



CMS extends MU & PQRS Deadlines

CMS has extended the deadline for meaningful use and PQRS attestations for the 2014 reporting year until March 20, 2015. The original deadlines for these submissions was February 28th.

CMS requires face to face visit prior to billing for CCM

CMS has suggested that a best practice for billing CCM services would be to initiate this service by obtaining the patient consent in a face-to-face encounter prior to furnishing or billing the CCM service. While not required, CMS suggests that an annual wellness encounter, initial preventive physical

exam or some other comprehensive office visit would provide a good opportunity to discuss chronic care management services with patients and obtain their consent.

If you have questions, please contact your consultant or you can reach Bryan Burke at bburke@hci-ebs.com or 1-800-572-5275.

CMS Now Requiring Dentists to Enroll in the Medicare System

The Affordable Care Act requires physicians, dentists and other eligible non-physician practitioners to enroll in the Medicare Program to order or refer items or services for Medicare beneficiaries. This would include those practitioners who do not and will not submit claims to a Medicare contractor for services they provide.

Medicare will deny claims for all covered Medicare Part B, DME and Part A home health services when the ordering/referring provider is not enrolled in Medicare and the claim does not list the NPI for the ordering or referring provider.

Here is a list of those providers who are eligible to order/refer services:

- Physicians—including a doctor of medicine or osteopathy, a doctor of dental medicine, a doctor of dental surgery, a doctor of podiatric medicine, a doctor of optometry and optometrist
- Physician Assistants
- Clinical Nurse Specialists
- Nurse Practitioners
- Clinical Psychologists
- Interns, Residents and Fellows
- Certified Nurse Midwives
- Clinical Social Workers

For dentists the deadline for enrollment is June 1, 2015. After that date any provider writing a prescription for a Medicare beneficiary must be enrolled in the Medicare system using the Provider Enrollment Chain Ownership System (PECOS) in order for that beneficiary to obtain coverage for the prescription via their Medicare Part D

benefits. Similarly, referrals for downstream services to dental subspecialists may not be covered if the referring dentist is not in the Medicare ordering/referring database.

Dentists have three enrollment options:

1. Enroll as a Medicare provider
2. Opt-out of the Medicare program
3. Enroll as an ordering/referring provider

If you elect to enroll in Medicare, you agree to accept the Medicare fee schedule as payment in full for covered services. If you elect to opt out of Medicare, then you are allowed to contract privately with Medicare beneficiaries for services for a two year period after submitting a written affidavit to your Medicare carrier agreeing to not submit any claims to Medicare for two years. The final option allows you to create an individual NPI number and become registered in the Medicare system as a provider who is eligible to order and refer services for Medicare beneficiaries.

CMS has established a file of ordering/referring providers which is updated weekly. It can be viewed at: <http://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Provider-Enrollment-and-Certification/MedicareProviderSupEnroll/MedicareOrderingandReferring.html>

If you elect to register as an ordering/referring provider, you will be required to submit CMS Form 855O to your Medicare carrier's provider enrollment department. Palmetto GBA is the Medicare carrier for Va, WV, NC and SC and the provider enrollment department can be reached at:

Palmetto GBA - J11 MAC
Mail Code: AG-310
P.O. Box 100190
Columbia, SC 29202-3190
Tel: 855-696-0705
Fed Ex/UPS/Overnight Courier
Palmetto GBA - J11 MAC
Mail Code: AG-310
2300 Springdale Drive
Building One
Camden, SC 29020-1728

CMS also has produced a guideline for providers who are considering this status outlining the steps to take to apply for your NPI and to complete and submit the enrollment forms along with a list of additional resources. It can be accessed at: http://www.cms.gov/Outreach-and-Education/Medicare-Learning-Network-MLN/MLNProducts/downloads/MedEnroll_OrderReferProv_FactSheet_ICN906223.pdf

If you have any questions or want additional information, please contact your consultant: Will Hunter at whunter@hci-ebs.com, Dan Tuckwiller at dtuckwiller@hci-ebs.com, Craig Batchelor at cbatchelor@hci-ebs.com, Bryan Burke at bburke@hci-ebs.com, David Dobyns at ddobyns@hci-ebs.com, Dwight Martin at dmartin@hci-ebs.com, Ron Otwell at rotwell@hci-ebs.com, Barry Pillow at bpillow@hci-ebs.com, Barry Brooks at bbrooks@ihmsso.com or call us at 1-800-572-5275



