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| CMS Manual System | Department of Health & Human Services (DHHS) |
| Pub 100-20 One-Time Notification | Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) |
| Transmittal 11134 | Date: November 30, 2021 |
| | Change Request 12443 |

SUBJECT: Medicare Administrative Contractor (MAC) Educational Requirements for the Expansion of the Repetitive, Scheduled Non-Emergent Ambulance Transport (RSNAT) Prior Authorization (PA) Model

I. SUMMARY OF CHANGES: CMS is expanding the RSNAT PA Model nationwide under authority of section 1834(l)(16) of the Social Security Act (the Act), as added by section 515(b) of MACRA (Pub. L. 114-10). This CR will instruct the A/B MACs to educate providers and beneficiaries on the model's specific requirements. The expanded model is similar in design as the RSNAT PA Model that operated under section 1115A of the Act in A/B MAC Jurisdictions JM and JL.

EFFECTIVE DATE: December 1, 2021 - For Jurisdiction H A/B MAC; February 1, 2022 - For Jurisdiction E A/B MAC and Jurisdiction J A/B MAC; April 1, 2022 - For Jurisdiction N A/B MAC, Jurisdiction 5 A/B MAC, and Jurisdiction 6 A/B MAC; June 1, 2022 - For Jurisdiction K A/B MAC and Jurisdiction 8 A/B MAC; August 1, 2022 - For Jurisdiction F A/B MAC, Jurisdiction 15 A/B MAC, and Railroad Retirement Board Specialty MAC

**Unless otherwise specified, the effective date is the date of service.*

IMPLEMENTATION DATE: MACS MAY BEGIN WORK ON THIS CHANGE REQUEST UPON PLACEMENT ON THEIR CONTRACTS; November 17, 2021 - For Jurisdiction H A/B MAC; January 18, 2022 - For Jurisdiction E A/B MAC and Jurisdiction J A/B MAC; March 18, 2022 - For Jurisdiction N A/B MAC, Jurisdiction 5 A/B MAC, and Jurisdiction 6 A/B MAC; May 18, 2022 - For Jurisdiction K A/B MAC and Jurisdiction 8 A/B MAC; July 18, 2022 - For Jurisdiction F A/B MAC, Jurisdiction 15 A/B MAC, and Railroad Retirement Board Specialty MAC

Disclaimer for manual changes only: The revision date and transmittal number apply only to red italicized material. Any other material was previously published and remains unchanged. However, if this revision contains a table of contents, you will receive the new/revised information only, and not the entire table of contents.

II. CHANGES IN MANUAL INSTRUCTIONS: (N/A if manual is not updated)

R=REVISED, N=NEW, D=DELETED-Only One Per Row.

| R/N/D | CHAPTER / SECTION / SUBSECTION / TITLE |
|--------------|-----------------------------------------------|
| N/A | N/A |

III. FUNDING:

For Medicare Administrative Contractors (MACs):

The Medicare Administrative Contractor is hereby advised that this constitutes technical direction as defined in your contract. CMS does not construe this as a change to the MAC Statement of Work. The contractor is not obligated to incur costs in excess of the amounts allotted in your contract unless and until specifically authorized by the Contracting Officer. If the contractor considers anything provided, as described above, to be outside the current scope of work, the contractor shall withhold performance on the part(s) in question

and immediately notify the Contracting Officer, in writing or by e-mail, and request formal directions regarding continued performance requirements.

IV. ATTACHMENTS:

One Time Notification

Attachment - One-Time Notification

| | | | |
|-------------|--------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|
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EFFECTIVE DATE: December 1, 2021 - For Jurisdiction H A/B MAC; February 1, 2022 - For Jurisdiction E A/B MAC and Jurisdiction J A/B MAC; April 1, 2022 - For Jurisdiction N A/B MAC, Jurisdiction 5 A/B MAC, and Jurisdiction 6 A/B MAC; June 1, 2022 - For Jurisdiction K A/B MAC and Jurisdiction 8 A/B MAC; August 1, 2022 - For Jurisdiction F A/B MAC, Jurisdiction 15 A/B MAC, and Railroad Retirement Board Specialty MAC

