



Related MLN Matters Article #: MM5833

Date Posted: January 2, 2008

Related CR #: 5833

Revision to Certification for Hospital Services Covered by the Supplementary Medical Insurance Program as it Pertains to Ambulance Services. CR5833 rescinds and fully replaces CR5684

Key Words

MM5833, CR5833, CR5684, R50GI, Hospital, Ambulance

Provider Types Affected

Physicians, providers, and suppliers submitting claims to Medicare Carriers, Fiscal Intermediaries (FIs), and/or Part A/B Medicare Administrative Contractors (A/B MACs) for ambulance services provided to Medicare beneficiaries

Key Points

- The effective date of the instruction is September 17, 2007.
- The implementation date is January 7, 2008.
- The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) discovered there was a problem with a paragraph in the *Medicare General Information, Eligibility, and Entitlement Manual*, Chapter 4, Section 20, regarding language not allowing the current exception under Physician Certification Statement (PCS) (i.e., that the PCS is **NOT required** during an emergency situation such as the scene of an accident).
- Change Request (CR) 5833 deleted the following paragraph in Chapter 4 (Section 20) of the *Medicare General Information, Eligibility, and Entitlement Manual* (Pub 100-01) that pertained to Physician Certification and Recertification of Services and Ambulance Services because it conflicted with Title 42 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Sections 410.40(d) (2) and (3):
"Certification by a physician in connection with ambulance services furnished by a participating hospital is required. In cases in which the hospital provides ambulance service to transport the patient from the scene of an accident and no physician is involved until the patient reaches the hospital, any physician in the hospital who examines the patient or has knowledge of the case may certify as to the medical need for the ambulance service."
- Deletion of this paragraph brings the manual into alignment with current regulations, which eliminate the PCS requirement in these emergency situations.

Important Links

The related MLN Matters article can be found at

<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MLNMattersArticles/downloads/MM5833.pdf> on the CMS website.

The official instruction (CR5833) regarding this change may be viewed at

<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/Transmittals/downloads/R50GI.pdf> on the CMS website.

The MLN Matters MM5684 article can be found at

<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MLNMattersArticles/downloads/MM5684.pdf> on the CMS website.

If providers have questions regarding this issue, they may contact their Medicare Carrier, FI, or A/B MAC at their toll-free number, which may be found at

<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MLNProducts/downloads/CallCenterTollNumDirectory.zip> on the CMS website.