



MEDTRON
SOFTWARE INTELLIGENCE



011415 NEWS BLAST

REMINDER: JANUARY 2015 CASH FLOW IMPACTS

Per CMS Region VI Insider, 01/02/2015:

Holding of 2015 Date-of-Service Claims for Services Paid Under the 2015 Medicare Physician Fee Schedule:

On November 13, 2014, the 2015 Medicare Physician Fee Schedule (MPFS) final rule was published in the Federal Register. In order to implement corrections to technical errors discovered after publication of the MPFS rule and process claims correctly, Medicare Administrative Contractors (MAC) will hold claims containing 2015 services paid under the MPFS for the first 14 calendar days of January 2015 (i.e., Thursday January 1 through Wednesday January 14). The hold should have minimal impact on provider cash flow as, under current law, clean electronic claims are **not paid sooner than 14 calendar days** (29 days for paper claims) after the date of receipt.

MPFS claims for services rendered on or before Wednesday, December 31, 2014 are unaffected by the 2015 claims hold and will be processed and paid under normal procedures and time frames.

MEDDATA sent a request to Novitas to clarify that the above statement meant resuming claims processing as of January 15th would not be subject to the 14 day hold; the response from Novitas:

“What is out there is the most current information we have. Once the hold is released the claims will continue to process. This may mean that some will pay at this point others may take longer. We have 30 days to pay a claim but can’t pay before the 14 day payment floor, in this case the 14 day hold.”

Also see attached Novitas Part B System Alerts for the “Dark” Days policy, as well as System Alerts to other processing deficits, which add an additional layer of delays.

NOTE: Out of Service Area (OSA) claims defined by Novitas as “where the beneficiary information is not in the same host site as the claim (KS, SO, NE, etc. in HIMR) and the CWF has to locate the host site of the beneficiary in order for the claim to process. Normally this may take an extra day or two cycling through the system.”

Fee Schedule Updates:

CMS published the 2015 Medicare Physician Fee Schedule on 12/23/2014; then as stipulated above related to correction/errors; rescinded the fee schedule and republished on 01/07/2015. MEDTRON is updating our routine and support files to make these applications as well as update other data contents in the Medicare Physician Fee Schedule Database (MCPFSDB), i.e., Global periods, Modifier flags, Status Codes and Relative Value Units (RVUs).

Timeshare/iSeries Clients: Please review the 2015 Updates section of MEDTRON’s 2014 Winter/End of Year Newsletter published on 12/22/2014

MEDDATA clients: Setup and Support files will be updated automatically for CPT updates.

****Practice staff should review charge tickets for applicable updates.****

Contact Software Support for assistance or any questions via:

From **MEDPDM** or **MEDEHR** Sign On screens, double click on ‘support@medtronsoftware.com’ to compose an email to the Software Support Dept.

-OR-

Phone: (985) 234-0599 (local)
(800) 978-0599 (toll free)

-OR-

Fax: (985) 234-0609

Part B: Active System Alerts

Alert Type	Status Date	Details
Informational	12/23/2014 7:52 AM	Holiday Payment Cycles Due to the Federal Holidays, there will be no payments issued from the shared systems from the December 25 and 26, 2014 cycles, as well as the January 1, 2015 cycle. Providers should monitor and manage their cash flows during this time period.
System	12/12/2014 11:03 AM	Novitas Claim Processing OSA Responses Novitas Solutions has been informed of a systems problem that may result in delayed processing of a limited number of Medicare Part B claims. This systems problem is preventing the finalization of certain claims that require Out of Service Area (OSA) processing. The OSA process is not properly applying the OSA reply and the claims are recycling. The standard system maintainers are aware of this issue and are working on a fix. However, this correction is not expected to be implemented until early January. Providers do not need to take any action at this time. Once the fix is implemented, the OSA process will complete and impacted claims will finish processing.

December 30, 2014

System Alert - Issued 12:03 PM

No Payments Issued Monday, December 29, 2014

Due to a systems problem at the CDS data center, there were no payments issued from the Part B shared systems cycle for Monday, December 29, 2014. The problem was resolved and the payments for December 29 will be combined with the payments from December 30 and issued in December 30, 2014 batch cycle. We apologize for this inconvenience.

January 2015 Release "Dark" Days for the Common Working File (CWF) Hosts

For the upcoming January 2015 Release, CWF will be observing three "dark" days one which is January 1, 2015 a holiday. To accommodate the anticipated duration of this activity and to ensure the completion of weekly/monthly/quarterly processing, installation of the January 2015 Quarterly Release, and scheduled Virtual Data Center maintenance, there will be one holiday observance of Thursday, January 1, 2015 and two "Dark Days" on Friday, January 2, 2015 and Saturday, January 3, 2015.

Below is a list of scheduled events for the release:

- CWF Hosts will hold the claims received from MACs on 12/31/2014 and 01/02/2015.
- 01/01/2015, 01/02/2015, and 01/03/2015 will be "Dark" days for CWF Hosts with no on lines available, which means that contractors will not have access to the HIMR inquiry and BDS transaction.
- 01/01/2015, the on lines are available for CWF Host under the January version. CWF Host will receive responses from the FPS by the afternoon of 01/05/2015. The FPS response files will be loaded for CWF ISA processing on the night of 01/05/2015. Response files will be sent to contractors in the new version for the 01/06/2015 night's processing.