**Unless otherwise specified, the effective date is the date of service.*

IMPLEMENTATION DATE: MACS MAY BEGIN WORK ON THIS CHANGE REQUEST UPON PLACEMENT ON THEIR CONTRACTS; November 17, 2021 - For Jurisdiction H A/B MAC; January 18, 2022 - For Jurisdiction E A/B MAC and Jurisdiction J A/B MAC; March 18, 2022 - For Jurisdiction N A/B MAC, Jurisdiction 5 A/B MAC, and Jurisdiction 6 A/B MAC; May 18, 2022 - For Jurisdiction K A/B MAC and Jurisdiction 8 A/B MAC; July 18, 2022 - For Jurisdiction F A/B MAC, Jurisdiction 15 A/B MAC, and Railroad Retirement Board Specialty MAC

I. GENERAL INFORMATION

A. Background: CMS began operating the RSNAT PA Model in limited states in 2014 under the authority of Section 1115A of the Act. The model tested whether PA of RSNAT services covered under Medicare Part B lowered program spending, while maintaining or improving the quality of care. The RSNAT PA Model began in the states of New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and South Carolina on December 1, 2014. Section 515(a) of the Medicare Access and CHIP Reauthorization Act of 2015 (MACRA) added Delaware, the District of Columbia, Maryland, North Carolina, Virginia, and West Virginia to the model on January 1, 2016.

Section 515(b) of MACRA added paragraph (16) to section 1834(l) of the Act, which requires that, beginning January 1, 2017, the Secretary expand the model nationally to all states, if an expansion meets the statutory requirements for expansion of Innovation Center models described in paragraphs (1) through (3) of section 1115A(c) of the Act. The model has met all nationwide criteria and CMS has received final approval to expand the model nationwide. This CR will instruct the A/B MACs to educate providers and beneficiaries on the model's specific requirements.

The expanded model is similar in design as the RSNAT PA Model that operated under section 1115A of the Act in A/B MAC Jurisdictions JM and JL. It will continue to include the same Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System codes:

- A0426 - Ambulance service, advanced life support, non-emergency transport, level 1 (ALS1)
- A0428 - Ambulance service, basic life support (BLS), non-emergency transport
- Associated Service A0425 - Ground mileage, per statute mile

The expanded model is only applicable to Medicare Part B as it includes independent ambulance suppliers billing RSNAT services on the ASC X12 837 professional claim transaction or the CMS-1500 form. These claims are processed using the Multi-Carrier System (MCS). Currently, the expanded model is not applicable to Medicare Part A as it excludes institution-based ambulance providers, billing on the ASC X12 837 institutional claim transaction or Form CMS 1450. These claims are processed using the Fiscal Intermediary Shared System (FISS).

The expanded model is voluntary, and thus, not a condition of payment. If an ambulance supplier elects to not request PA, the associated claims are stopped for prepayment review. The PA request may be submitted either before or after services have been rendered.

The expanded model will be an indefinite program with no specified end date.

B. Policy: Section 1834(l)(16) of the Act, as added by section 515(b) of MACRA (Pub. L. 114-10)

II. BUSINESS REQUIREMENTS TABLE

"Shall" denotes a mandatory requirement, and "should" denotes an optional requirement.

