MLN Matters®
Information for Medicare Fee-for-Service Health Care Professionals

News Flash - The fifth annual national administration of the Medicare Contractor Provider Satisfaction Survey (MCPSS) is now underway. If you received a letter indicating that you were randomly selected to participate in the 2010 MCPSS, CMS urges you to take a few minutes to go online and complete this important survey via a secure Internet website. Responding online is a convenient, easy, and quick way to provide CMS with your feedback on the performance of the FFS contractor that processes and pays your Medicare claims. Survey questionnaires can also be submitted by mail, secure fax, and over the telephone. To learn more about the MCPSS, please visit the CMS MCPSS website http://www.cms.hhs.gov/mcpss or read the CMS Special Edition MLN Matters article, SE1005, located at http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MLNMattersArticles/downloads/SE1005.pdf on the CMS website.

MLN Matters® Number: MM6805 | Related Change Request (CR) #: 6805

Related CR Release Date: February 19, 2010 | Effective Date: July 1, 2010

Related CR Transmittal #: R1922CP | Implementation Date: July 6, 2010

July 2010 Quarterly Average Sales Price (ASP) Medicare Part B Drug Pricing Files and Revisions to Prior Quarterly Pricing Files

Provider Types Affected

All physicians, providers and suppliers who submit claims to Medicare contractors (Medicare Administrative Contractors (MACs), Fiscal Intermediaries (FIs), carriers, Durable Medical Equipment Medicare Administrative Contractors (DME MACs) or Regional Home Health Intermediaries (RHHIs)) are affected by this issue.

What You Need to Know

This article is based on Change Request (CR) 6805 which instructs Medicare contractors to download and implement the July 2010 ASP drug pricing file for Medicare Part B drugs; and if released by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), also the revised April 2010, January 2010, October 2009, and July 2009 files. Medicare will use the July 2010 ASP and not otherwise classified (NOC) drug pricing files to determine the payment limit for claims for separately payable Medicare Part B drugs processed or reprocessed on or after July 6, 2010, with dates of service July 1, 2010, through September 30, 2010.

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Background

The ASP methodology is based on quarterly data submitted to CMS by manufacturers. CMS will supply contractors with the ASP and NOC drug pricing files for Medicare Part B drugs on a quarterly basis. Payment allowance limits under the OPPS are incorporated into the Outpatient Code Editor (OCE) through separate instructions.

The following table shows how the quarterly payment files will be applied:

Files	Effective Dates of Service
July 2010 ASP and NOC files	July 1, 2010, through September 30, 2010
April 2010 ASP and NOC files	April 1, 2010, through June 30, 2010
January 2010 ASP and NOC files	January 1, 2010, through March 31, 2010
October 2009 ASP and NOC files	October 1, 2009, through December 31, 2009
July 2009 ASP and NOC files	July 1, 2009, through September 30, 2009

Additional Information

If you have questions, please contact your Medicare MAC, carrier, or FI at their toll-free number, which may be found at *http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MLNProducts/downloads/CallCenterTollNumDirectory.zip* on the CMS website. The official instruction (CR6805) issued to your Medicare MAC, carrier, and/or FI may be found at *http://www.cms.hhs.gov/Transmittals/downloads/R1922CP.pdf* on the CMS website.

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