

# **MEDICARE FOR CHIROPRACTORS** **2023 UPDATES AND** **INTRODUCTION TO MEDICARE**

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## **FORMS/VISUAL AID DISCLAIMER**

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## What's Medicare?

Medicare is health insurance for:

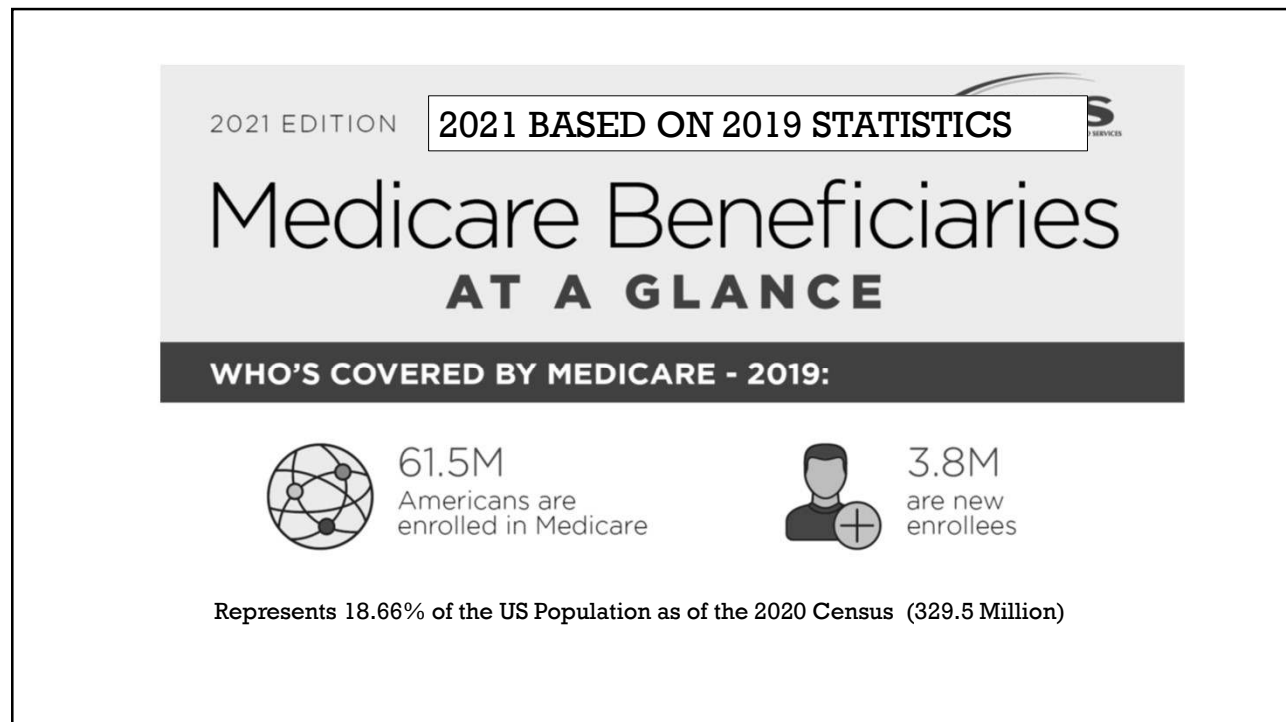
- People 65 or older
- Under 65 with certain disabilities
- People of any age with End-Stage Renal Disease (ESRD) (permanent kidney failure requiring dialysis or a kidney transplant)

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THE CENTERS FOR MEDICARE AND MEDICAID SERVICES (CMS) **PROVIDES HEALTH COVERAGE TO MORE THAN 100 MILLION PEOPLE** THROUGH MEDICARE, MEDICAID, THE CHILDREN'S HEALTH INSURANCE PROGRAM, AND THE HEALTH INSURANCE MARKETPLACE.

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The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) released the latest enrollment figures for Medicare on January 5<sup>th</sup> 2023.

