



STATE OF MARYLAND

DHHMH

Office of Health Services  
Medical Care Programs

## Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene

201 W. Preston Street • Baltimore, Maryland 21201

Parris N. Glendening, Governor - Georges C. Benjamin, M.D., Secretary

**MARYLAND MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM  
AMBULATORY SURGICAL CENTERS TRANSMITTAL No. 1**

**January 31, 2003**

**TO:** Ambulatory Surgical Centers

**FROM:** Susan J. Tucker, Executive Director  
*Susan J. Tucker*  
Office of Health Services

**RE:** Billing Medical Assistance for Ambulatory Surgical Center Services

**NOTE:** **Please ensure that appropriate staff members in your organization are informed of the contents of this transmittal.**

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The purpose of this transmittal is to advise ambulatory surgical center providers that the procedure codes used to bill Medical Assistance are changing. This is being done to comply with the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) of 1996, that requires the use of standard procedure codes nationwide.

For services performed on or after March 1, 2003, ambulatory surgical centers must use only CPT codes to bill Medical Assistance. The appropriate CPT code should be placed in block 24D of the HCFA-1500 claim form. The "W-codes" should not appear on the claim form for services performed on or after March 1, 2003. However, for services performed before March 1, 2003 continue to bill using the "W-codes".

The Medical Assistance Program will continue to use the list of covered surgical procedures established by Medicare for ambulatory surgical centers, and the Medical Assistance reimbursement amounts also will remain the same. If more than one covered surgical procedure is provided to a Medical Assistance recipient in a single operative session, the additional procedures will continue to be reimbursed at 50% of the prospectively determined rate for each of those procedures.

For questions about this transmittal, please contact the Staff Specialist for Ambulatory Surgical Centers at 410-767-5349.