# Long-Term Hospice Stay: New Edit to Prevent Overpayment

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Effective Date: April 1, 2026	Related Change Request (CR) Number: <u>CR 14227</u>
Implementation Date: April 6, 2026	Related CR Transmittal Number: R13447OTN
Related CR Title: Edit to Prevent Overpayment of Long-term Stay in Hospice	

#### **Affected Providers**

- Hospices
- Other providers billing Medicare Administrative Contractors (MACs) for hospice services

#### **Action Needed**

Make sure your billing staff knows about a new edit that will help identify and prevent overpayments of long-term hospice care for claims submitted with matching "admission" and "from" dates.

## **Background**

During a review of hospice claims, the MAC found billing anomalies on interim and final hospice claims with type of bills 813 or 814 and 823 or 824 for long-term hospice care exceeding 270 days. The MAC found that claims submitted with matching "admission" and "from" dates got past system edits. When this happens, the edits for long-term hospice care won't activate because the calculation performed by the Fiscal Intermediary Shared System for these edits is based on the difference between the "admission" and "from" dates. To address this issue, we established an edit within the Common Working File (CWF).





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## **Key Updates**

This new edit in the CWF will close the gap in the system that allows claims to pay at a higher rate when the "admission" and "from" dates match. MACs will reject hospice claims when the "admission" date doesn't match the election period start date on the corresponding election period.

The edit benefits the program by proactively identifying and preventing overpayments to providers from the Medicare Trust Fund and ensuring compliant billing. The edit will also save time and resources and will assist MACs in capturing providers with lengths of stay longer than 6 months.

### **More Information**

We issued CR 14227 to your MAC as the official instruction for this change. For more information, find your MAC's website.

## **Document History**

Date of Change	Description
December 5, 2025	Initial article released.

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