As of September 2022, **65,103,807** people are enrolled in Medicare, an increase of 160,823 since the last report. **Enrollment in Medicare is up by 4 million enrollees since 2019, when total enrollment was around 61.5 million.**

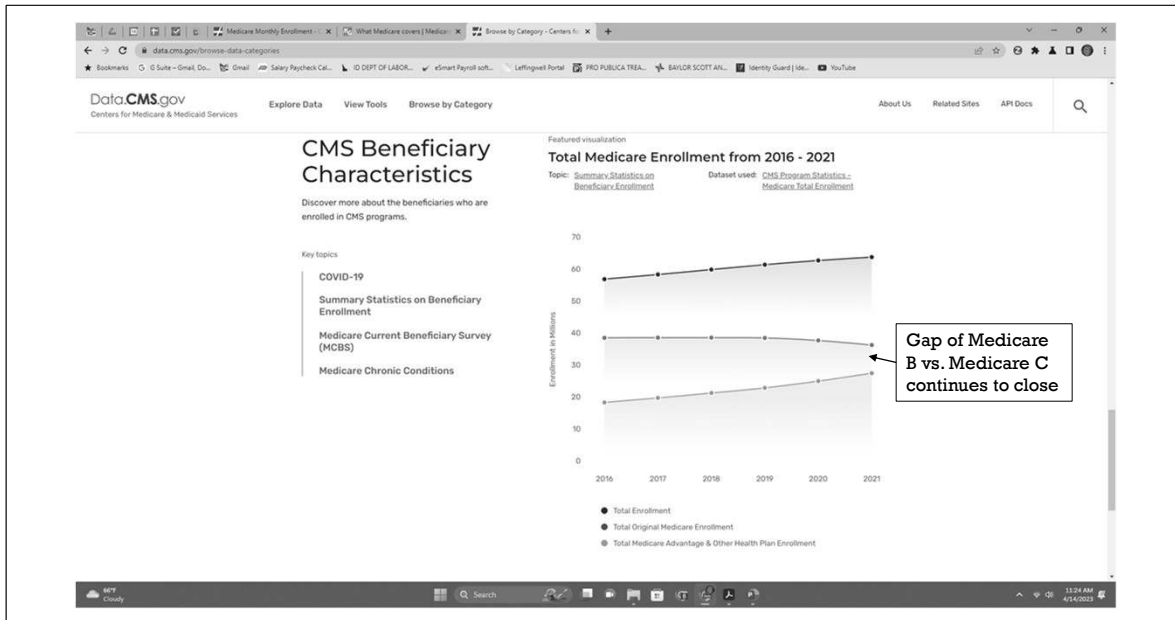
Of those:

- 34,984,295 are enrolled in Original Medicare.
- 30,119,512 are enrolled in Medicare Advantage or other health plans. This includes enrollment in Medicare Advantage plans with and without prescription drug coverage.
- 50,574,579 are enrolled in Medicare Part D. This includes enrollment in stand-alone prescription drug plans as well as Medicare Advantage plans that offer prescription drug coverage.
- Represents 19.8% of the US Population as of the 2020 Census (329.5 Million)

**2023, BASED ON  
2022 STATISTICS**

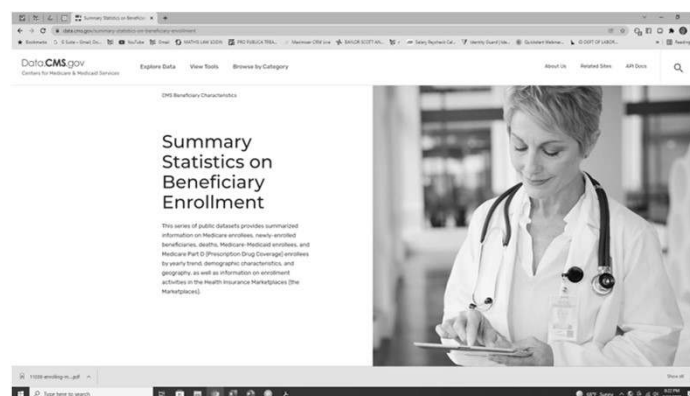
**SOURCE:** <https://medicareadvocacy.org/medicare-enrollment-numbers/>

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## HOW MANY MEDICARE PATIENTS ARE IN MY STATE?



<https://data.cms.gov/summary-statistics-on-beneficiary-enrollment>

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•More than 1.6 million residents are enrolled in Medicare in Virginia; 12% percent are under age 65 and eligible due to a disability.

1.157 Mil in 2020

•About one third of Virginia Medicare beneficiaries are enrolled in Medicare Advantage plans (nationwide, it's about 46%).

