

Blanket Waivers for Hurricane Ian – September 2022

- **Durable Medical Equipment**

Where Durable Medical Equipment Prosthetics, Orthotics, and Supplies (DMEPOS) is lost, destroyed, irreparably damaged, or otherwise rendered unusable, contractors have the flexibility to waive replacements requirements such that the face-to-face requirement, a new physician's order, and new medical necessity documentation are not required. Suppliers must still include a narrative description on the claim explaining the reason why the equipment must be replaced and are reminded to maintain documentation indicating that the DMEPOS was lost, destroyed, irreparably damaged or otherwise rendered unusable as a result of the event.

- **Replacement Prescription Fills**

Medicare payment may be permitted for replacement prescription fills (for a quantity up to the amount originally dispensed) of covered Part B drugs in circumstances where dispensed medication has been lost or otherwise rendered unusable by damage due to the disaster or emergency.

- **Ensuring Correct Processing of Home Health Disaster Related Claims**

Allows MACs to extend the auto-cancellation date of Requests for Anticipated Payment (RAPs) during emergencies. CR 10372 states that MACs shall provide a reusable process to extend the auto-cancel date on the HRAP file for Home Health RAPS when a waiver is issued in the event of an emergency or disaster so system maintainer action is not needed on an ad hoc basis and MACs can implement extensions based on future Technical Direction Letters.

These temporary emergency waivers apply to the timeframes specified in the Secretary's declaration of the PHE.