

April 29, 2020

DME MACs and CMS COVID-19 Updates

Dear Valued Customer,

Change Healthcare is committed to keeping you informed regarding the ongoing publications related to COVID-19. The details are rapidly changing, and these CSAs are one way we are sharing the details that pertain specifically to our Pharmacy customers.

This notification is to inform you of the following items recently published by CMS, HHS and the DME MACs as they relate to Pharmacies.

It also contains an outline of previously published notifications to help consolidate all COVID-19 items into one reference guide.

(The below details are directly from publications provided from the above sources)

New / Updated Items of Interest

1. Medicare FFS Claims: 2% Payment Adjustment Suspended (Sequestration)

Change Healthcare Medicare MedRx has implemented the pricing adjustment which will become effective May 1, 2020. This is in response to the Section 3709 of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act announcement it will temporarily suspend the 2% payment adjustment currently applied to all Medicare Fee-For-Service (FFS) claims due to sequestration. The suspension is effective for claims with dates of service from May 1 through Dec. 31, 2020.

NO Provider action is required.

2. CMS Reevaluates Accelerated Payment Program and Suspends Advance Payment Program

On April 26th, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) announced that it is reevaluating the amounts that will be paid under its Accelerated Payment Program and suspending its Advance Payment Program to Part B suppliers effective immediately. The agency made this announcement following the successful payment of over \$100 billion to healthcare providers and suppliers through these programs and in light of the \$175 billion recently appropriated for

healthcare provider relief payments.

<https://www.cms.gov/files/document/Accelerated-and-Advanced-Payments-Fact-Sheet.pdf>

3. Department of Health & Human Services (HHS) Provider Relief Fund – Additional Funds Available

As a reminder, the initial round (Round 1) of Provider Relief Funds have been distributed by HHS on 04/10 (\$26 billion), again on 04/17 (\$4 billion) and then on 04/24 (\$20 billion). These funds, of course, will need to have an attestation completed within 30 days of receipt to keep the funds or returned within the 30 days. You want to be familiar with the [Terms and Conditions](#) before attesting for the funds.

The [CARES Act Provider Relief Fund Payment Attestation Fund portal](#) is now open and can be used to attest or return the above mentioned funds.

NEW NEWS ON THE PROVIDER RELIEF FUND – HHS has recently announced and just released an FAQ on the additional funds (Round 2) they are making available. These funds must be applied for. The below link to a FAQ document goes into great details regarding these additional funds.

We strongly recommend you read thru the attached FAQ document from HHS which goes into great detail on the application process. It includes the type of information you will need for this application and instructions on how to complete.

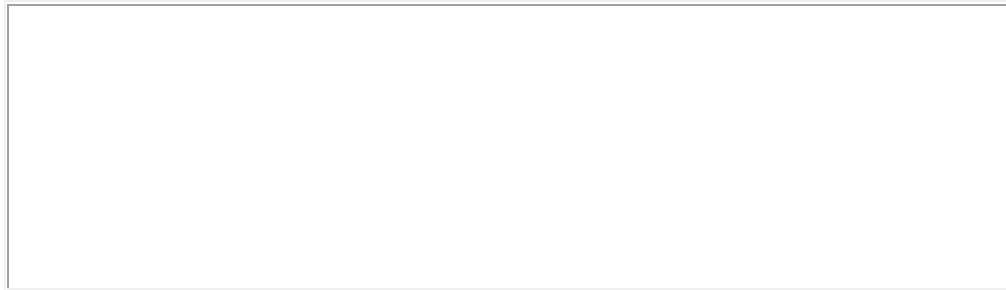
4. COVID-19 Claims Reimbursement for Testing & Treatment of the Uninsured (Medicare, Medicaid, Commercial)

As part of the Families First Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA) and the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act, funding is being provided to help support health-care related expenses attributable to the treatment of uninsured individuals with COVID-19.

Health care providers who have conducted COVID-19 testing or provided treatment for uninsured individuals on or after February 4, 2020, can electronically request claims reimbursement through the program and will be reimbursed generally at Medicare rates, *subject to available funding*.

This program is detailed on the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) website at this link <https://coviduninsuredclaim.linkhealth.com/>. In addition to the information on the website, HRSA will be hosting [two webcasts](#) this week to discuss the program. Follow the link to register for these events scheduled for April 29th or April 30th. The first claims can begin to be submitted on Wednesday, May 6th.

The website contains valuable information about the program and we recommend visiting the site and reading information associated with each tab as shown below.



5.Targeted Probe and Educate (TPE) Reviews Suspended

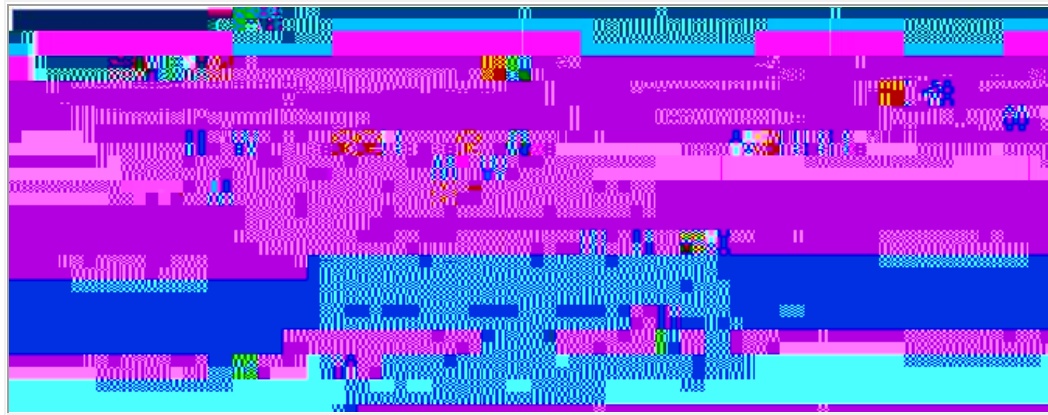
In response to the Public Health Emergency, COVID-19, Noridian has implemented the following actions pertaining to TPE reviews:

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< Any other TPE or education related questions.

<https://med.noridianmedicare.com/web/jddme/article-detail/-/view/2230715/targeted-probe-and-educate-tpe-reviews-suspended>

Previously Published CSAs Related to COVID-19



Change Healthcare continues to monitor this rapidly evolving situation and will provide updates as circumstances change.

Change Healthcare is proud to be your business partner and remains committed to your success.

Thanks for your attention to this announcement,

Change Healthcare

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