

National Correct Coding Initiative and Medically Unlikely Edits

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MEDICARE PART B

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NATIONAL CORRECT CODING INITIATIVE (NCCI) EDITS

CMS developed the NCCI to promote national correct coding methodologies and eliminate improper coding. NCCI edits are developed based on coding conventions defined in the American Medical Association's *CPT* book, current standards of medical and surgical coding practice, input from specialty societies, and analysis of current coding practice.

MEDICALLY UNLIKELY EDITS (MUEs)

To lower the Medicare fee-for-service paid claims error rate, CMS established units of service edits referred to as Medically Unlikely Edits (MUEs). The National Correct Coding Initiative (NCCI) contractor develops and maintains MUEs. This set of edits is based on anatomical considerations and addresses approximately 2,800 codes. Although CMS publishes most MUE values, other MUE values are confidential and are not published for public viewing.

CMS Web Resources

CMS NCCI Edits Overview Web Page:

http://www.cms.gov/NationalCorrectCodInitEd/01_overview.asp

CMS NCCI Edits Web Page:

<http://www.cms.gov/NationalCorrectCodInitEd/NCCIEP/list.asp>

How to Use the National Correct Coding Initiative (NCCI) Tools

<http://www.cms.gov/MLNProducts/downloads/How-To-Use-NCCI-Tools.pdf>

MLN Matters[®] Number MM5824:

<http://www.cms.gov/MLNMattersArticles/downloads/MM5824.pdf>

Modifier 59: Proper Usage Regarding Distinct Procedural Services:

<http://www.cms.gov/NationalCorrectCodInitEd/downloads/modifier59.pdf>

NCCI Frequently Asked Questions:

<https://questions.cms.hhs.gov/app/answers/list>

CMS MUEs Web Page:

https://www.cms.gov/NationalCorrectCodInitEd/08_MUE.asp

MUEs Frequently Asked Questions:

<https://questions.cms.hhs.gov/app/answers/list/kw/mue/search/1>