DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services

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- "Medicare Enrollment and Claim Submission Guidelines", Booklet ICN 906764, Downloadable

MLN Matters® Number: MM8463	Related Change Request (CR) #: CR 8463
Related CR Release Date: September 27, 2013	Effective Date: January 1, 2014
Related CR Transmittal #: R2794CP	Implementation Date: January 6, 2014

2014 Annual Update for the Health Professional Shortage Area (HPSA) Bonus Payments

Provider Types Affected

This MLN Matters® Article is intended for physicians, providers, and suppliers submitting claims to Medicare contractors (Fiscal Intermediaries (FIs), carriers and A/B Medicare Administrative Contractors (A/B MACs)) for services to Medicare beneficiaries.

Provider Action Needed

Change Request (CR) 8463, from which this article is taken, alerts you that the annual HPSA bonus payment file for 2014 will be made available by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) to your Medicare contractor and will be used for HPSA bonus payments on applicable claims with dates of service on or after January 1, 2014, through December 31, 2014. These files will be posted to the internet on or about December 1, 2013. You should review http://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Medicare-Fee-for-Service-Payment/HPSAPSAPhysicianBonuses/index.html on the CMS website each year to determine whether you need to add the AQ modifier to your claim in order to receive the bonus payment, or to see if the ZIP code area in which you rendered services will automatically receive the HPSA bonus

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payment. Note that Medicare contractors will continue to accept the AQ modifier for partially designated HPSA claims. Please be sure that your staffs are aware of this update.

Background

Section 413(b) of the Medicare Prescription Drug, Improvement and Modernization Act of 2003 mandated an annual update to the automated HPSA bonus payment file. CMS automated HPSA ZIP code file is populated using the latest designations as close as possible to November 1 of each year. The HPSA ZIP code file will be made available to CMS contractors in early December of each year. CMS contractors shall implement the HPSA ZIP code file and for claims with dates of service January 1 to December 31 of the following year, shall make automatic HPSA bonus payments to physicians providing eligible services in a ZIP code contained on the file.

Additional Information

The official instruction, CR8463, issued to your MAC regarding this change may be viewed at http://www.cms.gov/Regulations-and-Guidance/Guidance/Transmittals/Downloads/R2794CP.pdfon 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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