

Point of Origin Code 7 Talking Points

- The NUBC approved the discontinuation of Point of Origin Code 7 (Emergency Room) effective for all discharges on or after July 1, 2010.
- Note that CMS neglected to remove the usage note under “outpatient” in Transmittal 1929/Change Request 6801. This typographical error has been the source of some confusion. Code 7 is being discontinued for both inpatient and outpatient claims.
- Code 7 was overused and misused. **There is no replacement code for 7** (like there is for B); people are to use the best code for the situation. The data element is no longer “Source of Referral for Admission or Visit” (changed in 2007) -- **it is where the patient came from before presenting to the health care facility** (the ED is within the facility).
- The new P7 condition code for public health reporting only was created solely for indicating Direct Inpatient Admissions from the Emergency Room. There are other ways of determining this off the claim; but some state data gathering agencies wanted these situations explicitly flagged because they track ED usage and their systems are not set up to easily determine this information. Any entity (usually a state data agency) that wants this reported would issue its own instructions to the hospital community; it is not for use on claims sent to payers. The PoO will continue to be reported.
 - Hospitals will have to incorporate the condition code (P7) into their systems only if a state mandates its use.