



Related MLN Matters Article #: MM3386

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*Medicare Program-Update to the Hospice Payment Rates, Hospice Cap, Hospice Wage Index, and the Hospice Pricer for FY 2005*

### Key Words

MM3386, CR3386, R264CP, Hospices, Cap, Wage, Index, Payment, Rates, Market, Basket, Hospice, Pricer

### Provider Types Affected

Medicare hospices

### Key Points

- The effective date of the instruction is October 1, 2004.
- The implementation date is October 4, 2004.
- The hospice payment rates for FY2005 will be the FY 2004 payment rates increased by 3.3 percentage points.
- This is the total market basket percentage increase forecasted for FY 2005.
- The payment rates are effective for care and services furnished on or after October 1, 2004, through September 30, 2005.
- The Hospice Cap amount for the cap year ending October 31, 2004, is \$19,635.67.
- The Hospice Wage Index notice will be published in the Federal Register before October 1, 2004, and will be effective on that date.
- The national payment rates for revenue codes 0651, 0652, 0655, and 0656 for October 1, 2004, through September 30, 2005, are listed on page 2 of MM3386.

### Important Links

<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MLNMattersArticles/downloads/MM3386.pdf>

<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/Transmittals/downloads/R606CP.pdf>