37% in 2020

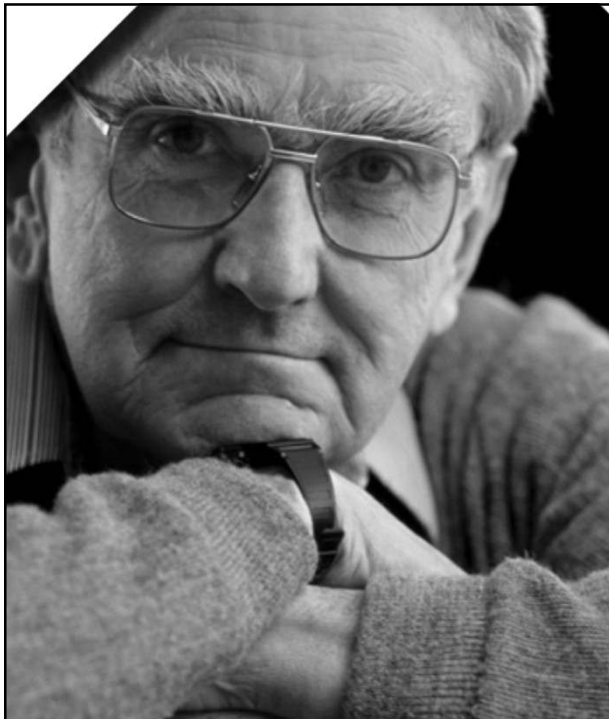
•All counties in Virginia have Medicare Advantage plans available, with plan availability ranging from 29 plans in Buckingham County to 66 plans in Henrico County.

•In Virginia, 42 insurers offer Medigap plans and more than 443,000 Medicare beneficiaries in the state have Medigap coverage.

•As of 2021, Virginia requires Medigap insurers to offer at least one plan to people under age 65 (but not including people with ESRD). Virtually all of the insurers are offering Plan A, and premiums are significantly higher for this population. But legislation is under consideration in 2023 that would limit premiums as of 2024 and extend Medigap protections to ESRD patients who are under 65.

•There are 24 stand-alone Part D prescription plans available in Virginia for 2022, with premiums ranging from about \$5 to \$108 per month. More than a million Virginia Medicare beneficiaries have Part D coverage, either under stand-alone plans or as part of their Medicare Advantage coverage.

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## THE 'A-B-C-D' OF MEDICARE

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## WHAT ARE THE PARTS OF MEDICARE?



### Part A (Hospital Insurance)

Helps cover:

- Inpatient care in hospitals
- **Skilled nursing facility care**
- Hospice care
- Home health care

- ☐ Part A is automatic upon reaching eligibility for Medicare
- ☐ Paid for by 40 quarters of employee contributions, no monthly premium
- ☐ If contribution requirement not met, Part A is available by paying a monthly premium

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## MEDICARE PART A COSTS

Part A costs:	What you pay in 2023:
<b>Premium</b>	<p><b>\$0 for most people</b> (because they paid Medicare taxes long enough while working - generally at least 10 years). This is sometimes called "premium-free Part A." <a href="#">Do I qualify? ①</a></p> <p>If you don't qualify for a premium-free Part A, you might be able to buy it. In 2023, the premium is either \$278 or \$506 each month, depending on how long you or your spouse worked and paid Medicare taxes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• You also have to sign up for Part B to buy Part A.</li> <li>• If you don't buy Part A when you're first eligible for Medicare (usually when you turn 65), you might pay a penalty. <a href="#">How much is the Part A penalty? ①</a></li> </ul>
<b>Deductible</b>	<p><b>\$1,600</b> for each time you're admitted to the hospital per benefit period. <a href="#">Before Original Medicare starts to pay. There's no limit to the number of benefit periods you can have.</a></p>
<b>Inpatient stays (copayments)</b>	<p>Days 1-60: \$0 after you pay your Part A deductible</p> <p>Days 61-90: \$400 each day</p> <p>Days 91-150: \$800 each day while using your 60 lifetime reserve days</p> <p>After day 150: You pay all costs</p>

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## WHAT ARE THE PARTS OF MEDICARE?



