DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services

MSI Registration – Going, going, gone!

Have you registered for the MSI? If not, your time is running out. The MSI registration will close on Monday, September 30th.

Why should I register?

- The MSI will provide the best opportunity for you to rate your satisfaction with your MAC
- Your input will help your MAC to improve the services that they offer you
- Your opinion counts!

If you are a Medicare FFS provider or you represent a Medicare FFS provider and are interested in participating, take a moment to register your contact information by completing the application at https://adobeformscentral.com/?f=eMRKPqaWpqMxNOmTQpSKDA on the Internet. It will take about 1 minute to complete.

For more information visit http://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Medicare-Contracting/MSI on the CMS MSI website. Let your voice be heard!

MLN Matters® Number: MM8452 | **Related Change Request (CR) #: CR 8452**

Related CR Release Date: September 20, 2013 | **Effective Date: January 1, 2014**

Related CR Transmittal #: R2788CP | **Implementation Date: January 6, 2014**

Ambulance Inflation Factor for CY 2014 and Productivity Adjustment

Provider Types Affected

This MLN Matters® Article is intended providers and suppliers submitting claims to Medicare contractors (Fiscal Intermediaries (FIs), carriers, Regional Home Health Intermediaries (RHHIs), Durable Medical Equipment Medicare Administrative Contractors (DME/MACs) and A/B Medicare Administrative Contractors (A/B MACs)) for services to Medicare beneficiaries.

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What You Need to Know

This article is based on Change Request (CR) 8452 which informs Medicare contractors about changes to the Ambulance Inflation Factor (AIF) for Calendar Year (CY) 2014 and a corresponding productivity adjustment. As a result of these changes, the AIF for CY 2014 is 1.00 percent. Make sure that your billing staffs are aware of these changes. See the Background and Additional Information Sections of this article for further details regarding these changes.

Background

CR8452 furnishes the CY 2014 AIF for determining the payment limit for ambulance services required by section 1834(l)(3)(B) of the Social Security Act (the Act), and updates the "Medicare Claims Processing Manual," Chapter 15, Section 20.4, which contains a chart tracking the history of the AIF.

Section 1834(l)(3)(B) of the Act provides the basis for an update to the payment limits for ambulance services that is equal to the percentage increase in the consumer price index for all urban consumers (CPI-U) for the 12-month period ending with June of the previous year. Section 3401 of the Affordable Care Act amended Section 1834(l)(3) of the Act to apply a productivity adjustment to this update equal to the 10-year moving average of changes in economy-wide private nonfarm business multi-factor productivity (MFP) beginning January 1, 2011. The resulting update percentage is referred to as the AIF.

The MFP for calendar year (CY) 2014 is 0.80 percent and the CPI-U for 2014 is 1.80 percent. According to the Affordable Care Act, the CPI-U is reduced by the MFP, even if this reduction results in a negative AIF update. Therefore, the AIF for CY 2014 is 1.00 percent.

Part B coinsurance and deductible requirements apply to payments under the ambulance fee schedule. The 2014 ambulance fee schedule file will be available to Medicare contractors in November 2013 and will be posted at **http://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Medicare-Fee-for-Service-Payment/AmbulanceFeeSchedule/afspuf.html** on the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) website.

Additional Information

The official instruction, CR 8452 issued to your MAC regarding this change may be viewed at **http://cms.gov/Regulations-and-Guidance/Guidance/Transmittals/Downloads/R2788CP.pdf** on the CMS website.

If you have any questions, please contact your MAC at their toll-free number, which may be found at **http://www.cms.gov/Research-Statistics-Data-and-Systems/Monitoring-Programs/provider-compliance-interactive-map/index.html** on the CMS website.

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