| Number | Requirement | Responsibility | | | | | | | |
|---------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|---|----------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| | | A/B MAC | | D M E M A C | Shared- System Maintainers | | | | Other |
| | | A | B | | F I S S | M C S | V M S | C W F | |
| 12443.1 | The contractor shall be aware that this CR is not applicable to Part A. | | | | | | | | J15 A/B MAC, J5 A/B MAC, J6 A/B MAC, J8 A/B MAC, JE A/B MAC, JF A/B MAC, JH A/B MAC, JJ A/B MAC, JK A/B MAC, JN A/B MAC, RRB-SMAC |
| 12443.2 | The contractor shall create web postings describing the model parameters. | | | | | | | | J15 A/B MAC, J5 A/B MAC, J6 A/B MAC, J8 A/B MAC, JE A/B MAC, JF A/B MAC, JH A/B MAC, JJ A/B MAC, JK A/B MAC, JN A/B MAC, RRB-SMAC |
| 12443.3 | The contractor shall, at a minimum, provide public access to the agency-developed information, including, but not limited to, any developed PA operational guides, special Medicare Learning Network materials, and/or other support materials, by posting the link(s) on their website. | | | | | | | | J15 A/B MAC, J5 A/B MAC, J6 A/B MAC, J8 A/B MAC, JE A/B MAC, JF A/B MAC, JH A/B MAC, JJ A/B MAC, JK A/B MAC, JN A/B MAC, RRB-SMAC |
| 12443.4 | The contractor shall hold group and/or individualized training sessions, as appropriate, to educate ambulance | | | | | | | | J15 A/B MAC, J5 A/B MAC, |

| Number | Requirement | Responsibility | | | | | | | | |
|---------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|---|-------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|
| | | A/B MAC | | | D M E M A C | Shared- System Maintainers | | | | Other |
| | | A | B | H H H | | F I S S | M C S | V M S | C W F | |
| | suppliers and other applicable stakeholders of the model and to ensure understanding of the specific requirements. | | | | | | | | J6 A/B MAC, J8 A/B MAC, JE A/B MAC, JF A/B MAC, JH A/B MAC, JJ A/B MAC, JK A/B MAC, JN A/B MAC, RRB-SMAC | |
| 12443.5 | The contractor shall educate ambulance suppliers on the following regarding extended affirmation periods for beneficiaries with chronic medical conditions: 1. The decision to allow an extended affirmation period is at contractor discretion. Ambulance suppliers cannot request transports beyond the current maximum of 80 transports per 60-day period, 2. Ambulance suppliers are responsible for maintaining a valid Physician Certification Statement (PCS) at all times, 3. The MACs reserve the right to request the PCS at any time, and 4. Each individual time a patient is transported by ambulance, that transport must be reasonable and necessary regardless of whether a new PA request is required. | | | | | | | | J15 A/B MAC, J5 A/B MAC, J6 A/B MAC, J8 A/B MAC, JE A/B MAC, JF A/B MAC, JH A/B MAC, JJ A/B MAC, JK A/B MAC, JN A/B MAC, RRB-SMAC | |
| 12443.6 | The contractor shall educate ambulance suppliers to not report the unique tracking number assigned to the transport code on the claim line for the mileage code and to submit the mileage code on the same claim as the transport code. | | | | | | | | J15 A/B MAC, J5 A/B MAC, J6 A/B MAC, J8 A/B MAC, JE A/B MAC, JF A/B MAC, JH A/B MAC, JJ A/B MAC, JK A/B MAC, JN A/B MAC, RRB-SMAC | |
| 12443.7 | The contractor shall mail an introductory letter (supplied by CMS) to ambulance suppliers rendering RSNAT services: • by October 1, 2021 for Part B MAC JH, and | | | | | | | | J15 A/B MAC, J5 A/B MAC, J6 A/B MAC, J8 A/B MAC, JE A/B MAC, JF A/B MAC, JH A/B MAC, | |

