

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



NEW product from the Medicare Learning Network® (MLN)

- [“Information on the National Physician Payment Transparency Program: Open Payments,”](#) Podcast, ICN 908961, downloadable only.

MLN Matters® Number: MM8485 **Revised**

Related Change Request (CR) #: CR 8485

Related CR Release Date: April 2, 2014

Effective Date: July 1, 2014

Related CR Transmittal #: R1365OTN

Implementation Date: July 7, 2014

## Reporting Principal and Interest Amounts When Refunding Previously Recouped Money on the Remittance Advice (RA)

**Note: This article was revised on April 7, 2014, to reflect the revised CR8485, issued on April 2. In the article, the CR release date, transmittal number and the Web address for accessing the CR were revised. All other information remains the same.**

### Provider Types Affected

This MLN Matters® Article is intended for physicians and other providers submitting claims to Medicare Administrative Contractors (MACs), including Home Health & Hospice (HH&H) MACs for services to Medicare beneficiaries.

### Provider Action Needed

This article is based on Change Request (CR) 8485 which informs MACs about changes necessary to create a new process that insures refunded principal and associated interest amounts can be reported separately on remittance advices and that claim identifiers are used to identify the appropriate claim for which those amounts apply. Make sure that your billing staffs are aware of these changes.

#### Disclaimer

This article was prepared as a service to the public and is not intended to grant rights or impose obligations. This article may contain references or links to statutes, regulations, or other policy materials. The information provided is only intended to be a general summary. It is not intended to take the place of either the written law or regulations. We encourage readers to review the specific statutes, regulations and other interpretive materials for a full and accurate statement of their contents. CPT only copyright 2012 American Medical Association.

## Background

CMS was advised that the current practice of reporting principal and interest amounts for all related claims on the Remittance Advice (RA) as one lump sum amount was creating problems for the provider community since it was not conducive to the proper posting of payments. CR8485 instructs the MACs on how to report refunded principal and interest amounts separately and how to use claim identifiers to indicate the appropriate claim for those amounts. Providers should see these changes appear on RAs created after CR8485 is implemented on July 7, 2014.

Step-by-step instructions on how refunds with interest on previously recouped money are handled (including step(s) required by providers), as well as an example of reporting for the new Refund PLB Codes, are found in Attachment 1 to CR8485.

## Additional Information

The official instruction, CR 8485 issued to your MAC regarding this change is available at <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/Regulations-and-Guidance/Guidance/Transmittals/Downloads/R1365OTN.pdf> on the CMS website.

If you have any questions, please contact your MAC at their toll-free number, which is at <http://www.cms.gov/Research-Statistics-Data-and-Systems/Monitoring-Programs/provider-compliance-interactive-map/index.html> on the CMS website.

**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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