



Related MLN Matters Article #: SE0440

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Skilled Nursing Facility (SNF) Consolidated Billing as it Relates to Certain Diagnostic Tests

Key Words

Skilled, Nursing, Facilities, Diagnostic, Tests, Technical, Component, Professional, Consolidated, Billing, Part A, Stay, Part B, Radiology

Provider Types Affected

Skilled Nursing Facilities (SNF), physicians, suppliers, providers, and radiology centers

Key Points

- SE0440 is an informational article that describes SNF Consolidated Billing (CB) as it applies to certain diagnostic tests that include both a technical and a professional component.
- SE0440 was revised on February 18, 2005, to modify line 4 of the "Clarification" statement.
- The clarification statement includes the following language:
 - The SNF CB requirement makes the SNF itself responsible for including on the Part A bill that it submits to its Medicare intermediary almost all of the services that a resident receives during the course of a Medicare-covered stay, except for a small number of services that are specifically excluded from this provision.
 - These "excluded" services can be separately furnished to the resident and billed under Medicare Part B by a variety of outside sources.
 - These sources can include other providers of service (such as hospitals), which would submit the bill for Part B services to their Medicare intermediary, as well as practitioners and suppliers who would generally submit their bills to a Medicare Part B carrier.
 - Bills for certain types of items or equipment would be submitted by the supplier to their Medicare Durable Medical Equipment Regional Carrier (DMERC).
- Since many diagnostic tests include both a technical and a professional component, suppliers must generate two bills.
- The physician service is billed directly to the Medicare Part B carrier.

- The diagnostic radiology service's technical component is already included within the SNF's global per diem payment for its resident's covered Part A stay, therefore, the outside supplier that actually furnishes the technical component would look to the SNF for payment.

Important Links

The related MLN Matters article can be found at

<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MLNMattersArticles/downloads/SE0440.pdf> on the CMS web site.

Providers can review a detailed overview of SNF CB and a list of the services excluded from SNF CB by viewing MLN Matters Special Edition SE0431 at

<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MLNMattersArticles/downloads/SE0431.pdf> on the CMS web site.

The CMS Consolidated Billing web site can be found at

http://www.cms.hhs.gov/SNFConsolidatedBilling/01_Overview.asp#TopOfPage on the CMS web site.

The SNF PPS Consolidated Billing web site can be found at

http://www.cms.hhs.gov/SNFPPS/01_overview.asp on the CMS web site.