Implementing the Remittance Advice Messaging for the 20 Hour Weekly Minimum for Partial Hospitalization Program Services

Note: This article was re-issued on October 3, 2017, to confirm that its content remains valid even though Special Edition Article SE1607 was rescinded.

Provider Types Affected

This MLN Matters® Article is intended for Outpatient Prospective Payment System (OPPS) providers submitting Partial Hospitalization Program (PHP) claims to Medicare Administrative Contractors (MACs) for PHP services provided to Medicare beneficiaries.

What You Need to Know

Change Request (CR) 9880 implements informational messaging, effective October 1, 2017, that conveys supplemental and educational information to the provider submitting claims for PHP services where the patient did not receive the minimum 20 hours per week of therapeutic services his plan of care indicates is required, on claims with line item date of service (LIDOS) on or after October 1, 2017. When the minimum 20 hours per week care is not provided, MACs will return Remittance Advice Remarks Code N787 - “Alert: An eligible PHP beneficiary requires a minimum of 20 hours of PHP services per week, as evidenced in the plan of care. PHP services must be furnished in accordance with the plan of care.”

Background

Partial hospitalization services are intensive outpatient services provided in lieu of inpatient hospitalization for mental health conditions. The regulation at 42 CFR 410.43(c)(1) states...
that PHPs are intended for patients who require a minimum of 20 hours per week of therapeutic services as evidenced in their plan of care. Additionally, the regulation at 42 CFR 410.43(a)(3) requires that PHP services are services that are furnished in accordance with a physician certification and plan of care as specified under 42 CFR 424.24(e).

**Additional Information**


If you have any questions, please contact your MAC at their toll-free number. That number is available at [https://www.cms.gov/Research-Statistics-Data-and-Systems/Monitoring-Programs/Medicare-FFS-Compliance-Programs/Review-Contractor-Directory-Interactive-Map/](https://www.cms.gov/Research-Statistics-Data-and-Systems/Monitoring-Programs/Medicare-FFS-Compliance-Programs/Review-Contractor-Directory-Interactive-Map/).

**Document History**

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