

List of Common Acronyms

The CMS site has a comprehensive searchable acronym listing: [click here](#).

AANEM	American Association of Neuromuscular and Electrodiagnostic Medicine
ABN	Advanced Beneficiary Notice
ABPN	American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology
AHIC	American Health Information Community
AHIMA	American Health Information Management Association
AHIP	America's Health Insurance Plans
AMA	American Medical Association
AO	Accreditation Organization
AQA	Ambulatory Care Quality Alliance
ASC	Ambulatory Surgical Center
ASP	Average Sales Price
AWP	Average Wholesale Price
BCBS	Blue Cross Blue Shield
BCBSA	Blue Cross Blue Shield Association
BLUES	Blue Cross Blue Shield Associations
CAC	Carrier Advisory Committee
CAQH	Council for Affordable Quality Healthcare
CBO	Congressional Budget Office
CCI	Correct Coding Initiative
CDHC	Consumer Driven Health Care
CMD	Carrier Medical Director
CMS	Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services
CON	Certificate of Need
CPT®	Current Procedural Terminology
CY	Calendar Year
DHHS	Department of Health and Human Services
DME	Durable Medical Equipment
DMERC	Durable Medical Equipment Regional Carrier
DRG	Diagnosis Related Group
E/M	Evaluation and Management
EMTALA	Emergency Medical Treatment and Active Labor Act
ERA	Electronic Remittance Advice
FAQ	Frequently Asked Question
FDA	Food and Drug Administration
FFS	Fee For Service
FOI	Freedom Of Information
FR	Final Rule or Federal Register
FY	Fiscal Year
GAF	Geographic Adjustment Factor
GAO	(U.S) General Accounting Office
GPCI	Government Practice Cost Index
HCPCS	Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System

HHS	(Department of) Health and Human Services (also DHHS)
HMO	Health Maintenance Organization
HRA	Health Reimbursement Account
IDTF	Independent Diagnostic Testing Facility
ITEM	Independence Through Enhancement of Medicare and Medicaid Coalition
ICD-9-CM	International Classification of Diseases 9 th Edition Clinical Modification
IOM	Institute of Medicine
IT	Information Technology
JAMA	Journal of the American Medical Association
LCD	Local Coverage Determination
LTC	Long Term Care
LTCH	Long Term Care Hospital
MACs	Medicare Administrative Contractors
MD	Medical Director
MedPAC	Medicare Payment Advisory Commission
MEI	Medical Economic Index
MGMA	Medical Group Management Association
MMA	Medicare Modernization Act (of 1999)
MPFS	Medicare Physician Fee Schedule
MUE	Medically Unlikely Edits
NCA	National Coverage Analysis
NINDS	National Institute of Neurological Disorders & Stroke
NPI	National Provider Identifier
OIG	Office of Inspector General
P4P	Pay-for-Performance
PET	Provider Education and Training
PIER	Physician's Information and Education Resource
PDPs	Prescription Drug Plans
PPAC	Practicing Physician's Advisory Council
PPO	Preferred Provider Organization
PQRI	Physician Quality Reporting Initiative
PVS	Persistent Vegetative State
QA	Quality Assurance
RBRVS	Resource Based Relative Value Scale
RVU	Relative Value Unit
SCHIP	State Children's Health Insurance Program