



Related MLN Matters Article #: MM3944

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Appeals of Claims Decisions: Redeterminations and Reconsiderations

Key Words

MM3944, CR3944, R688CP, MM3530, CR3530, R146OTN, Redetermination, Reconsideration, Appeals, QIC

Provider Types Affected

Physicians, providers, and suppliers who submit claims to Medicare Fiscal Intermediaries (FIs), carriers, Regional Home Health Intermediaries (RHHIs), and Durable Medical Equipment Regional Carriers (DMERCs) for services to Medicare beneficiaries

Key Points

- The effective date of the instruction is May 1, 2005, for appeals of claims submitted to FIs and January 1, 2006, for appeals of claims submitted to carriers.
- The implementation date is December 16, 2005, for FIs and January 1, 2006, for Medicare carriers.
- CR3944 notifies Medicare contractors (FIs or carriers, including DMERCs) and Medicare providers about the upcoming transition to the new second level of the appeals process.
- The "redetermination" is the first level of appeal.
- The "redetermination" is a second look at the Part A or B claim and supporting documentation by an employee of the contractor (Medicare carrier or FI) who was not involved in the initial claim determination.
- Section 1869(c) of the Social Security Act (the Act), as amended by BIPA, requires a new, second level in the administrative appeals process, called a "reconsideration."
- This new "reconsideration" is different from the previous first level of appeal for Part A claims performed by FIs.
- These appeals are processed by Qualified Independent Contractors (QICs).

Important Links

The related MLN Matters articles can be found at <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MLNMattersArticles/downloads/MM3944.pdf> and <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MLNMattersArticles/downloads/MM3530.pdf> on the CMS website.

The official instructions (CR3944 and CR3550) issued to the provider's Medicare Fiscal Intermediary (FI), carrier, Regional Home Health Intermediary (RHHI), and Durable Medical Equipment Regional Carrier (DMERC) regarding this change can be found at <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/Transmittals/downloads/R688CP.pdf> and <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/Transmittals/downloads/R146OTN.pdf> on the CMS website.