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MLN Matters Number: SE0639

Related Change Request (CR) #: N/A

Related CR Release Date: N/A

Effective Date: August 1, 2006

Related CR Transmittal #: N/A

Implementation Date: N/A

Note: This article was updated on October 10, 2012, to reflect current Web addresses. All other information remains unchanged.

MMA – Extension of the Competitive Acquisition Program (CAP) Physician Election Period

Provider Types Affected

Physicians who wish to bill Medicare carriers for certain Part B drugs and biologicals under the Medicare CAP and have not yet elected to participate in the program.

Background

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) has announced an extension of the election period for physician enrollment in the CAP for Part B Drugs and Biologicals. The initial physician election period from May 8 - June 2, 2006, was established on April 27, 2006.

The physician election period has been extended until June 30, 2006.

CMS is taking this action to provide physicians with a greater opportunity to evaluate the program and determine if the program is right for them. For the list of MLN articles that describe the CAP program in detail please see the *Additional Information* section of this article.

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.

Key Points

This Special Edition, SE0639, outlines the key implementation points as follows:

- CAP claims processing will start as planned on July 1, 2006, for physicians who submitted their forms by June 2, 2006.
- CMS is extending the election period until June 30, 2006. During this period all physicians, as defined by Change Request (CR) 4404, who have not already submitted election forms to their local carriers can elect to participate in CAP. (CR4404 can be found at <http://www.cms.gov/Regulations-and-Guidance/Guidance/Transmittals/downloads/R932CP.pdf> on the CMS website.)
- The effective date for elections postmarked by June 30 will be August 1, 2006. Completed election forms must be returned by mail to the physician's local carrier.
- By July 28, the approved CAP vendor, Bioscrip Inc., will contact any physicians who submit their election forms during this extended period, to let them know that they may begin ordering CAP drugs as of August 1, 2006.

Additional Information

Further information regarding the CAP program is available at http://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Medicare-Fee-for-Service-Part-B-Drugs/CompetitiveAcquisforBios/index.html/CompetitiveAcquisforBios/02_infophys.asp#ToPOfPage on the CMS website. Also, additional MLN Matters articles are available as follows:

- MLN Matters MM4064 provides a complete overview of the CAP and background material for SE0639. It can be found at <http://www.cms.gov/outreach-and-education/medicare-learning-network-mln/mlnmattersarticles/downloads/MM4064.pdf> on the CMS website.
- MLN Matters MM4309 builds on the business requirements outlined in MM4064, related to SE0639, and can be found at <http://www.cms.gov/outreach-and-education/medicare-learning-network-mln/mlnmattersarticles/downloads/MM4309.pdf> on the CMS website.
- MLN Matters MM4404, which relates to CR4044, can be found at <http://www.cms.gov/outreach-and-education/medicare-learning-network-mln/mlnmattersarticles/downloads/MM4404.pdf> on the CMS website.

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

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