



Related MLN Matters Article #: MM4193

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Related CR #: 4193

Revision to Chapter 31 – Addition of Hospice Data to HIPAA 270/271 Eligibility Inquiry and Response Transactions

Key Words

MM4193, CR4193, TransmittalR793CP, HIPAA, 270/271, hospice, eligibility, inquiry, response, transactions

Provider Types Affected

Physicians, suppliers, and providers billing Medicare carriers, including durable medical equipment regional carriers (DMERCs) and/or fiscal intermediaries (FIs), including regional home health intermediaries (RHHIs) for hospice services

Key Points

- The effective date of the instruction is January 23, 2006.
- The implementation date is January 23, 2006.
- Change Request (CR) 4193 adds hospice data to the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) Health Care Eligibility Benefit Inquiry and Response transaction (270/271).
- Hospice will be part of the core data elements returned on the 271 response.
- CMS is using a phased approach for providing this eligibility transaction on a real-time basis:
 - **Extranet:** Clearinghouses, certain providers, and trading partners (as described below) will be permitted to submit 270s via the CMS AT&T communication Extranet (the Medicare Data Communication Network or MDCN). This Extranet is a secure closed private network currently used to transmit data between Medicare Fee-for-Service (FFS) contractors and CMS.
 - **Internet:** CMS expects to provide limited Internet access to the 270/271 transaction this year. Instructions on accessing eligibility data via this method will be provided prior to the time Internet access becomes available.

- MLN Matters Article MM3883 provides information regarding the access process for beneficiary eligibility inquiries and replies (HIPAA 270 and 271 transactions, Extranet Only). It can be reviewed at <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MLNMattersArticles/downloads/MM3883.pdf> on the CMS web site.

Important Links

<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MLNMattersArticles/downloads/MM4193.pdf>

<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MLNMattersArticles/downloads/MM3883.pdf>

For complete details, affected providers should see the official instruction issued to their carrier/DMERC/intermediary regarding this change. That instruction may be viewed at <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/Transmittals/downloads/R793CP.pdf> on the CMS web site.

If affected providers have questions, they should contact their carrier/DMERC/intermediary at their toll-free number, which may be found at <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MLNProducts/downloads/CallCenterTollNumDirectory.zip> on the CMS web site.