

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



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- [“Critical Access Hospital”](#) Fact Sheet, ICN 006400, downloadable

MLN Matters® Number: MM8894

Related Change Request (CR) #: CR 8894

Related CR Release Date: October 3, 2014

Effective Date: May 6, 2014

Related CR Transmittal #: R175NCD and R3084CP

Implementation November 4, 2014

## Intensive Cardiac Rehabilitation Program - Benson-Henry Institute Cardiac Wellness Program

### Provider Types Affected

This MLN Matters® Article is intended for providers who submit claims to Medicare Administrative Contractors (MACs) for cardiac rehabilitation services provided to Medicare beneficiaries.

### Provider Action Needed

Change Request (CR) 8894 alerts providers that the Benson-Henry Institute Cardiac Wellness Program meets the program requirements set forth by Congress and is a Medicare covered benefit as of May 6, 2014. Make sure your billing staffs are aware of these changes.

### Background

In CR8894, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) explains that on September 3, 2013, it initiated a national coverage analysis (NCA) to consider the expansion of Medicare coverage of intensive cardiac rehabilitation (ICR) services to include the Benson-Henry Institute Cardiac Wellness Program. As a result, effective for dates of service

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on and after May 6, 2014, CMS determines that the evidence is sufficient to expand the ICR benefit to include the Benson-Henry Institute Cardiac Wellness Program, national coverage determination (NCD) NCD 20.31.3. The program meets the ICR program requirements set forth by Congress in section 1861 (eee)(4)(A) of the Social Security Act and in the regulations at 42 C.F.R. section 410.49(c). This program has been included on the list of approved ICR programs available at <http://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Medicare-General-Information/MedicareApprovedFacilitie/index.html>/ on the CMS website.

The current ICR policy and program criteria remain unchanged as follows: ICR refers to a physician-supervised program that furnishes cardiac rehabilitation services more frequently and often in a more rigorous manner. An ICR program must show, in peer-reviewed published research, that it accomplished one or more of the following for its patients:

1. Positively affected the progression of coronary heart disease;
2. Reduced the need for coronary bypass surgery; or
3. Reduced the need for percutaneous coronary interventions.

The ICR program must also demonstrate through peer-reviewed published research that it accomplished a statistically significant reduction in five or more of the following measures for patients from their levels before cardiac rehabilitation services to after cardiac rehabilitation services:

1. Low density lipoprotein;
2. Triglycerides;
3. Body mass index;
4. Systolic blood pressure;
5. Diastolic blood pressure; and
6. The need for cholesterol, blood pressure, and diabetes medications.

For claims with dates of service on or after May 6, 2014, MACs will adjust claims brought to their attention but will not search their files for claims processed prior to implementation of CR8894.

Note: Providers should refer to CR 6850 for detailed claims processing, coverage, coding, and payment information regarding ICR. No additional claims processing instructions are required to implement CR8894. You may review the MLN Matters® Article related to CR6850 at <http://www.cms.gov/Outreach-and-Education/Medicare-Learning-Network-MLN/MLNMattersArticles/downloads/MM6850.pdf> on the CMS website.

Remember that MACs will only pay for ICR services when submitted on Types of Bill ((TOB) 13X and 85X. When these services are submitted on other TOBs, note that the

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services will be denied with a new Claim Adjustment Reason Code 171 - Payment is denied when performed by this type of provider in this type of facility.

## Additional Information

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The official instruction, CR8894, consists of two transmittals. The first updates the NCD manual and is available at <http://www.cms.gov/Regulations-and-Guidance/Guidance/Transmittals/Downloads/R175NCD.pdf> on the CMS website. The second updates the “Medicare Claims Processing Manual” and it is available at <http://www.cms.gov/Regulations-and-Guidance/Guidance/Transmittals/Downloads/R3084CP.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.

The Decision Memorandum for Intensive Cardiac Rehabilitation (ICR) Program - Benson-Henry Institute Cardiac Wellness Program (CAG-00434N) is available at <http://www.cms.gov/medicare-coverage-database/details/nca-decision-memo.aspx?NCAId=271> on the CMS website.

To review the CMS booklet titled Cardiovascular Disease Services visit <http://www.cms.gov/Outreach-and-Education/Medicare-Learning-Network-MLN/MLNProducts/Downloads/Cardiovascular-Disease-Services-Booklet-ICN907784.pdf> on the CMS website.

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