

## Part B Insider (Multispecialty) Coding Alert

### Drug Payments: Medicare Adjusts Dozens of Drug Payments

If your practice bills Medicare for lots of prescription drugs, then it's time to update your pricing charts.

Part B carrier Cigna posted the fourth-quarter drug payment updates, which take effect Oct. 1, on its Web site. The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services sets national prices for drugs furnished incident-to a physician's services using its Single Drug Pricer methodology.

Among the drugs that received increases were:

1. 90645 (hemophilus influenza B vaccine), which increased to \$25.38
2. 90704 and 90705, mumps and measles vaccines, which rose to \$19.43 and \$15.03 respectively.
3. 90732 (pneumococcal vaccine), raised to \$18.62
4. J0282 (amiodarone hydrochloride, 30 MG), up to \$15.94.
5. J0456 (azithromycin, 500 MG), raised to \$25.55
6. J0500 (dicyclomine HCl, up to 20 MG) raised to \$17.06
7. J0600 (edetate calcium disodium), raised to \$44.10
8. J0850 (cytomegalovirus immune globulin intravenous), up to \$712.07
9. J1190 (dexrazoxane hydrochloride), raised to \$233.97
10. J1410 (estrogen, conjugated), up to \$61.51
11. J1460-J1550 (gamma globulin), raised to \$12.17 per unit
12. J1670 (tetanus immune globulin), raised to \$119.70
13. J1950 (leuprolide acetate), up to \$517.32
14. J2324 (nesiritide), up to \$151.62
15. J2770 (quinupristin/dalfopristin), up to \$114.58
16. J2910 (aurothioglucose), up to \$17.31
17. J2941 (somatropin), up to \$45.92
18. J2993 (reteplase), raised to \$1364.44
19. J2997 (alteplase recombinant), increased to \$36.70
20. J3100 (tenecteplase), which rose to \$2690.88
21. J9160 (denileukin diftitox), which rose to \$1330.95
22. J9185 (fludarabine phosphate), which rose to \$356.07
23. J9216 (interferon gamma 1-B), which rose to \$209.22
24. J9266 (pegaspargase), which went up to \$1543.75
25. J9310-J9320 (rituximab and streptozocin), up to \$501.13 and \$141.47
26. Q0187 (factor VIIa), rose to \$1681.50

Among the drugs reduced were:

27. 90385 (Rho[d] Ig (Rhlg) minidose, IM), which went down to \$34.77
28. J1056 (medroxyprogesterone acetate/estradiol cypionate), reduced to \$24.61
29. J1120 (acetazolamide sodium), reduced to \$20.52
30. J1742 (ibutilide fumarate), down to \$251.35
31. J2020 (linezolid), down to \$36.80
32. J2545 (pentamidine isethionate), lowered to \$50.77
33. J2760 (phentolamine mesylate), down to \$31.92
34. J2788 (Rho d immune globulin, human), down to \$34.77
35. J3315 (triptorelin pamoate), reduced to \$398.62
36. J7317 (sodium hyaluronate for intra-articular injection), lowered to \$138.71
37. J7504 (lymphocyte immune globulin, antithymocyte globulin), down to \$278.70

38. J9040 (bleomycin sulfate), which went down to \$182.40
39. J9062-J9094 (cisplatin, cladribine and cyclophosphamide)
40. J9180 (epirubicin hydrochloride), decreased to \$690.99
41. J9206 (irinotecan), which dropped to \$145.74
42. J9280-J9291 (mitomycin), which dropped to \$63.84, \$207.48 and \$285
43. [HCPCS J9390](#) (vinorelbine tartrate), down to \$89.36

CMS also added two new drug codes: Q4076 (dopamine hydrochloride) and Q4077 (treprostinil), which reimburse at \$0.62 and \$37.05 respectively.