



Related MLN Matters Article #: SE0443

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Related CR#: N/A

Medicare Replacement Drug Demonstration

Keywords

SE0443, Drug Demonstration, Drugs, Biologicals, SE0443, Somavert, Mesnex, MMA

Provider Types Affected

All Medicare physicians and providers but especially physician specialists in family practice, internal medicine, geriatrics, rheumatology, oncology and neurology, as well as pharmacists, nurse practitioners, hospital outpatient departments, cancer and infusion centers, and group practice administrators

Key Points

- SE0443 has been revised to reflect two additional drugs (Somavert and Mesnex) covered under the Medicare replacement drug demonstration and to announce that there are still enrollment slots available.
- Medicare Replacement Drug Demonstration is a time-limited Medicare demonstration that will cover certain drugs and biologicals that are prescribed as replacements for existing covered Medicare drugs and biologicals before Medicare's prescription drug program begins in 2006.
- This demonstration was authorized by Section 641 of the Medicare Modernization Act.
- For a beneficiary to be eligible for the demonstration, the beneficiary must meet the following criteria:
 - The beneficiary must have Medicare Part A and Part B;
 - Medicare must be the beneficiary's primary health insurance;
 - The beneficiary must reside in one of the 50 states or the District of Columbia;
 - The beneficiary must have a signed certification form from his/her doctor stating that he/she has prescribed or intends to prescribe for the beneficiary one of the covered medications for the specified condition; and

- The beneficiary may not have any other insurance that has comprehensive drug coverage (such as Medicaid, an employer or union group health plan, or TRICARE) that would cover this medication.
- Drugs and conditions that will be covered under the demonstration are listed in the table on page 3 of SE0443.
- More information on this demonstration can be found at the www.medicare.gov website.
- A beneficiary brochure is available that describes the demonstration and its benefits. Copies of the brochure can be requested at outreach.mrdd@trailblazerhealth.com (email address).

Important Link

The related MLN Matters article can be found at <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MLNMattersArticles/downloads/SE0443.pdf> on the CMS website.