### Part B (Medical Insurance)

Helps cover:

- Services from doctors and other health care providers
- Outpatient care
- Home health care
- Durable medical equipment (like wheelchairs, walkers, hospital beds, and other equipment)
- Many **preventive services** (like screenings, shots or vaccines, and yearly “Wellness” visits)

- ☐ Part B is automatic upon reaching eligibility for Medicare
- ☐ Requires additional monthly premium.
- ☐ Requires patient to opt out or REPLACE coverage

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## MEDICARE PART B COSTS

Part B costs:	What you pay 2023:
<b>Premium</b>	<p><b>\$164.90 each month</b> (or higher depending on your income). The amount can change each year. You'll pay the premium each month, even if you don't get any Part B-covered services. <a href="#">Who pays higher premium because of income? ①</a></p> <p><a href="#">How do I pay my Part B premiums? ②</a></p> <p>You might pay a penalty if you don't sign up for Part B when you're first eligible for Medicare (usually when you turn 65). <a href="#">Check when I should sign up for Part B.</a></p> <p><b>How much is the Part B late enrollment penalty?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• You'll pay an extra 10% for each year you could have signed up for Part B, but didn't.</li> <li>• This penalty is added to your monthly Part B premium. (You may also pay a higher premium depending on your income.)</li> <li>• It's not a one-time late fee – you'll pay the penalty for as long as you have Part B.</li> <li>• Generally, you <b>won't</b> have to pay a penalty if you qualify for a Special Enrollment Period. To qualify, you (or your spouse) must still be working and you must have health coverage based on that job.</li> </ul> <p><a href="#">Example of the Part B penalty. ③</a></p>
<b>Deductible</b>	<p><b>You'll pay \$226, before Original Medicare starts to pay.</b> You pay this deductible once each year.</p>
<b>Costs for services (coinsurance)</b>	<p>You'll usually pay 20% of the cost for each Medicare-covered service or item after you've paid your deductible.</p>

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### Medicare Part C (also known as Medicare Advantage)

Medicare Advantage Plans (like HMOs or PPOs) provide your Part A and Part B coverage and many times offer additional benefits. Private insurance companies approved by Medicare run these plans. Generally, you must see doctors in the plan. Most Medicare Advantage Plans cover prescription drugs (Medicare Part D). You choose the Medicare Advantage Plan (with or without prescription drug coverage) and pay a monthly premium. Costs vary by plan.

## WHAT ARE THE PARTS OF MEDICARE?

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## COMPARISON OF ORIGINAL MEDICARE AND MEDICARE ADVANTAGE

### ORIGINAL MEDICARE

☒ Part A

☒ Part B


You can add:

☐ Part D


You can also add:

☐ Supplemental coverage


This includes Medicare Supplement Insurance (Medigap). See Section 5 (starting on page 75) to learn more about Medigap. Or, you can use coverage from a former employer or union, or Medicaid.

### MEDICARE ADVANTAGE

☒ Part A

☒ Part B


Most plans include:

☒ Part D

☒ Some extra benefits

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## Original Medicare vs. Medicare Advantage



### Doctor and hospital choice

Original Medicare	Medicare Advantage
You can go to <b>any doctor that accepts Medicare</b> .	In most cases, you'll need to use <b>doctors who are in the plan's network</b> (for non-emergency or non-urgent care). Ask your doctor if they participate in any Medicare Advantage Plans.
In most cases you <b>don't need</b> a referral to see a specialist.	You <b>may need</b> to get a referral to see a specialist.

### DIFFERENCE BETWEEN MEDICARE A/B AND MEDICARE ADVANTAGE

### CHOICE OF HOSPITALS AND/OR HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS

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## WHAT ARE THE PARTS OF MEDICARE?



### Part D (Drug coverage)

Helps cover the cost of prescription drugs (including many recommended shots or vaccines).


Plans that offer Medicare drug coverage (Part D) are run by private insurance companies that follow rules set by Medicare.

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# COORDINATING BENEFITS

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 <b>MEDICARE HEALTH INSURANCE</b>	
Name/Nombre <b>JOHN L SMITH</b>	<b>PATIENTS ARE ISSUED THIS CARD WHEN THEY BECOME ELIGIBLE</b>
Medicare Number/Número de Medicare <b>1EG4-TE5-MK72</b>	
Entitled to/Con derecho a <b>PART A</b> <b>PART B</b>	Coverage starts/Cobertura empieza <b>03-03-2016</b> <b>03-03-2016</b>

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This is a Medicare Supplemental Plan, aka Medigap

