



News Flash – The 2nd Edition of *The Guide to Medicare Preventive Services for Physicians, Providers, Suppliers, and Other Health Care Professionals* is now available in downloadable format from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, Medicare Learning Network (MLN). This comprehensive guide provides fee-for-services health care providers and suppliers with coverage, coding, billing and reimbursement information for preventive services and screenings covered by Medicare. This guide gives clinicians and their staff the information they need to help them in recommending Medicare-covered preventive services and screenings that are right for their Medicare patients and provides information needed to effectively bill Medicare for services furnished. To view online, go to http://www.cms.gov/Outreach-and-Education/Medicare-Learning-Network-MLN/MLNProducts/downloads/mps_guide_web-061305.pdf on the CMS website.

MLN Matters Number: MM5722

Related Change Request (CR) #: 5722

Related CR Release Date: September 27, 2007

Effective Date: October 29, 2007

Related CR Transmittal #: R1347CP

Implementation Date: October 29, 2007

Note: This article was updated on September 20, 2012, to reflect current Web addresses. All other information remains the same.

Medicare Summary Notice (MSN) Message: Revised 38.13

Provider Types Affected

Physicians providers, and suppliers who submit claims to Medicare contractors (carriers, fiscal intermediaries (FIs), regional home health intermediaries (RHHIs), Part A/B Medicare Administrative Contractors (A/B MACs), and DME Medicare Administrative Contractors (DME MACs)) for services provided to Medicare beneficiaries.

Provider Action Needed

This article is informational for providers and the article is based on Change Request (CR) 5722, which outlines a change to MSN message 38.13 that will advise beneficiaries that they may need to pay their provider before receiving their MSN due to the change to quarterly mailing schedule (see CR 5062.)

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.

Background

In an effort to reduce overall operating costs, CR5062 changed the No-Pay MSN mailing schedule from a monthly schedule to a quarterly schedule. As a result, it is possible that a beneficiary may receive a bill from a provider before receiving the MSN and may not be able to wait for the MSN before provider payment is due. The change to MSN Message 38.13 clarifies this potential timing conflict to beneficiaries. The revised MSN message is as follows:

“If you aren’t due a payment check from Medicare, your Medicare Summary Notices (MSN) will now be mailed to you on a quarterly basis. You will no longer get a monthly statement in the mail for these types of MSNs. You will now get a statement every 90 days summarizing all of your Medicare claims. Your provider may send you a bill that you may need to pay before you get your MSN. When you get your MSN, look to see if you paid more than the MSN says is due. If you paid more, call your provider about a refund. If you have any questions about the bill from your provider, you should call your provider. ”

Additional Information

You can review the official instruction issued to you’re A/B MAC, FI, carrier, DME MAC, or RHHI regarding this message modification by going to CR 5722, located at <http://www.cms.gov/Regulations-and-Guidance/Guidance/Transmittals/downloads/R1347CP.pdf> on the CMS website.

You can review CR5062 at <http://www.cms.gov/Regulations-and-Guidance/Guidance/Transmittals/downloads/R955CP.pdf> on the CMS website. The related MLN Matters article (MM5062: Quarterly Medicare Summary Notice (MSN) Printing Cycle) is <http://www.cms.gov/Outreach-and-Education/Medicare-Learning-Network-MLN/MLNMattersArticles/downloads/MM5062.pdf> on the CMS website.

If you have any questions, please contact your Medicare contractor 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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