

Part B Insider (Multispecialty) Coding Alert

Reader Question: Select Actual Service Date for Test Interpretations

Question: The hospital performed an EKG on Jan. 1 and our cardiologist interpreted it on Jan. 2. Which date of service should we report?

Answer: If your physician is only reporting the professional interpretation (with modifier 26 appended), you'll report your date of service as Jan. 2, CMS rep **Craig Dobyski** said during a Jan. 29 Open Door Forum. Contractors shouldn't balk at paying different service dates for the technical portion of the test and the professional component, Dobyski added.