

Notice: Changes for Ambulance Providers Effective March 1, 2017

Implementation of Medicare Pricing Software

On March 1, 2017, UCare will begin implementing third-party software to calculate pricing on most Medicare professional services. Through the use of this software, we will improve payment accuracy and consistency by aligning more closely with Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) professional reimbursement methodologies.

Below is the schedule for when UCare will implement the pricing tool for most professional services for the UCare products indicated:

- **UCare for Seniors and EssentiaCare**
Claims received by UCare on or after **March 1, 2017**, with dates of services on or after Jan. 1, 2017.
- **Minnesota Senior Health Options (MSHO) and UCare Connect + Medicare**
Claims received by UCare on or after **April 1, 2017**, with dates of services on or after Jan. 1, 2017.

UCare is implementing this pricing software to increase the auto adjudication rate of claims. In addition, use of this pricing software will improve UCare's ability to more rapidly align with CMS code and legislative changes to ensure compliance with CMS and UCare Payment Policies.

Upon implementation of this new pricing tool, ambulance providers may experience processing and/or pricing changes as UCare aligns more closely with Medicare payment methodologies for ambulance services.

If you have questions about the payments received after UCare's implementation of this third-party pricing software, please contact the Provider Assistance Center at 612-676-3300 or 1-888-531-1493.

Pickup Location ZIP Code Required

Effective March 1, 2017, UCare will begin rejecting claims when the ambulance pickup location (ZIP code) is not properly reported on the claim.

Below is guidance for where the 5-digit ZIP code for pickup location should be reported on professional and facility claims. Please reference the appropriate ANSI X12N Implementation Guide to confirm where ambulance pickup location should be reported on electronic claims.

Claim Format	Paper Claim Box	Loop	Segment
837P – Professional (CMS-1500)	23 (Prior Authorization Name) = Ambulance Pickup ZIP Code	2310E – Ambulance Pickup Location	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NM101 = PW (<i>Pickup Address</i>) • NM102 = 2 (<i>Non-Person Entity</i>) • N301 = Ambulance Pickup Address • N401 = City Name • N402 = State • N403 = ZIP Code
837I – Institutional (UB04)	39 – Value Codes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Code = A0 • Amount = Ambulance Pickup ZIP Code 	2300 – Claim Information	HI – Value Information Segment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HI01-01 = BE (<i>Value</i>) • HI01-02 = A0 (<i>Industry Code</i>) • HI01-05 = Ambulance Pickup ZIP Code

Rejected claims will be reported to providers by their clearinghouses on 277CA or acknowledgement reports. These reports indicate if a claim was accepted into or rejected from UCare's claim payment system. The report also indicates why a claim was rejected.

When a claim is rejected due to ambulance pickup location not being properly reported, a provider may see the error category of A6 (the claim/encounter is missing the information specified in the Status details and has been rejected) and error code 763 (ambulance pickup ZIP code). To avoid payment delays on these claims, include pickup location on the claim and resubmit it to UCare.

If you have further questions about how to properly submit ambulance pickup location on professional and/or facility claims, please call your clearinghouse.