

Model Letter for Medicare Payers

Date

Medicare Carrier

RE: Inappropriate Claim Denial for CPT Code [30130 or 30140]

Dear _____:

You recently denied a claim for CPT code [30130, excision turbinate, partial or complete, any method,] [30140, submucous resection turbinate, partial or complete, any method,] billed in conjunction with code [____]. This denial indicates that you have not used the recent revisions to the Correct Coding Initiative (CCI), which specifically allow payment for [30130 or 30140] when performed in conjunction with various FESS procedures.

The current edition of the CCI lists fewer than 12 codes that cannot be billed with [30130 or 30140], as noted in the attached list of code edits from the July 1, 2002, edition of the CCI. Medicare payers should pay separately for any code that is not identified by the CCI as a component, comprehensive, or mutually exclusive code for [30130 or 30140].

Please review the attached claim and provide appropriate payment for both [30130 or 30140] and [____].

Sincerely,

Attachment

Model Letter for Commercial Payer

Date

Commercial Payer

RE: Inappropriate Claim Denial for CPT Code [30130 or 30141]

Dear _____:

You recently denied a claim for CPT code [30130, excision turbinate, partial or complete, any method,] [30140, submucous resection turbinate, partial or complete, any method,] billed in conjunction with code [____]. This denial indicates that you have not used the recent revisions to the Correct Coding Initiative (CCI), which specifically allow payment for [30130 or 30140] when performed in conjunction with various FESS procedures.

The current edition of the CCI lists fewer than 12 codes that cannot be billed with [30130 or 30140], as noted in the attached list of code edits from the July 1, 2002, edition of the CCI. CCI edits have been reviewed by Medicare medical directors and physician specialty societies. The CCI recognizes that [30130 or 30140] is a separate and distinct procedure from FESS services. Your denial of [30130 or 30140] as bundled into the FESS procedures is not supported by the physician specialty societies or other payers. Therefore, I respectfully request that you review the attached claim and the documentation from the CCI and provide appropriate payment for [30130 or 30140].

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Attachments

The following codes are components of 30130:

| Code | Modifier | Effective Date | Termination Date |
|-------|---|----------------|------------------|
| 30110 | Modifier is allowed, will bypass edit | 1/1/1996 | |
| 30115 | Modifier is allowed, will bypass edit | 1/1/1996 | |
| 30200 | Modifier is allowed, will bypass edit | 1/1/1996 | |
| 69990 | No modifier allowed; will not bypass edit | 6/5/2000 | |
| 92502 | Modifier is allowed, will bypass edit | 9/5/2000 | |

Code 30130 is a component of the following codes:

| Code | Modifier | Effective Date | Termination Date |
|-------|---------------------------------------|----------------|------------------|
| 30140 | Modifier is allowed, will bypass edit | 1/1/1996 | |
| 30150 | Modifier is allowed, will bypass edit | 1/1/1996 | |
| 30160 | Modifier is allowed, will bypass edit | 1/1/1996 | |
| 30400 | Modifier is allowed, will bypass edit | 1/1/1996 | |
| 30410 | Modifier is allowed, will bypass edit | 1/1/1996 | |
| 30420 | Modifier is allowed, will bypass edit | 1/1/1996 | |

The following codes are components of 30140:

| Code | Modifier | Effective Date | Termination Date |
|-------|---|----------------|------------------|
| 30110 | Modifier is allowed, will bypass edit | 1/1/1996 | |
| 30115 | Modifier is allowed, will bypass edit | 1/1/1996 | |
| 30130 | Modifier is allowed, will bypass edit | 1/1/1996 | |
| 30200 | Modifier is allowed, will bypass edit | 1/1/1996 | |
| 69990 | No modifier allowed; will not bypass edit | 6/5/2000 | |
| 92502 | Modifier is allowed, will bypass edit | 9/5/2000 | |
| 21335 | | 1/1/1996 | 1/1/1996 |
| 61795 | | 9/5/2000 | 9/5/2000 |

Code 30140 is a component of the following codes:

| Code | Modifier | Effective Date | Termination Date |
|-------|---------------------------------------|----------------|------------------|
| 21335 | Modifier is allowed, will bypass edit | 1/1/1996 | |
| 30150 | Modifier is allowed, will bypass edit | 1/1/1996 | |
| 30160 | Modifier is allowed, will bypass edit | 1/1/1996 | |

The following code is mutually exclusive with 30140:

| Code | Modifier | Effective Date | Termination Date |
|------|----------|----------------|------------------|
|------|----------|----------------|------------------|

| | | | |
|-------|---------------------------------------|----------|--|
| 30620 | Modifier is allowed, will bypass edit | 1/1/1996 | |
|-------|---------------------------------------|----------|--|