

This Computes!



Department of Health Care Services
Children's Medical Services Network
(CMS Net) - Information Bulletin #284

Medical Supply Code Conversion Information and Guidelines - Revised

"This Computes! #276" provided general information about the medical supply code conversions which will become effective on April 1, 2009. The following is additional information and guidelines for the CCS program.

- Effective for dates of service on and after April 1, 2009, **new** product specific medical supply SARs must include the new HCPCS level II codes.
- A 90-day grace period (from April 1, 2009 through June 30, 2009) will be allowed for **existing** product specific medical supply SARs:
 - Providers can continue to bill claims using local "9900" through "9999" codes ("99" codes) with existing SARs until the end of the grace period.
 - For SARs extending beyond June 30, 2009, providers must request new SARs with the new HCPCS level II codes prior to the end of the grace period.
- Effective April 1, 2009, for all contracted medical supply items, providers are required to include the Universal Product Numbers (UPNs) on their claims in addition to the new HCPCS level II codes. Inclusion of the UPNs on the claim will replace the need for supplemental invoice attachments or catalog pages with the claim. These UPNs are not required on SARs and therefore will not affect your authorizations.
- Beginning January 5, 2009, the new medical supply coding requirements and crosswalks of all the local codes to the new HCPCS level II codes will be available to providers on the Medi-Cal website.

- Diabetic supplies (test strips and lancets), peak flow meters, inhalers, and enteral nutrition products are not included in this medical supply code conversion.

Guidelines for the CCS Program

1. **Existing** Medical Supply Product Specific SARs
 - a. SARs with an end-date between January 5 and March 31, 2009.
 - If no further Medical Supply services are needed, then no action is required.
 - If further medical supply services are needed in this time period, extend SAR through March 31, 2009.
 - b. SARs with an end-date between April 1 and June 30, 2009 (grace period).*
 - If no further Medical Supply services are needed, then no action is required.
 - If further medical supply services are needed, issue a new SAR with the new HCPCS level II codes with an effective date immediately following the end-date of the existing SAR. Providers will need to specifically request the new codes. **The new HCPCS level II codes are found under Procedure Codes (not Formulary and Medical Supplies). On and after January 5, 2009, these codes will have a P/D Indicator of “R”, so that a new SAR can be issued with an effective date of April 1, 2009.**[†]
 - c. SARs with an end-date beyond June 30, 2009.*
 - Cancel existing SAR effective June 30, 2009 and issue a new SAR with the new HCPCS level II codes effective July 1, 2009. Providers will need to specifically request the new codes.
2. **New** Product Specific Medical Supply SAR Requests On or After January 5, 2009**
 - a. If SAR request is for medical supply services with an end-date on or before March 31, 2009, issue SAR with local “99” codes.
 - b. If SAR request is for medical supply services extending beyond March 31, 2009, issue one SAR with local “99” codes with an end-date of March 31, 2009, and issue another SAR with new HCPCS level II

†Revised information

codes effective April 1, 2009. Providers will need to specifically request the new codes. The same instructions apply as in 1.b., second bullet, third sentence in bold.

*During the first week in January, the Branch will provide each CCS local program or regional office with lists of existing product specific SARs for their providers that have an end-date beyond March 31, 2009, so you can proactively work with providers to end-date these SARs effective March 31, 2009 and issue SARs with new codes, which they will need to provide, effective April 1, 2009. During the first week in June, the Branch will again provide each local program or regional office with any remaining lists of product specific SARs that will expire after June 30, 2009, so you can work with providers to end-date these SARs on or before June 30, 2009 and issue SARs with new codes effective the day after the end-dated SAR.

**Effective January 5, 2009, providers may request local programs or regional offices to cancel existing SARs with old local "99" codes effective March 31, 2009, and issue a new SAR with the new HCPCS level II codes effective April 1, 2009. The provider must provide the local program or regional office with the new HCPCS level II codes.

Note: There are 3 workshops in January and February for providers (see attached flyer). The phone number for registration is at the bottom of the flyer. Please help in letting your providers know about these workshops and consider sending someone from your office if the workshop is in your area. In addition, the Medi-Cal website www.medi-cal.ca.gov has a page dedicated to medical supplies. The link is on the right hand side under "New Areas", first bullet, "Medical Supplies".