| Number | Requirement | Responsibility | | | | | | | | |
|-----------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|---|-------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|
| | | A/B MAC | | | D M E M A C | Shared- System Maintainers | | | | Other |
| | | A | B | H H H | | F I S S | M C S | V M S | C W F | |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">no later than sixty days prior to implementation for Part B MACs J15, J5, J6, J8, JE, JF, JJ, JK, JN, and RRB-SMAC. <p>Note: CMS will provide the letter separately from this CR.</p> <p>Note: Implementation dates will be communicated through a separate CR.</p> | | | | | | | | JJ A/B MAC, JK A/B MAC, JN A/B MAC, RRB-SMAC | |
| 12443.7.1 | The contractor shall generate the mailing list based on all ambulance suppliers garaged in the applicable states that have rendered RSNAT services in the prior 6 months. Note: Repetitive non-emergent transports are defined as: Six (6) or more one-way non-emergent trips during a 10-day period OR at least two (2) one-way non-emergent trips per week for at least three (3) weeks. | | | | | | | | J15 A/B MAC, J5 A/B MAC, J6 A/B MAC, J8 A/B MAC, JE A/B MAC, JF A/B MAC, JH A/B MAC, JJ A/B MAC, JK A/B MAC, JN A/B MAC, RRB-SMAC | |
| 12443.7.2 | The contractor shall report the following information to the RSNAT PA Model Business Function Lead (BFL) within two months from mail date: <ul style="list-style-type: none">the date the mailing was completed;the number of letters mailed; andthe number of letters returned within two months from mail date. | | | | | | | | J15 A/B MAC, J5 A/B MAC, J6 A/B MAC, J8 A/B MAC, JE A/B MAC, JF A/B MAC, JH A/B MAC, JJ A/B MAC, JK A/B MAC, JN A/B MAC, RRB-SMAC | |
| 12443.7.3 | The contractor shall follow their internal procedures concerning undeliverable mail. | | | | | | | | J15 A/B MAC, J5 A/B MAC, J6 A/B MAC, J8 A/B MAC, JE A/B MAC, JF A/B MAC, JH A/B MAC, JJ A/B MAC, JK A/B MAC, JN A/B MAC, RRB-SMAC | |
| 12443.7.4 | The contractor shall post a link to the letter on their website. | | | | | | | | J15 A/B MAC, J5 A/B MAC, J6 A/B MAC, | |

| Number | Requirement | Responsibility | | | | | | | | |
|-----------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|---|-------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|
| | | A/B MAC | | | D M E M A C | Shared- System Maintainers | | | | Other |
| | | A | B | H H H | | F I S S | M C S | V M S | C W F | |
| | | | | | | | | | J8 A/B MAC, JE A/B MAC, JF A/B MAC, JH A/B MAC, JJ A/B MAC, JK A/B MAC, JN A/B MAC, RRB-SMAC | |
| 12443.8 | The contractor shall educate ambulance suppliers regarding the inclusion of railroad board beneficiaries to the PA model. Note: The inclusion date of railroad board beneficiaries will be communicated through a separate CR. | | X | | | | | | RRB-SMAC | |
| 12443.9 | The contractor shall make a PA request coversheet, similar to the RSNAT Prior Authorization Cover Sheet Template attached to this CR, publicly available to aid submitters in submitting PA requests. | | | | | | | | J15 A/B MAC, J5 A/B MAC, J6 A/B MAC, J8 A/B MAC, JE A/B MAC, JF A/B MAC, JH A/B MAC, JJ A/B MAC, JK A/B MAC, JN A/B MAC, RRB-SMAC | |
| 12443.9.1 | The contractor shall encourage submitters to use the PA request coversheet when submitting PA requests. Note: The use of the coversheet is not required. | | | | | | | | J15 A/B MAC, J5 A/B MAC, J6 A/B MAC, J8 A/B MAC, JE A/B MAC, JF A/B MAC, JH A/B MAC, JJ A/B MAC, JM A/B MAC, JN A/B MAC, RRB-SMAC | |
| 12443.9.2 | The contractor shall ensure that their cover sheet maintains the overall design and includes all the data elements in the RSNAT Prior Authorization Cover Sheet Template attached to this CR. | | | | | | | | J15 A/B MAC, J5 A/B MAC, J6 A/B MAC, J8 A/B MAC, JE A/B MAC, JF A/B MAC, JH A/B MAC, JJ A/B MAC, JK A/B MAC, | |