It is Supplemental to Medicare Part B

Plan "Letter"  
Determines Level of Payment

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PLAN  
F

Benefits	Medigap plans									
	A	B	C	D	F*	G*	K	L	M	N
Medicare Part A coinsurance and hospital costs (up to an additional 365 days after Medicare benefit ends)	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Medicare Part B coinsurance or copayment	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	50%	75%	100%	100%***
Blood (first 3 pints)	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	50%	75%	100%	100%
Part A hospice care coinsurance or copayment	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	50%	75%	100%	100%
Skilled nursing facility care coinsurance			100%	100%	100%	100%	50%	75%	100%	100%
Part A deductible		100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	50%	75%	50%	100%
Part B deductible			100%		100%					
Part B excess charges					100%	100%				
Foreign travel emergency (up to plan limits)			80%	80%	80%	80%			80%	80%
							Out-of-pocket limit in 2020**			
							\$5,880		\$2,940	

Supplemental Plans are designed to "gap" Medicare Coverage. If Medicare pays 80%, the supplemental plan takes care of the 20% at the rate indicated by the medigap plan.

Most Medigap plans do NOT pay for services that Medicare does not cover.

Most Supplemental plans are "crossover" plans, and billing is not necessary. Medicare B forwards the claim info to the Medigap plan directly

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## “TRUE” SECONDARY PLAN

- Some retirement and union plans provide true secondary policies.
- These plans may provide expanded coverage such as payment for exams, x-rays and therapies
- If the insurance card is not clearly a Medigap plan, verify benefits
- These types of plans may also not crossover directly from Medicare. Manual secondary billing would be necessary



BlueCross BlueShield  
of Texas  
An Independent licensee of the  
Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association

Subscriber Name:  
**JANE SMITH**  
Identification Number:  
**T3X123456789**

Group Number: **485000**  
Coverage Date: **01/01/23**

BCA



TRS-Care Standard

Dependent Name:  
**JOHN SMITH**

Deductible	\$1,500/\$3,000
Medical Services	20% after ded.
Teladoc	\$42 Medical
RediMD	\$30 Medical



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Subscriber Name  
**KIMO M ALOHA**

Subscriber ID  
**XLKA000012345678**

PLAN (80840)	MEDICAL	<b>T-C</b>
RXBIN <b>004336</b>	PART D	<b>885</b>
RXPCN <b>MEDDADV</b>		
RXGRP <b>RX8645</b>		
RXID <b>A000012345678</b>		

