



Related MLN Matters Article #: MM4275

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Related CR #: 4275

### *Instructions for the Payment of Health Professional Shortage Area (HPSA) and Physician Scarcity Area (PSA) Bonuses When the Place of Service (POS) Is Home*

#### Key Words

MM4183, CR4183, R813CP, HPSA, PSA, Bonus, Payment

#### Provider Types Affected

Physicians billing carriers for services provided in the home of Medicare beneficiaries in HPSAs and PSAs

#### Key Points

- The effective date of the instruction is February 21, 2006.
- The implementation date is February 21, 2006.
- When a physician provides services to a Medicare beneficiary and the POS is "Home," carriers have been instructed to use the home address they have recorded in the beneficiary's file to determine eligibility for physician bonuses.
- If this address is a representative payee address or mailing address that does not reflect the physical location of that beneficiary, incorrect payment/non-payment of the bonuses may result.
- This issue should be resolved when the next version of the ANSI X12 N837 Implementation Guide is published, because physicians will be required to enter where the service was performed on the claim, even when the POS is "Home."
- Carriers are instructed to investigate a claim (to determine the address where the service was actually performed) when they receive a notification from a physician that they have not received a HPSA/PSA bonus for which they are eligible, and the service was provided in the POS "Home."
- If the carrier determines that the address where the service was actually performed is in an HPSA/PSA eligible bonus payment area (even if it does not match the address on the beneficiary file), they will pay the bonus on the claim.
- The physician will also be instructed to submit future claims for this beneficiary, when provided at that address, using the appropriate HPSA or PSA modifier so that the bonus shall be paid.
- An overview of the HPSA/PSA physician bonuses including HPSA and PSA modifiers can be found at <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/HPSAPSAPhysicianBonuses/> on the CMS website.

## Important Links

<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MLNMattersArticles/downloads/MM4275.pdf>

<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/Transmittals/downloads/R813CP.pdf>

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