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# Program Memorandum Carriers

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Department of Health &  
Human Services (DHHS)  
Centers for Medicare &  
Medicaid Services (CMS)

Transmittal B-02-024

Date: APRIL 12, 2002

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CHANGE REQUEST 2042

**SUBJECT: Deceased Physician UPIN Information - (Transmittal B-01-73)**

## **Background**

As part of CR 1735 (Transmittal B-01-73) entitled "Reviewing Deceased Physician's Unique Physician Identification Numbers (UPINs) on Durable Medical Equipment Regional Carriers (DMERC) claims" the Common Working File (CWF) will house the deceased Physician's UPIN list and will check the DMERC claims against this list. Effective April 1, 2002, CWF will reject DMERC claims, using deceased physicians' UPINs, whose date of service exceed the physician's date of death. CWF will develop an override for DMERC use. The DMERCs must deny claims with an invalid or deceased ordering or referring physician's UPIN on claims whose dates of service exceed the physician's date of death.

## **Implementation**

In order for the DMERCs to properly adjudicate these claims they need the date of death for the physician to be in the CWF trailer that is sent to them.

## **Provider Education**

DMERCs should publish this information in their next scheduled bulletin and on their Web sites.

**The *effective date* for this Program Memorandum (PM) is October 1, 2002.**

**The *implementation date* for this PM is October 1, 2002.**

**These instructions should be implemented within your current operating budget.**

**This PM may be discarded after October 1, 2003.**

**If you have any questions, contact Angie Costello at 410-786-1554 or [acostello@cms.hhs.gov](mailto:acostello@cms.hhs.gov).**