**HMSA**  
Akamai Advantage®

### Essential Advantage (HMO)

Group **M12480** **MedicareRx**  
Prescription Drug Coverage  
CMS-H7317 001

Primary Care Provider  
DR MOKI HANA

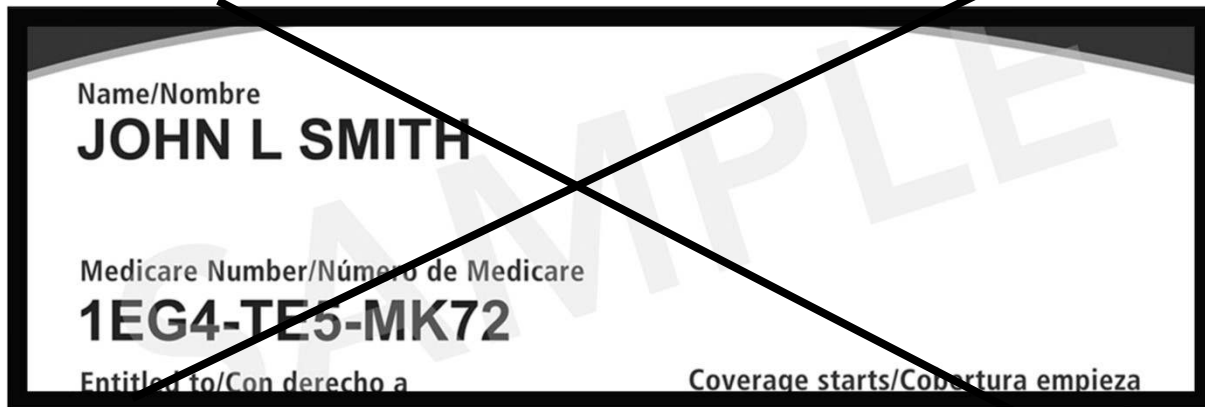
CMPCARE **S01**



MEDICARE  
ADVANTAGE **HMO**

IDENTIFYING MEDICARE ADVANTAGE PLANS

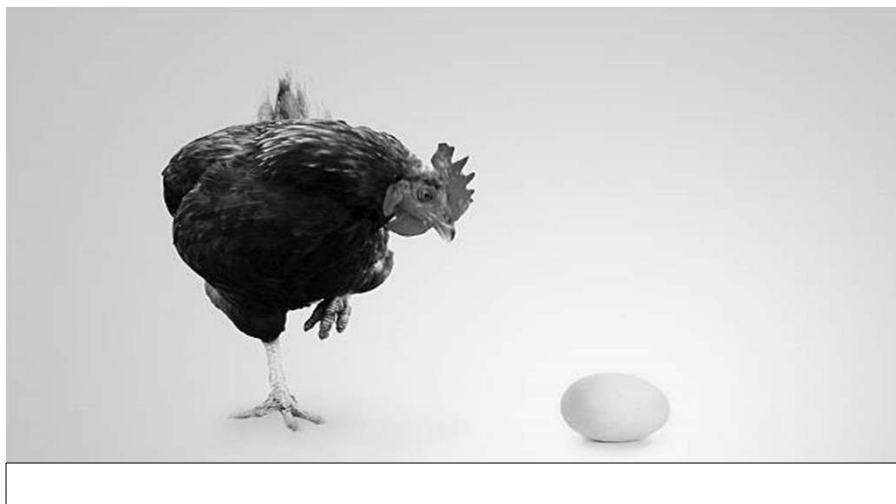
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**IF A PATIENT HAS A MEDICARE ADVANTAGE PLAN, DO NOT ENTER THIS CARD IN THE BILLING SYSTEM- JUST KEEP A COPY ON FILE**

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## **MEDICARE AS A SECONDARY PAYER**




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How does my other insurance work with Medicare?	
When you have other insurance and Medicare, there are rules for whether Medicare or your other insurance pays first.	
If you have <b>retiree</b> insurance (insurance from your or your spouse's former employment)	Medicare pays first.
If you're 65 or older, have group health plan coverage based on your or your spouse's <b>current</b> employment, and the employer has <b>20 or more employees</b> ...	Your group health plan pays first.
If you're 65 or older, have group health plan coverage based on your or your spouse's <b>current</b> employment, and the employer has <b>fewer than 20 employees</b> ...	Medicare pays first.
If you're under 65 and have a disability, have group health plan coverage based on your family member's <b>current</b> employment, and the employer has <b>100 or more employees</b> ...	Your group health plan pays first.
If you're under 65 and have a disability, have group health plan coverage based on your or a family member's <b>current</b> employment, and the employer has <b>fewer than 100 employees</b> ...	Medicare pays first.
If you have Medicare because of End-Stage Renal Disease (ESRD)...	Your group health plan will pay first for the first 30 months after you become eligible to enroll in Medicare. Medicare will pay first after this 30-month period.

Instances where  
Medicare may be  
secondary

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## WHEN A PATIENT BRINGS YOU THIS...

 <b>MEDICARE HEALTH INSURANCE</b>	
Name/Nombre <b>JOHN L SMITH</b>	
Medicare Number/Número de Medicare <b>1EG4-TE5-MK72</b>	
Entitled to/Con derecho a <b>PART A</b> <b>PART B</b>	Coverage starts/Cobertura empieza <b>03-03-2016</b> <b>03-03-2016</b>

1

 <b>Medicare Supplement Plans</b> insured by <b>UnitedHealthcare Insurance Company</b>
<b>MEMBERSHIP ID</b> <b>123456789-11</b> <b>MR JOHN Q SAMPLE</b> <b>EFFECTIVE DATE: 00-00-000</b> <b>AARP MEDICARE SUPPLEMENT PLAN F</b>
<small>Insured by UnitedHealthcare Insurance Company (for NY residents, UnitedHealthcare Insurance Company of NY).</small>

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## WHEN A PATIENT BRINGS YOU THIS...

