

Related Change Request (CR) #: 3098

Medlearn Matters Number: MM3098

Related CR Release Date: February 6, 2004

Related CR Transmittal #: R94CP

Effective Date: July 1, 2004 for MSNs generated on or after that date.

Implementation Date: July 6, 2004

MMA-Additional Information in Medicare Summary Notices (MSNs) to Beneficiaries about Skilled Nursing Facility (SNF) Benefits

Provider Types Affected

Skilled Nursing Facilities

Provider Action Needed

Providers should note that Medicare Summary Notices (MSNs) sent to Medicare beneficiaries on a monthly basis will now include the number of days remaining under the beneficiaries Part A benefit for a Skilled Nursing Facility (SNF).

This is informational only and the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services is announcing this to providers in the event they receive questions from their patients regarding the addition of this information to the MSN.

Background

The Medicare Summary Notice (MSN) is mailed on a monthly basis to Medicare beneficiaries when a claim is processed. For a given spell of illness, beneficiaries do not currently receive information on their MSNs regarding the number of days remaining under their Part A benefit for a Skilled Nursing Facility (SNF).

However, the Medicare Prescription Drug Improvement and Modernization Act of 2003 (MMA) requires MSNs to report on the number of days remaining in a Part A spell of illness for SNF beneficiaries. Therefore, new MSN messages sent to beneficiaries on or after July 6, 2004, will report the number of days remaining of the 100 days available under their SNF Part A benefit for a given spell of illness.

Also, information reported on MSNs is only as accurate as claims received and processed as of the date the MSN is generated. Therefore, if a SNF does not bill timely, or there is a delay in processing claims, information on days remaining in the spell may not be completely up to date.

Implementation

July 6, 2004.

Disclaimer

Medlearn Matters articles are prepared as a service to the public and are not intended to grant rights or impose obligations. Medlearn Matters articles may contain references or links to statutes, regulations, or other policy materials. The information provided is only intended to be a general summary. It is not intended to take the place of either the written law or regulations. We encourage readers to review the specific statutes, regulations, and other interpretive materials for a full and accurate statement of their contents.

Additional Information

The following Medicare website includes an example of a MSN:

http://www.medicare.gov/basics/summarynotice_howtoread.asp

Disclaimer

Medlearn Matters articles are prepared as a service to the public and are not intended to grant rights or impose obligations. Medlearn Matters articles may contain references or links to statutes, regulations, or other policy materials. The information provided is only intended to be a general summary. It is not intended to take the place of either the written law or regulations. We encourage readers to review the specific statutes, regulations, and other interpretive materials for a full and accurate statement of their contents.