New CMS-1500 Form Effective April 1, 2014*

The National Uniform Claim Committee (NUCC) was created in 1995 to develop a standardized data set for use by the noninstitutional health care community to transmit claim and encounter information to and from third-party payers. The committee recently announced revisions to the CMS-1500 form which is used by clinical social workers and other health care providers to submit claims for reimbursement of services. The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) and the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) have approved the revised CMS-1500 paper claim form, OMB-0938-1197 FORM 1500 (02-12). These numbers are located at the bottom right-hand corner of the revised form.

Revisions

The CMS-1500 Form was revised to give clinical social workers and other providers the ability to indicate whether they are using International Classification of Diseases, ninth edition, Clinical Modification (ICD-9-CM) codes or its counterpart, the ICD-10-CM. This revision is important as the health care industry prepares for the implementation of the ICD-10-CM codes on October 1, 2014. (On April 1, 2014, ICD-10-CM implementation was delayed until October 1, 2015.) The revised form also allows expansion of additional diagnostic codes from four to twelve. Qualifiers were added to identify provider rules to include ordering, referring, or supervising.

Transition Timeline

NUCC and CMS have approved the following transition timeline for implementation of the revised CMS-1500 Form:

- **January 6, 2014:** Third-party payers will begin receiving and processing paper claims submitted on the revised CMS-1500 Form, version 02/12.
- **January 6 thru March 31, 2014:** Clinical social workers may submit claims on the old CMS-1500 Form, version, 08/05, or the revised CMS-1500 Form, version 02/12.
- **April 1, 2014:** Clinical social workers should submit claims only on the revised CMS-1500 Form, version 02/12.

Clinical social workers are responsible for ensuring their claims are filed on the appropriate claim forms. If applicable, this information should be shared with practice management software vendors, billing services, or clearing houses retained by clinical social workers.

The revised CMS-1500 Form is available for purchase from the United States Government Printing Office or large office supply companies. A revised sample form is available at the end of this document. Additional information about the revised CMS-1500 Form is available at www.nucc.org. The instruction manual for CMS-1500 Form Version 02/12 is available online at www.findacode.com/cms1500-claim-form/instructions02-12/1500_claim_form_instruction_manual_2012_02.pdf. Questions about the NUCC’s CMS-1500 instructions may be emailed to info@nucc.org.

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