



Take Advantage of the Option to Submit Your Hospice Notices of Election (NOEs) via Electronic Data Interchange (EDI)

Since the implementation of change request (CR) 10064 in October 1, 2018, which allowed the submission of Notices of Election (NOEs) to be accepted via Electronic Data Interchange (EDI), hospices have submitted only a small percentage of type of bill 8xA-8xE via EDI. The hospice industry requested that Medicare implement submission of NOEs via EDI to reduce administrative burden, so we would like to remind and encourage hospices to take advantage of this option. Filing electronically reduces, and potentially eliminates, problems with NOEs that result from keying errors during the Direct Data Entry process and helps hospices export data from their electronic medical record or other software system into the EDI format without human intervention.

Submitting NOEs via EDI could be particularly beneficial to hospices serving Medicare Advantage beneficiaries enrolled in plans participating in the [Value-Based Insurance Design \(VBID\) Model's Hospice Benefit Component](#). For these patients, the NOE is submitted to **both** the Medicare Administrative Contractor (MAC) for Original Medicare and the MA plan. Submitting systematically generated NOE EDI transactions to both payers can reduce manual effort.

Hospices wishing to adopt EDI NOEs should consult the [companion guide for NOE transmissions](#), which can be found at the [Hospice Center webpage](#). This guide provides instructions about how to use the 837 health care claim as a NOE. Hospices should note that NOEs submitted via EDI are subject to all front-end edits and may be rejected if all required data elements are not submitted or do not meet the required elements as outlined in the companion guide.

Electronically filed NOEs will receive a 999 acknowledgment within minutes of submission if accepted. Thus, hospices should also ensure that they monitor their acceptance reports (277CA and 999) at regular intervals. In addition, hospices should be aware that the NOE is subject to the batching process. Therefore, Medicare encourages hospices to submit batch transmissions with groups of NOEs separate from batch transmissions with groups of claims. This practice may reduce the risk that translator-level rejections related to NOEs, if they occur, that could impact payments to the hospice.