



**News Flash** – The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) announces that two new section pages have been created on the 2009 Electronic Prescribing (E-Prescribing) Incentive Program web page on the CMS website. **E-Prescribing Measure Section page** - This page contains several resources including: Measure Specifications; new Claims-Based Reporting Principles and a Sample E-Prescribing Claim. To access this page, visit [http://www.cms.hhs.gov/ERxIncentive/06\\_E-Prescribing\\_Measure.asp](http://www.cms.hhs.gov/ERxIncentive/06_E-Prescribing_Measure.asp) on the CMS website. **Educational Resources Section Page** – This page contains MLN Matters articles; E-Prescribing Incentive Program fact sheets; a link to Medicare’s Practical Guide to the E-Prescribing Incentive Program, and information on how to receive continuing education credit related to the E-Prescribing Incentive Program. To access this page, visit [http://www.cms.hhs.gov/ERxIncentive/09\\_Educational\\_Resources.asp](http://www.cms.hhs.gov/ERxIncentive/09_Educational_Resources.asp) on the CMS website.

MLN Matters® Number: MM6539

Related Change Request (CR) #: 6539

Related CR Release Date: July 10, 2009

Effective Date: August 10, 2009

Related CR Transmittal #: R5150TN

Implementation Date: August 10, 2009

## 2009 Reminder for Roster Billing and Centralized Billing for Influenza and Pneumococcal Vaccinations

### Provider Types Affected

This article has information for physicians, providers, and suppliers submitting claims to Medicare contractors (carriers, Fiscal Intermediaries (FIs), and/or Part A/B Medicare Administrative Contractors (A/B MACs)) for influenza and pneumococcal vaccinations provided to Medicare beneficiaries.

### Provider Action Needed

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) issued change request (CR) 6539 to remind the Medicare physician community of the requirements to correctly enroll in order to conduct Mass Immunization Roster Billing and Centralized Billing for influenza and pneumococcal immunizations. Remember that centralized billers participation is limited to one year and such billers must reapply each year they wish to be a centralized biller. The yearly reapplication process is not required for Mass Immunizer Roster Billers.

#### Disclaimer

This article was prepared as a service to the public and is not intended to grant rights or impose obligations. This article may contain references or links to statutes, regulations, or other policy materials. The information provided is only intended to be a general summary. It is not intended to take the place of either the written law or regulations. We encourage readers to review the specific statutes, regulations and other interpretive materials for a full and accurate statement of their contents.

**Providers Take Note:** A vaccine is being developed for the H1N1 virus and the development of the H1N1 vaccine could result in beneficiaries being eligible to receive more than one influenza vaccine during the upcoming influenza season. CMS will release more information regarding the development of the H1N1 vaccine and any coding updates in future CRs as necessary.

## Background

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CMS is issuing CR 6539 as a reminder for Mass Immunization Roster Billing and Centralized Billing for Influenza and Pneumococcal vaccinations. Mass immunizers are providers and suppliers who enroll in the Medicare program to offer the influenza and/or pneumococcal vaccinations to a large number of individuals, and they must be properly licensed in the States in which they plan to operate influenza (flu) clinics. Enrollment for mass immunizers is ongoing and must be completed through the local A/B MAC or carrier. Mass immunizers submit their claims to the local Medicare contractor.

Centralized billers are mass immunizers who have applied to become centralized billers when they operate in at least three payment localities for which there are three different Medicare contractors or A/B MACs processing claims. Individuals and entities must be properly licensed in the States in which they plan to operate influenza (flu) and/or pneumococcal clinics.

All providers, except Durable Medical Equipment, Prosthetics, Orthotics, and Supplies (DMEPOS) suppliers, already enrolled in the Medicare program may render and bill for providing influenza and/or pneumococcal vaccinations. DMEPOS suppliers must enroll as a mass immunization roster biller (specialty provider type 73) with a carrier or A/B MAC to render influenza vaccination services to Medicare beneficiaries.

Providers/suppliers who will only render influenza and/or pneumococcal vaccination services must enroll as one of two types of providers including a mass immunization roster biller (specialty provider type 73), or a Centralized Biller.

They must:

- Accept assignment on both the vaccine and its administration;
- Bill only for influenza and/or pneumococcal vaccinations; and
- Submit claims using the roster billing process.

Participation as a centralized biller is limited to one year and must be renewed annually by contacting the CMS central office by June 1 to request participation for the upcoming year. Claims for centralized billers are processed by one Medicare specialty contractor regardless of the locality where the service was rendered. Centralized billers submit their claims to the designated specialty contractor.

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Providers and suppliers must enroll using the appropriate CMS 855 provider enrollment form. Information on provider enrollment forms can be found at [http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MedicareProviderSupEnroll/02\\_EnrollmentApplications.asp](http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MedicareProviderSupEnroll/02_EnrollmentApplications.asp) on the CMS website. Refer to the Medicare Claims Processing Manual Chapter 18, Sections 10-10.5 for more information on billing requirements. This manual is available at <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/Manuals/IOM/list.asp> on the CMS website.

CMS offers a number of free educational products on its Medicare Learning Network (MLN). These products are available on the MLN Preventive Services Educational Products web page located at [http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MLNProducts/35\\_PreventiveServices.asp#TopOfPage](http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MLNProducts/35_PreventiveServices.asp#TopOfPage) on the CMS website.

**Note:** Medicare Part B pays 100 percent for pneumococcal vaccines, influenza virus vaccines, and their administration. The Part B deductible and coinsurance do not apply for influenza virus and pneumococcal vaccine.

Remember the following regarding the influenza vaccine:

- Medicare allows one influenza (flu) vaccination per year;
- Medicare does not require for coverage purposes that a doctor of medicine or osteopathy order the influenza vaccine and its administration; and
- The beneficiary may receive the influenza vaccine upon request without a physician's order and without physician supervision.

Remember the following with regard to the pneumococcal vaccine, effective for services furnished on or after July 1, 2000:

- Medicare does not require for coverage purposes, that a doctor of medicine or osteopathy order the pneumococcal vaccine and its administration, and
- The beneficiary may receive the vaccine upon request without a physician's order and without physician supervision.

Typically, the pneumococcal vaccine is administered once in a lifetime. Claims for pneumococcal vaccines are paid for beneficiaries who:

- Are at high risk of pneumococcal disease; and
- Have not received a pneumococcal vaccine within the last five years; or
- Are revaccinated because they are unsure of their vaccination status.

## Additional Information

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If you have questions, please contact your Medicare FI, carrier or A/B MAC 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, CR6539, issued to your Medicare FI, carrier or A/B MAC regarding this change may be viewed at <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/Transmittals/downloads/R515OTN.pdf> on the CMS website.

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