| Number | Requirement | Responsibility | | | | | | | |
|-----------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|---|-------------|----------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| | | A/B MAC | | | D M E M A C | Shared- System Maintainers | | | Other |
| | | A | B | H H H | | F I S S | M C S | V M S | |
| | | | | | | | | | JN A/B MAC, RRB-SMAC |
| 12443.9.2 .1 | The contractor shall have the option to modify the template as needed by: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Adding contractor specific information in the “reserved” areas,Marking additional fields as required,Recreating in another format, and/orAdjusting spacing and sizing. | | | | | | | | J15 A/B MAC, J5 A/B MAC, J6 A/B MAC, J8 A/B MAC, JE A/B MAC, JF A/B MAC, JH A/B MAC, JJ A/B MAC, JK A/B MAC, JN A/B MAC, RRB-SMAC |
| 12443.9.2 .2 | The contractor shall send the final coversheet to CMS for approval 30 days prior to model implementation. Note: Implementation dates will be communicated through a separate CR. | | | | | | | | J15 A/B MAC, J5 A/B MAC, J6 A/B MAC, J8 A/B MAC, JE A/B MAC, JF A/B MAC, JH A/B MAC, JJ A/B MAC, JK A/B MAC, JN A/B MAC, RRB-SMAC |
| 12443.9.2 .3 | The contractor shall ensure the final coversheet is 508 compliant and approved by CMS. | | | | | | | | J15 A/B MAC, J5 A/B MAC, J6 A/B MAC, J8 A/B MAC, JE A/B MAC, JF A/B MAC, JH A/B MAC, JJ A/B MAC, JK A/B MAC, JN A/B MAC, RRB-SMAC |

III. PROVIDER EDUCATION TABLE

| Number | Requirement | Responsibility | | | | |
|--------|-------------|----------------|---|-------------|----------------------------|------------------|
| | | A/B MAC | | | D M E M A C | C E D I |
| | | A | B | H H H | | |
| | None | | | | | |

IV. SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Section A: Recommendations and supporting information associated with listed requirements: N/A

"Should" denotes a recommendation.

| X-Ref Requirement Number | Recommendations or other supporting information: |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|
| | |

Section B: All other recommendations and supporting information: N/A

V. CONTACTS

Pre-Implementation Contact(s): Angela Gaston, 410-786-7409 or angela.gaston@cms.hhs.gov , Desiree Haskins, 410-786-3867 or Desiree.Haskins@cms.hhs.gov

Post-Implementation Contact(s): Contact your Contracting Officer's Representative (COR).

VI. FUNDING

Section A: For Medicare Administrative Contractors (MACs):

The Medicare Administrative Contractor is hereby advised that this constitutes technical direction as defined in your contract. CMS does not construe this as a change to the MAC Statement of Work. The contractor is not obligated to incur costs in excess of the amounts allotted in your contract unless and until specifically authorized by the Contracting Officer. If the contractor considers anything provided, as described above, to be outside the current scope of work, the contractor shall withhold performance on the part(s) in question and immediately notify the Contracting Officer, in writing or by e-mail, and request formal directions regarding continued performance requirements.

ATTACHMENTS: 1

**Prior Authorization Request for Repetitive, Scheduled Non-Emergent Ambulance Transports**
Medicare Part B Fax/Mail Coversheet*(Fields with a red asterisk (*) are required.)*

Request Type (check one)*: Initial Resubmission Expedite

If you selected "resubmission", please provide previous UTN

If you selected "expedite", please explain why the normal time frame jeopardizes the life or health of the beneficiary. Medical documentation must also support the need for an expedited review.*

Number of transports requested (round trip = 2 transports)*

Start of 60-day period (mm/dd/yyyy)*

Procedure code(s)*

Modifier 1

Modifier 2

Ambulance Supplier Information

Supplier Name*

Supplier NPI*

Supplier PTAN

Supplier Address*

Supplier City, State Zip*

State where ambulance is garaged*

Beneficiary Information

Last Name*

First Name*

Medicare Beneficiary Identifier*

Date of Birth (mm/dd/yyyy)*

Certifying Physician Information

Certifying Physician Name

Certifying Physician NPI

Certifying Physician PTAN

Certifying Physician Address

Certifying Physician City, State, Zip

Requester/Contact Information

Fax number (if a decision letter by fax is requested)

Contact Name

Contact Phone/Ext.

Requester Name*

Requester Phone/Ext.*

Requester Signature*

Date*