring update notification provides quarterly HH consolidated billing updates effective April 1, 2014. These new codes were effective January 1, 2014, but were overlooked and a 2014 annual HH consolidated billing update was not published.

The following HCPCS codes are added to the HH consolidated billing non-routine supply code list:

A7047 Oral Interface Used With Respiratory Suction Pump, each

A6531, Gradient Compression Stocking, Below Knee, 30-40 MMHG, Each

A6532, Gradient Compression Stocking, Below Knee, 40-50 MMHG, Each

A7047 is a new HCPCS code in 2014. Codes A6531 and A6532 are existing codes added due to their similarity to code A6545, which has been subject to HH consolidated billing since 2009.

The following HCPCS codes are added to the HH consolidated billing therapy code list:

92521 - Evaluation of speech fluency (eg, stuttering, cluttering)

92522 - Evaluation of speech sound production (eg, articulation, phonological process, apraxia, dysarthria);

92523 - with evaluation of language comprehension and expression (eg, receptive and expressive language)

92524 - Behavioral and qualitative analysis of voice and resonance

These four new speech evaluation codes replace code 92506.

B. Policy: Section 1842(b)(6) of the Social Security Act requires that payment for home health services provided under a home health plan of care is made to the home health agency. This requirement is found in Medicare regulations at 42 CFR 409.100 and in Medicare instructions at Pub. 100-04, Medicare Claims Processing Manual, chapter 10, section 20.

II. BUSINESS REQUIREMENTS TABLE

"Shall" denotes a mandatory requirement, and "should" denotes an optional requirement.

Number	Requirement	Responsibility											
		A/B MAC			DME MAC	FI	CARRIER	RHHI	Shared-System Maintainers				Other
		A	B	HHH					FISS	MCS	VMS	CWF	
8539.1	The contractor shall revise the list of codes used to enforce existing HH consolidated billing edits to add HCPCS code A6531, A6532, and A7047, effective for claims with dates of service on or after April 1, 2014.											X	
8539.2	The contractor shall revise the list of codes used to enforce existing HH consolidated billing edits to add HCPCS codes 92521, 92522, 92523, and 92524, effective for claims with dates of service on or after April 1, 2014.											X	
8539.3	The contractor shall revise the list of codes used to enforce existing HH consolidated billing edits to delete HCPCS code 92506, effective for claims with dates of service on or after April 1, 2014.											X	

III. PROVIDER EDUCATION TABLE

Number	Requirement	Responsibility							
		A/B MAC			DME MAC	FI	CARRIER	RHHI	Other
		A	B	HHH					
8539.4	MLN Article: A provider education article related to this instruction will be available at http://www.cms.gov/Outreach-and-Education/Medicare-Learning-Network-MLN/MLNMattersArticles/ shortly after the CR is released. You will receive notification of the article release via the established "MLN Matters" listserv. Contractors shall post this article, or a direct link to this article, on their Web sites and include information about it in a listserv message within one week of the availability of the provider education article. In addition, the provider education article shall be included in the contractor's next regularly scheduled bulletin. Contractors are free to supplement MLN Matters articles with localized information that would benefit their provider community in billing and administering the Medicare program correctly.	X	X	X					

IV. SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Section A: Recommendations and supporting information associated with listed requirements:

"Should" denotes a recommendation.

X-Ref Requirement Number	Recommendations or other supporting information:
8043.1	The current CWF home health consolidated billing edits are alerts 7702 and 7703, edits 5389 and 5390, and the associated unsolicited response processes.

Section B: All other recommendations and supporting information: N/A

V. CONTACTS

Pre-Implementation Contact(s): Susan Webster, 410-786-3384 or susan.webster@cms.hhs.gov, April Billingsley, 410-786-0140 or april.billingsley@cms.hhs.gov, Wil Gehne, 410-786-6148 or wilfried.gehne@cms.hhs.gov

Post-Implementation Contact(s): Contact your Contracting Officer's Representative (COR) or Contractor Manager, as applicable.

VI. FUNDING

Section A: For Fiscal Intermediaries (FIs), Regional Home Health Intermediaries (RHHIs), and/or Carriers:
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