



## Remittance Advice Remark Code (RARC), Claims Adjustment Reason Code (CARC), Medicare Remit Easy Print (MREP) & PC Print Update

MLN Matters Number: MM12102

Related Change Request (CR) Number: 12102

Related CR Release Date: March 11, 2021

Effective Date: July 1, 2021

Related CR Transmittal Number: R10650CP

Implementation Date: July 6, 2021

### PROVIDER TYPES AFFECTED

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This MLN Matters Article is for physicians, providers and suppliers billing Medicare Administrative Contractors (MACs) for services provided to Medicare beneficiaries.

### WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

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This article tells you of updates to the Remittance Advice Remark Code (RARC) and Claims Adjustment Reason Code (CARC) lists and instructs Medicare's Shared System Maintainers (SSMs) to update Medicare Remit Easy Print (MREP) and PC Print. Make sure billing staffs are aware of these updates. If you use the MREP or PC Print software, be sure to get the updated software.

### BACKGROUND

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The Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA) instructs health plans to be able to conduct standard electronic transactions that HHS adopted under HIPAA using valid standard codes. Medicare policy states that MACs must use CARCs and RARCs, as appropriate, which provide either supplemental explanation for a monetary adjustment or policy information that generally applies to the monetary adjustment, in the remittance advice and coordination of benefits transactions.

CMS instructs your MACs to conduct updates based on the code update schedule that results in publication three times per year – around March 1, July 1, and November 1.

We provide this information as a code update notification indicating when updates to CARC and RARC lists are made available on the official Accredited Standards Committee (ASC) X12 website. The SSMs are responsible for implementing code deactivation, making sure MACs don't use any deactivated code in original business messages and allowing the deactivated code in derivative messages. The SSMs must make sure that Medicare does not report any

deactivated code on or after the effective date for deactivation as posted on the official ASC X12 website. If any new or modified code has an effective date later than the implementation date specified in CR 12102, MACs must implement on the date specified on the official ASC X12 website at <https://x12.org/codes>.

A discrepancy between the dates may arise, as the official ASC X12 website is only updated three times per year and may not match the CMS release schedule.

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The official instruction, CR 12102, issued to your MAC regarding this change, is available at <https://www.cms.gov/files/document/r10650cp.pdf>.

If you have questions, your MACs may have more information. Find their website at <http://go.cms.gov/MAC-website-list>.

## DOCUMENT HISTORY

Date of Change	Description
March 12, 2021	Initial article released.

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