



Related MLN Matters® Article #: MM5584 **Revised**

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Related CR #: 5584

Discontinuance of the Unique Physician Identification Number (UPIN) Registry - JA5584

Note: This job aid was revised to remove the Web link to the UPIN registry, which is no longer maintained. The link to the National Provider Identifier (NPI) contingency plan was also removed because the information is no longer available on the Internet.

Key Words

MM5584, CR5584, R222PI, Discontinuance, Unique, Physician, Identification, Number, Registry

Provider Types Affected

Physicians, providers, and suppliers that submit claims to Medicare Carriers, Durable Medical Equipment Medicare Administrative Contractors, Fiscal Intermediaries, Part A/B Medicare Administrative Contractors, and/or Regional Home Health Intermediaries for services provided to Medicare beneficiaries

Key Points

- The effective date of the instruction is May 29, 2007.
- The implementation date is June 29, 2007.
- The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) was required by law to establish an identifier that could be used in Medicare claims to uniquely identify providers/suppliers who order services for Medicare patients, or who refer Medicare patients to physicians and certain other suppliers. The UPIN was established to meet this requirement.
- Medicare claims for services that were ordered or for services that resulted from referrals must include UPINs to identify the providers/suppliers who ordered the services or made the referral.
- On January 23, 2004, the Secretary of Health and Human Services published a Final Rule in which the Secretary adopted a standard unique health identifier to identify health care providers in transactions for which the Secretary has adopted standards (known as Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) standard transactions).
- This identifier is the NPI.

- The NPI will replace all legacy provider identifiers that are used in HIPAA standard transactions, including the UPIN, to identify health care providers.
- All HIPAA covered entities (health plans, health care clearinghouses, and those health care providers who transmit any data electronically in connection with a HIPAA standard transaction) are required by that regulation to begin using NPIs in these transactions no later than May 23, 2007 (small health plans have until May 23, 2008).
- Medicare is also requiring the use of NPIs in paper claims no later than May 23, 2007.
- CMS will discontinue assigning UPINs on June 29, 2007.
- In addition, CMS published the National Plan and Provider Enumeration System (NPPES) Data Dissemination Notice (CMS-6060-N) in the Federal Register on May 30, 2007. This Notice describes the policy by which information, to include NPIs, may be disseminated by CMS from the NPPES.

Important Links

The related MLN Matters® article (revised on September 17, 2007) can be found at <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MLNMattersArticles/downloads/MM5584.pdf> on the CMS website.

The official instruction (CR5584) issued regarding this change may be viewed at <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/Transmittals/downloads/R222PI.pdf> on the CMS website.

Additional information regarding NPI requirements and use may be found by viewing MLN Matters® articles:

- MM4023: *"Requirements for Use and Editing of National Provider Identifier (NPI) Numbers Received in Electronic Data Interchange Transactions, via Direct Data Entry Screens or Paper Claim Forms"* located at <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MLNMattersArticles/downloads/MM4023.pdf>; and
- MM4293: *"Revised CMS-1500 Claim Form"*, which describes the revision of claim form CMS-1500 (12-90) to accommodate the reporting of the NPI and renamed CMS-1500 (08-05), is located at <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MLNMattersArticles/downloads/MM4293.pdf> on the CMS website.