



**News Flash** – The fifth annual national administration of the Medicare Contractor Provider Satisfaction Survey (MCPSS) is now underway. If you received a letter indicating that you were randomly selected to participate in the 2010 MCPSS, CMS urges you to take a few minutes to go online and complete this important survey via a secure Internet website. Responding online is a convenient, easy, and quick way to provide CMS with your feedback on the performance of the FFS contractor that processes and pays your Medicare claims. Survey questionnaires can also be submitted by mail, secure fax, and over the telephone. To learn more about the MCPSS, please visit the CMS MCPSS website at <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/mcpss> or read the CMS Special Edition MLN Matters article, SE1005, located at <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MLNMattersArticles/downloads/SE1005.pdf> on the CMS website.

MLN Matters® Number: MM6804

Related Change Request (CR) #: 6804

Related CR Release Date: January 29, 2010

Effective Date: April 1, 2010

Related CR Transmittal #: R1899CP

Implementation Date: April 5, 2010

## April 2010 Quarterly Average Sales Price (ASP) Medicare Part B Drug Pricing Files and Revisions to Prior Quarterly Pricing Files

### Provider Types Affected

All physicians, providers and suppliers who submit claims to Medicare contractors (Medicare Administrative Contractors (MACs), Fiscal Intermediaries (FIs), carriers, Durable Medical Equipment Medicare Administrative Contractors (DME MACs) or Regional Home Health Intermediaries (RHHIs)) are affected by this issue.

### What You Need to Know

This article is based on Change Request (CR) 6804 which instructs Medicare contractors to download and implement the April 2010 ASP drug pricing file for Medicare Part B drugs; and if released by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), also the revised January 2010, October 2009, July 2009, and April 2009 files. Medicare will use the April 2010 ASP and not otherwise classified (NOC) drug pricing files to determine the payment limit for claims for separately payable Medicare Part B drugs processed or reprocessed on or after April 5, 2010, with dates of service April 1, 2009, through June 30, 2010.

#### Disclaimer

This article was prepared as a service to the public and is not intended to grant rights or impose obligations. This article may contain references or links to statutes, regulations, or other policy materials. The information provided is only intended to be a general summary. It is not intended to take the place of either the written law or regulations. We encourage readers to review the specific statutes, regulations and other interpretive materials for a full and accurate statement of their contents.

## Background

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The ASP methodology is based on quarterly data submitted to CMS by manufacturers. CMS will supply contractors with the ASP and NOC drug pricing files for Medicare Part B drugs on a quarterly basis. Payment allowance limits under the OPSS are incorporated into the Outpatient Code Editor (OCE) through separate instructions.

The following table shows how the quarterly payment files will be applied:

Files	Effective Dates of Service
April 2010 ASP and NOC files	April 1, 2010, through June 30, 2010
January 2010 ASP and NOC files	January 1, 2010, through March 31, 2010
October 2009 ASP and NOC files	October 1, 2009, through December 31, 2009
July 2009 ASP and NOC files	July 1, 2009, through September 30, 2009
April 2009 ASP and NOC files	April 1, 2009, through June 30, 2009

## Additional Information

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If you have questions, please contact your Medicare MAC, carrier, or FI at their toll-free number which may be found at <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MLNProducts/downloads/CallCenterTollNumDirectory.zip> on the CMS website. The official instruction (CR6804) issued to your Medicare MAC, carrier, and/or FI may be found at <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/Transmittals/downloads/R1899CP.pdf> on the CMS website.

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