



News Flash – ICD-10 Medicare Severity Diagnosis Related Grouper (MS-DRG), Version 30.0 (FY 2013) mainframe and PC software is now available. This software is being provided to offer the public a better opportunity to review and comment on the ICD-10 MS-DRG conversion of the MS-DRGs. This software can be ordered through the [National Technical Information Service](#) (NTIS) website. A link to NTIS is also available in the Related Links section of the [ICD-10 MS-DRG Conversion Project](#) website. The final version of the ICD-10 MS-DRGs will be subject to formal rulemaking and will be implemented on October 1, 2014.

MLN Matters® Number: MM7174

Related Change Request (CR) #: 7174

Related CR Release Date: October 28, 2010

Effective Date: November 29, 2010

Related CR Transmittal #: R358PI

Implementation Date: November 29, 2010

Indian Health Service (IHS) Facilities and Tribal Provider's Use of the Internet-based Provider Enrollment, Chain and Ownership System (PECOS)

Note: This article was revised on March 22, 2013, with an updated ICD-10 News Flash. MM7174 was previously revised on September 18, 2012, to add a reference to MLN Matters® article SE1230 available at <http://www.cms.gov/outreach-and-education/medicare-learning-network-mln/mlnmattersarticles/downloads/SE1230.pdf> to advise Medicare providers of the changes and enhancements to the online version of PECOS, which allow physicians, other providers and suppliers to digitally upload their PECOS supporting documents and submit them electronically with their enrollment application. All other information is unchanged.

Provider Types Affected

Tribal or Indian Health Service (IHS) providers wanting to enroll or who are currently enrolled in the Medicare program.

Provider Action Needed

This article is based on Change Request (CR) 7174, which informs Indian Health Service (IHS) facilities and Tribal providers initially enrolling in the Medicare program or submitting changes of enrollment information that they may use the Internet-based Provider Enrollment, Chain and Ownership System (PECOS) to do so.

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 2009 American Medical Association.

Background

Currently, Indian Health Service (IHS) facilities and Tribal providers are permitted to enroll in Medicare Part A and B using the paper enrollment process only. The Internet-based Provider Enrollment, Chain and Ownership System (PECOS) routes enrollment applications to the correct Medicare contractor based on the provider/supplier type and their practice location, but it is not currently designed to route IHS and tribal enrollment applications to Trailblazer Health Enterprises, LLC (TrailBlazer), the single designated Medicare contractor responsible for enrolling this provider type. For this reason, IHS facilities and tribal providers have not been able to use Internet-based PECOS.

Change Request (CR) 7174 is establishing an interim process to allow IHS facilities and tribal providers to use Internet-based PECOS to initially enroll in the Medicare program or submit changes of information.

If IHS facilities or tribal providers choose to use Internet-based PECOS, they will be responsible for mailing to TrailBlazer the following as part of the interim process:

1. A cover letter to indicate they are seeking to enroll as an IHS facility or tribal provider or updating their current enrollment information;
2. The Internet-based PECOS certification statement; and
3. Any other applicable supporting documentation.

The Trailblazers addresses are as follows:

Part A

Part A Provider Enrollment
TrailBlazer Health Enterprises, LLC
Provider Enrollment
P.O. Box 650458
Dallas, TX 75265-0458

Part B

Part B Provider Enrollment
TrailBlazer Health Enterprises, LLC
Provider Enrollment
P.O. Box 650544
Dallas, TX 75265-0544

This interim process shall remain in effect until PECOS system changes are implemented to route all electronic enrollment applications received from IHS facilities and tribal providers directly to Trailblazers.

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Additional Information

The official instruction, CR 7174, issued to your carriers, Fiscal Intermediaries (FIs), and Part A/Part B Medicare Administrative Contractors (A/B MACs) regarding this change may be viewed at <http://www.cms.gov/Regulations-and-Guidance/Guidance/Transmittals/downloads/R358PI.pdf> on the CMS website.

If you have any questions, please contact your carriers, FIs, or A/B MACs 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.

You may want to review SE0914, which is available at <http://www.cms.gov/Outreach-and-Education/Medicare-Learning-Network-MLN/MLNMattersArticles/downloads/SE0914.pdf>, and MM6231, which is available at <http://www.cms.gov/Outreach-and-Education/Medicare-Learning-Network-MLN/MLNMattersArticles/downloads/MM6231.pdf>, for further information on using Internet-based PECOS.

News Flash - Vaccination is the Best Protection Against the Flu. This year, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is encouraging everyone 6 months of age and older to get vaccinated against the seasonal flu. The risks for complications, hospitalizations and deaths from the flu are higher among individuals aged 65 years and older. Medicare pays for the seasonal flu vaccine and its administration for seniors and others with Medicare with no co-pay or deductible. And remember, vaccination is particularly important for health care workers, who may spread the flu to high risk patients. Don't forget to immunize yourself and your staff. Protect your patients. Protect your family. Protect yourself. Get Your Flu Vaccine - Not the Flu. **Remember** – Influenza vaccine plus its administration are covered Part B benefits. Note that influenza vaccine is NOT a Part D covered drug. For information about Medicare's coverage of the influenza vaccine and its administration, as well as related educational resources for health care professionals and their staff, please visit <http://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Prevention/Immunizations/index.html> on the CMS website.

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