

- Policy & Procedure
- Take Note
- Milestones

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DWCNewsline

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Ambulance fee schedule adopts Medicare's 2008 public use file, effective April 7, 2008

The Division of Workers' Compensation (DWC) has posted an order adjusting Title 8, California Code of Regulations, section 9789.70, pertaining to ambulance services in the Official Medical Fee Schedule (OMFS), to conform to changes in the Jan. 1, 2008 Medicare payment system.

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) recently published its 2008 Public Use File which applies a 2.7 percent ambulance inflation factor for calendar year 2008. In December 2007, the administrative director had already adopted an order applying the CMS ambulance inflation factor, but the order applied to the rates in the 2007 Public Use File.

The administrative director has now adopted an order effective April 7, 2008 which incorporates the 2008 Public Use File. The rates now in effect are not changed by this action, but the 2008 Public Use File is now available. This order adjusting the ambulance services section of the OMFS will conform the schedule to changes in the Medicare payment system as required by Labor Code section 5307.1(g).

Further information and the order adopting the adjustment can be found at <http://www.dir.ca.gov/dwc/OMFS9904.htm>.

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