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Official CMS news from the Medicare Learning Network®

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News

Dialysis Facilities: Partnership to Vaccinate Dialysis Patients and Health Care Personnel

CDC is partnering with dialysis organizations nationwide to [make COVID-19 vaccine](#) available for administration in outpatient dialysis clinics for patients and health care personnel, to help protect this high-risk population and their care providers.

Your Medicare patients pay nothing for COVID-19 vaccines, and there is no copayment, coinsurance, or deductible.

More Information:

- Get paid to administer the vaccine: [Enroll in Medicare](#) if you aren't already enrolled
- Find out about [payment](#), including billing codes, payment allowances, and effective dates

Chronic Care Management: Comparative Billing Report in April

In late April, CMS will issue a Comparative Billing Report (CBR) on Part B claims for chronic care management. Use the data-driven tables to compare your billing and payment patterns with peers in your state and across the nation.

The public can't view CBRs. Look for an email from cbrpepper.noreply@religroupinc.com to access your report. Update your email address in the Provider Enrollment, Chain, and Ownership System to ensure delivery.

More Information:

- [View a webinar recording](#)
- [Visit the CBR website](#)
- [Register for a live webinar](#) on May 12 from 3-4 pm ET

Preparedness Resources: Acute Care Delivery at Home

The Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response (ASPR) Technical Resources, Assistance Center, and Information Exchange (TRACIE) released an [Acute Care Delivery at Home](#) tip sheet. Learn about the characteristics of various types of acute care delivery at home programs, including [CMS Acute Hospital Care at Home](#) waivers.

More Information:

- [ASPR TRACIE](#) fact sheet
- [ASPR TRACIE COVID-19 Resources](#) webpage

National Minority Health Month

Join CMS this April as we recognize National Minority Health Month. We work with local and federal partners to eliminate health care disparities, while improving the health of all minority populations, including:

- Racial and ethnic minorities
- People with disabilities
- Members of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer community
- Individuals with limited English proficiency
- Rural populations

More Information:

- [Health Observances](#) webpage
- [Register for Road to Equity: Examining Structural Racism in Health Care Virtual Forum](#) on April 27-28
- [Achieving Health Equity](#) web-based training course
- [CMS Office of Minority Health](#) webpage

Compliance

Specimen Validity Testing Billed in Combination with Urine Drug Testing: Proper Coding

In a recent [report](#), the Office of the Inspector General determined that Medicare payments for specimen validity tests didn't comply with our billing requirements. Review the [MLN Matters Special Edition Article](#) to learn about proper billing for this testing done in conjunction with drug testing, including descriptors for:

- Presumptive drug testing codes
- Definitive drug testing codes

For more information, see the [National Correct Coding Initiative Policy Manual](#).

Events

Road to Equity: Examining Structural Racism in Health Care Virtual Forum — April 27-28

Register for [April 27](#) and [April 28](#).

Join CMS for a virtual forum, highlighting a renewed focus on health equity to address structural racism and our role as an equity partner.

More Information:

- [All Free Webinars & Events](#) webpage
- [CMS Office of Minority Health](#) webpage

Medicare Part A Cost Report: Easier File Uploads for e-Filing in MCRéF Webcast — April 29

Thursday, April 29 from 1 - 2:30 pm ET

[Register for our Medicare Learning Network webcast.](#)

Medicare Part A providers: Learn about the new user-friendly upload feature for the Medicare Cost Report e-Filing (MCRéF) system. The new feature allows you to:

- Submit documents without turning them into ZIP files
- Tag documents
- Get alerts about missing documents

Also during this webcast:

- Get an overview of the system
- Attend a Q&A session

Use MCRéF to:

- Submit cost reports (Individually or in bulk) for fiscal years ending on or after December 31, 2017.
- Track the status of cost reports with fiscal years ending after December 31, 2009.
- You have the option to electronically transmit your cost report through MCRéF or mail or hand deliver it to your Medicare Administrative Contractor. You must use MCRéF if you choose to submit electronically.

You may send questions in advance to OFMDPAOQuestions@cms.hhs.gov with “MCRéF Webcast” in the subject line. We’ll answer your questions during the webcast or use them to develop educational materials. For more information, see the [MLN Matters Article](#) and [webpage](#).

If you can’t stream audio through your computer for this webcast, you can call in.

Target Audience:

- Medicare Part A providers
- Entities that file cost reports for providers

Publications

Medicare Billing: Form CMS-1450 and the 837 Institutional — Revised

CMS revised the Medicare Learning Network [Medicare Billing: Form CMS-1450 and the 837 Institutional](#) booklet. Learn about:

- Paper and electronic claims
- Filing requirements
- Submitting claims

Medicare Wellness Visits — Revised

CMS revised the Medicare Learning Network [Medicare Wellness Visits](#) educational tool. Learn about:

- Annual wellness visit
- Initial preventive physical examination
- FAQs and resources

Multimedia

Achieving Health Equity Web-Based Training — Revised

CMS revised the Medicare Learning Network [Achieving Health Equity](#) web-based training course. Learn how to:

- Define health disparities and health equity
- Address health disparities in your organization
- Foster a culture of equity

Visit the [MLN Web-Based Training](#) webpage for a current list of courses.

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