

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES  
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services



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Related Change Request (CR) #: CR 8442

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Effective Date: March 7, 2014

Related CR Transmittal #: R2876CP

Implementation Date: March 7, 2014

## Update to Pub 100-04, Claims Processing Manual, Chapter One

### Provider Types Affected

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This MLN Matters® Article is intended for individual providers or chains submitting claims to Part A Medicare Administrative Contractors (MAC) for services to Medicare beneficiaries.

### What You Need To Know

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CR 8442 amends the "Medicare Claims Processing Manual" to show that provider chains and individual providers are no longer permitted to select the fiscal intermediary of their choice.

### Background

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CR 8442, from which this article is taken removes certain sections from the "Medicare Claims Processing Manual" because they contain policy based on the legacy environment during which chains and individual providers were permitted to select the fiscal intermediary of their choice.

Section 911 of the Medicare Prescription Drug, Improvement, and Modernization Act of 2003 (MMA), Public Law 108–173 (which you can find at <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/PLAW-108publ173/pdf/PLAW-108publ173.pdf> on the internet), amended Title XVIII of the Social Security Act (the Act) to repeal its provider nomination provision, and replaced it with the geographic assignment rule. This means that a chain, or an individual provider, can no longer select the fiscal intermediary (FI) or MAC

#### Disclaimer

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of its choice, and you should be aware that your MAC will no longer accept your requests for "change of intermediary."

Rather, an individual provider will be assigned to the MAC that covers the state in which the provider is located; and a chain that meets the criteria set forth at 42 CFR 421.404 may contact CMS and ask to have all eligible, downstream providers assigned to the MAC that covers the state in which the chain's home office is located. (A chain home office wishing to contact CMS to request "qualified chain" status may send an email to [Provider MAC Assignment Inquiry@cms.hhs.gov](mailto:Provider_MAC_Assignment_Inquiry@cms.hhs.gov).)

## Additional Information

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The official instruction, CR 8442 issued to your MAC regarding this change may be viewed at <http://www.cms.gov/Regulations-and-Guidance/Guidance/Transmittals/Downloads/R2876CP.pdf> on the CMS website.

If you have any questions, please contact your MAC at their toll-free number. That number is available at <http://www.cms.gov/Outreach-and-Education/Medicare-Learning-Network-MLN/MLNMattersArticles/index.html> under - How Does It Work.

**News Flash** - Generally, Medicare Part B covers one flu vaccination and its administration per flu season for beneficiaries without co-pay or deductible. Now is the perfect time to vaccinate beneficiaries. Health care providers are encouraged to get a flu vaccine to help protect themselves from the flu and to keep from spreading it to their family, co-workers, and patients. Note: The flu vaccine is not a Part D-covered drug. For more information, visit:

- [MLN Matters® Article #MM8433](#), "Influenza Vaccine Payment Allowances - Annual Update for 2013-2014 Season"
- [MLN Matters® Article #SE1336](#), "2013-2014 Influenza (Flu) Resources for Health Care Professionals"
- [HealthMap Vaccine Finder](#) - a free, online service where users can search for locations offering flu and other adult vaccines. While some providers may offer flu vaccines, those that don't can help their patients locate flu vaccines within their local community.
- [Free Resources](#) can be downloaded from the CDC website including prescription-style tear-pads that will allow you to give a customized flu shot reminder to patients at high-risk for complications from the flu. On the CDC order form, under "Programs", select "Immunizations and Vaccines (Influenza/Flu)" for a list of flu related resources.

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