

Medicare Reverses Incorrect Edit, Allows Same-Day Billing of Videofluoroscopic Swallowing Study by SLPs and Radiologists

In response to ASHA's advocacy, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) reversed the [new National Correct Coding Initiative \(CCI\) edit](#) that prevented same-day billing of Current Procedural Terminology (CPT ® American Medical Association) codes 92611 (Motion fluoroscopic evaluation of swallowing function by cine or video recording) and 74230 (Radiologic examination, swallowing function, with cineradiography/videoradiography).

In a recent communication, CMS noted that the edit is changed to allow same-day billing of 92611 and 74230, retroactive to January 1, 2020, and will be implemented as soon as technically possible in a future edit update. With the reversal of the CCI edit, speech-language pathologists (SLPs) and radiologists will once again be appropriately reimbursed for each distinctly different portion of their professional collaboration during the videofluoroscopic swallowing study (VFSS).

CMS further clarified that claims for same-day billing of 92611 and 74230 must include a modifier to note that the services are separate and distinct. This means that claims for VFSS should include 92611 first on the claim, as the "column 1" code, followed by 74230 with the modifier -59 (or subcategory modifiers) appended. Additional information on the use of CCI-associated modifiers is available on [ASHA's website](#).

Once CMS implements the correction, all claims submitted since January 1, 2020, that appropriately included 92611 and 74230 can be reprocessed for payment of 74230, with the addition of the modifier to 74230 as the "column 2" code.

ASHA appreciates the reversal by CMS that reaffirms the important collaboration of SLPs and radiologists during the VFSS.

Background

The NCCI (or more commonly, CCI) is an automated edit system to control specific procedure code pairs that can or cannot be reported on the same day. CMS developed the system for use in all Medicare Part B (outpatient) and Medicaid claims. See [CCI Edits for Speech-Language Pathology Services](#) for additional information on same-day billing restrictions and related modifiers.

ASHA Resources

ASHA will provide an update through [Headlines](#) and [advocacy news](#) when CMS issues an official statement regarding the decision to reverse the edit. For questions, please contact reimbursement@asha.org.