

Medicare Fee For Service National Provider Identifier (NPI) Implementation Initiative

Marlene Biggs
*National Provider Identifier Fee
for Service Lead*
October 16, 2007

Agenda

- Background
- NPI Crosswalk
 - Lifting Crosswalk Logic Bypass
- Intermediary/Carriers/DME MAC Efforts
- Changes to be Addressed
- NPI Claim Statistics
- Closing

Background

- NPI was mandated by the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996, (HIPAA). The National Provider Identifier (NPI) final rule published on January 23, 2004, established this standard for a unique health identifier, announces the adoption of the NPI as that standard, and established implementation specifications for obtaining and using the NPI (45 CFR Part 162, CMS-0045-F).
- By 5/23/08, Medicare FFS will require the NPI for all transactions, including paper
- Medicare currently allows claims with an NPI-only, NPI/legacy pair, and legacy only for Primary and Secondary Providers
- Medicare is operating under a contingency, but working toward a May 23, 2008 compliance date
 - Providers that submit claims to Part A fiscal intermediaries will be required to submit NPI only or NPI plus legacy for primary providers (billing/pay-to) by 1/1/2008. Medicare will continue to allow Legacy only for secondary providers until 5/23/08
 - Providers that submit claims to Part B Carriers should be prepared to submit NPI for primary before 5/08. If you are not submitting an NPI on your claim, shortly, if not already you have begun to receive informational messages warning that your claim did not contain an NPI.

NPI Crosswalk

- Medicare's implementation solution for the NPI is a crosswalk, where claims with NPIs are cross walked to "old" legacy numbers, allowing the same logic to be used in existing processing systems
- October 2006, Medicare began using a crosswalk "bypass" so Medicare claims with an NPI and legacy number were processed using only the legacy, avoiding claims rejections due to NPI/legacy pair mismatches on the crosswalk
 - As of June 2007, the Part A fiscal intermediaries completed lifting the bypass and began rejecting claims that have an NPI/legacy pair for Primary provider identifiers, not found on the Medicare NPI Crosswalk. The results have been favorable

NPI Crosswalk

- Part B carriers and DME MACS will complete lifting the bypass by the end of October 2007
 - ▶ As of 10/8 Contractors have reported manageable rejection rates
 - ▶ As of 10/8 about half of the Part B contractors have lifted the bypass.
 - ▶ For Part B Carriers, informational edit messages have been sent to providers for months. Please pay attention to these messages as once your Contractor lifts the bypass the claim will actually reject if you have been receiving informational messages.

Intermediary, Carrier and DME MAC Efforts

- Medicare contractors have been working closely with their providers and suppliers to facilitate provider readiness
- CMS and Contractors have conducted extensive national and local outreach and education activities outlining steps that providers should take to resolve problems that may result in rejects

Challenges to be Addressed

- Providers who are enrolled with Medicare as an Individual but obtained an Organizational/Group NPI through NPPES (for more information on enrollment, please refer to CMS MLN Matters article number SE0744)
- Providers not taking action based on the Part B informational edits CMS has received reports of clearinghouses stripping the NPI from the claim and later adding the NPI back on the remittance advice.
- If you find your clearing house is stripping your NPI from claims prior to sending to Medicare, please contact your Contractor. CMS would like to contact the clearinghouse to better understand why this is happening.
- In spite of extensive outreach and educational activities some providers are not reacting until their claims reject. Don't let this be you!

NPI Claim Statistics

Week Ending	Total Claims	Claims with Legacy Only	Claims with NPI Only	Claims with both NPI & Legacy	Overall % of Claims with NPI
9/28/2007	22,272,072	3,528,821	428,933	18,310,876	84.14%
9/21/2007	22,512,361	3,688,268	397,154	18,423,349	83.60%
9/14/2007	21,911,605	3,707,632	389,654	17,810,417	83.06%
9/7/2007	18,493,999	3,107,145	303,704	15,078,813	83.18%

NPI Statistics

- ▶ The previous chart reflects claim counts for Part A, B and DME
- ▶ As you can see the number of NPI only claims is very low.
- ▶ The best way for you to know if the Medicare NPI Crosswalk is matching your NPI to the correct legacy identifier is to send a small number of claims with NPI only for primary provider fields
- ▶ For the week of 9/28 almost 420,000 Part A claims were received with legacy only. As of 1/1/08, these claims will reject due to the lack of an NPI.

Closing

- CMS appreciates all of your efforts
- We encourage you to read the provider notifications from both CMS and your Contractor