
Program Memorandum Intermediaries

Department of Health and
Human Services (DHHS)
HEALTH CARE FINANCING
ADMINISTRATION (HCFA)

Transmittal A-01-54

Date: APRIL 18, 2001

CHANGE REQUEST 1615

SUBJECT: Elimination of the Initial Request for Anticipated Payment (RAP) Medicare Summary Notice (MSN)/Explanation of Medicare Benefits (EOMB)

This Program Memorandum (PM) provides instructions for Medicare standard systems and Regional Home Health Intermediaries (RHHIs), only.

Since the implementation of the Home Health Prospective Payment System RHHIs have issued an initial MSN/EOMB to beneficiaries indicating that they were receiving care from a particular home health agency. The intent of this MSN/EOMB was to identify potential fraud situations. However, this MSN/EOMB has confused beneficiaries because it does not contain any charge, coinsurance, or billing information. This confusion has led to an increase in beneficiary telephone inquiries.

RHHIs should immediately eliminate the production and mailing of the initial MSN/EOMB to beneficiaries, which would have been generated only as the result of a RAP. While home health agencies will continue to receive their initial RAP, RHHIs should not send a RAP MSN/EOMB to the beneficiaries. RHHIs should continue to send the final home health claim information on the MSN/EOMB to the beneficiaries. This notice provides detailed information on the services provided and the amounts charged.

The *effective date* for this PM is July 1, 2001.

The *implementation date* for this PM is July 1, 2001.

These instructions should be implemented within your current operating budget.

This PM may be discarded after July 1, 2002.

If you have any questions, contact Julie Simms at (410) 786-6343.