Health Policy and Economics

Apply to be a SIR Economics Committee Volunteer
Learn about the economics and success of IR with the IR Chiefs in Chicago Oct. 25–26, 2023.

SIR submits comments to the 2024 MPFS proposed rule
On Sept. 8, the Society of Interventional Radiology (SIR) submitted a comment letter to the proposed 2024 Medicare Physician Fee Schedule (MPFS) rule. SIR commented on the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) proposed decrease of 3.36% in the conversion factor (CF) for CY 2024. The CF affects all Relative Value Units (RVUs), including physician work, practice expense, and malpractice RVUs.

In addition, SIR commented on the proposed aggregate reduction of 4% in interventional radiology aggregate allowable charges, composed of a 1% decrease in physician work and a 3% decrease in practice expenses (equipment, supplies, and clinical staff). If the proposed cuts are finalized, the combined impact would be an approximate 5% decrease in reimbursement for IR services performed in the office/non-facility setting (e.g., office-based labs) and a 3% decrease for IR services performed in the facility setting (e.g., hospital-based practices). At the individual code level, IR will see decreases as high as 6.6% in reimbursement for procedures treating peripheral arterial disease (PAD), with similar reimbursement reductions for minimally invasive, image-guided treatments for end-stage renal disease and cancer.

2024 ICD-10-CM codes effective Oct. 1, 2023

Medicare Part B modifier JZ/JW
Beginning July 1, 2023, a JZ modifier is required on all claims that bill for drugs separately payable under Part B when there's no discarded amount from single-dose containers or single-use packages. Claims that bill for separately payable drugs under Part B from single-dose containers that don't report the JW or JZ modifier on or after July 1, 2023, may be subject to audits. Claim editing starts on Oct. 2, 2023, when JW or JZ modifiers aren't used correctly. Note: that reporting of modifiers JW and JZ are NOT required for administered medications already included (described) in existing HPCS codes, only for separately payable medication used from single-use containers.

IR books and resources
- IR Coding Update book and charge sheets
- 2024 Navigator® Interventional Radiology Procedures
- 2024 Navigator® Evaluation and Management Services for Radiology
- IR Common Missed Coding Revenue

IR billing and coding courses
- 2023 SIR Revenue Cycle Management course
- 2023 Coding Update On-demand

IR Carrier advocacy coverage letters
- Endovascular arteriovenous fistula (EndoAVF)
- Liver-directed therapy (SIRT/TARE)
- Ovarian and internal iliac vein embolization
- Percutaneous bone cryoablation
- Percutaneous renal cryoablation
- Prostate artery embolization (PAE)
- Pulmonary cryoablation
- Uterine fibroid embolization (UFE) and uterine artery embolization (UAE)
- Varicocele/gonadal embolization

IR Quarterly
- Spring 2023 percutaneous arteriovenous fistula (AVF) creation
- Summer 2023 intravascular ultrasound (IVUS)

SIR members, we are here to help
- Submit your coding question to our experts.
- Submit your denied IR procedure.

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