MEDICARE NATIONAL COVERAGE PROCESS

The Medicare National Coverage Process is a nine (9) month process. For the initial six (6) months, the following phases often include the following in the order listed:

Preliminary Discussions

Benefit Category

National Coverage Request Staff Review

External Technology
Assessment
And / Or
Medicare Coverage Advisory
Committee

Staff Review

Draft Decision Memorandum Posted

The final three (3) months of the Medicare National Coverage Process include a thirty (30) day Public Comments phase, followed by a sixty (60) day requirement to complete the Final Decision Memorandum and Implementation Instructions phase.

Public Comments

Final Decision
Memorandum and
Implementation
Instructions

Upon completion of the Final Decision Memorandum and Implementation Instructions phase, two (2) further phases are possible: the Final Decision Memorandum and Implementation phase initiates an appeal or the Reconsideration phase will further initiate the Preliminary Discussions phase.

Final Decision
Memorandum and
Implementation
Instructions

Department Appeals Board

Or

Final Decision
Memorandum and
Implementation
Instructions

Reconsideration

Preliminary Discussions