

June 2020

# Information You Need

Exclusive for AAPC Book and AAPC Coder Purchasers

## ICD-10-PCS 2021 Adds 544 New Codes

The 2021 ICD-10-PCS files are now available. Inpatient coders will have 544 new codes to work with beginning Oct. 1, 2020, as well as changes to tables and the index. [Learn More »](#)

## HCPCS Level II Code Changes in Effect July 1

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) released on May 13 the July 2020 quarterly update to the HCPCS Level II file. There are 61 added codes to describe healthcare equipment and supplies not identified by CPT® codes, as well as nine deleted codes and three revised codes. [Learn More »](#)

## COVID-19 Specimen Collection and Testing

The American Medical Association (AMA) has released a new proprietary laboratory analysis (PLA) code for novel coronavirus testing. This code is to be used specifically to report the BioFire® Respiratory Panel 2.1 test. [Learn More »](#)

## Medicare Telehealth Coding as of April 30

Healthcare providers are granted even more latitude for use of telehealth services during the COVID-19 public health emergency. [Learn More »](#)

## Introducing AAPC's New eBook Collection

As everything around us is getting the switch over to digital, eBooks — books in an electronic format that can be downloaded to a computer or mobile device — are becoming increasingly popular. While many people still prefer the tactile feel of traditional printed media, eBooks have some definite benefits and offer versatility that print cannot. This is particularly true when it comes to medical coding books. [Learn More »](#)

## NCCI Tightens Up Cardio, Lab Edits July 1

Several procedure-to-procedure (PTP) edit changes in the Medicare National Correct Coding Initiative (NCCI) database will go into effect July 1. The quarterly update files are now available on the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) website. Most of the changes account for new CPT® codes added for 2020 or codes that will be deleted July 1. Awareness of these edits is necessary to ensure proper medical coding and claims payment for services furnished to Medicare patients. [Learn More »](#)

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