**MEDICARE HEALTH INSURANCE**

Name/Nombre  
**JOHN L SMITH**

Medicare Number/Número de Medicare  
**1EG4-TE5-MK72**

Entitled to/Con derecho a  
**PART A**  
**PART B**

Coverage starts/Cobertura empieza  
**03-03-2016**  
**03-03-2016**

1

Check Benefits, may be a true secondary

**BlueCross BlueShield of Texas**  
An Independent licensee of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association

Subscriber Name:  
**JANE SMITH**  
Identification Number:  
**T3X123456789**

Group Number: **485000**  
Coverage Date: **01/01/23**

BCA

**TRS CARE**

TRS-Care Standard

Dependent Name:  
**JOHN SMITH**

Deductible	\$1,500/\$3,000
Medical Services	20% after ded.
Teladoc	\$42 Medical
RediMD	\$30 Medical

**Blue Edge** **PPO**

2

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## WHEN A PATIENT BRINGS YOU THIS...

**MEDICARE HEALTH INSURANCE**

Name/Nombre  
**JOHN L SMITH**

Medicare Number/Número de Medicare  
**1EG4-TE5-MK72**

Entitled to/Con derecho a  
**PART A**  
**PART B**

Coverage starts/Cobertura empieza  
**03-03-2016**  
**03-03-2016**

1

Dual Eligible Patient

**OptimaHealth**

**OPTIMA FAMILY CARE**  
**MEDICAID XP**  
Member Name: **JOHN DOE**  
Member Number: **9999999\*99**  
Group Number: **OFC**  
Member Effective Date: **01-01-19**  
PCP Name: **JANE DOE**  
PCP Phone: **999-999-9999**

OV: \$0  
ER: \$0  
RX: \$0

Medicaid #: **999999999999**  
DOB: **99/99/9999**

**COVER VIRGINIA**  
Connecting Virginians to Affordable Health Insurance

Detailed benefit information is available at [optimahealth.com](http://optimahealth.com)

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## WHEN A PATIENT BRINGS YOU THIS...

Medicare Advantage REPLACES Medicare B


**MEDICARE HEALTH INSURANCE**

Name/Nombre  
**JOHN MOKI HANA**

Medicare Number/Número de Medicare  
**1EG4-TE5-MK72**

Entitled to/Con derecho a  
**PART A**  
**PART B**

Coverage starts/Cobertura empieza  
**03-03-2016**

**hmsa** 

**Essential Advantage (HMO)**

Subscriber Name  
**KIMO M ALOHA**

Group **M12480** MedicareRx  
Prescription Drug Coverage  
CMS-H7317 001

Subscriber ID  
**XLKA000012345678**

Primary Care Provider  
DR MOKI HANA

PLAN (80840) MEDICAL T-C  
RXBIN **004336** PART D **885**

RXPCN **MEDDADV**

RXGRP **RX8645**

RXID **A000012345678**

CMPCARE **S01**

HMSA  
Akamai Advantage®

MEDICARE  
ADVANTAGE | **HMO**

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## WHEN A PATIENT BRINGS YOU THIS... STILL WORKING, 60 EMPLOYEES

**MEDICARE HEALTH INSURANCE**

Name/Nombre  
**JOHN L SMITH**

Medicare Number/Número de Medicare  
**1EG4-TE5-MK72**

Entitled to/Con derecho a  
**PART A**  
**PART B**

Coverage starts/Cobertura empieza  
**03-03-2016**  
**03-03-2016**

**RLI**

**Employee**

Regis Logistics, Inc.  
Group #: 5280600  
Member Name: LEE PEARSON  
Member ID #: LMP5309867

Medical Coverage: Copays:  
Office Visit: \$25  
Urgent Care: \$50  
ER: \$250

**Pharmacy Plan**

HealthSmartRx Solutions  
Rx BIN #: 012501  
Rx PCN #: AME55599  
Rx GRP #: AGN-ISOX

**HealthSmart**  
PREFERRED

HealthSmart Preferred  
Network Provider Info:  
800-687-0500  
www.healthsmart.com

Verify Eligibility & Benefits through HealthSmart

**Eligibility & Claims**

Check Eligibility & Claim Status at HealthSmart:  
Payer Name: HealthSmart (EDI # 37283)  
HealthSmart.com/providercenter

Submit Claims to:  
HealthSmart Benefit Solutions, Inc.  
PO Box 93670  
Lubbock, TX 79493  
Provider Support: 877-782-6828

2

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## WHEN A PATIENT BRINGS YOU THIS... AUTO ACCIDENT

**MEDICARE HEALTH INSURANCE**

Name/Nombre  
**JOHN L SMITH**

Medicare Number/Número de Medicare  
**1EG4-TE5-MK72**

Entitled to/Con derecho a  
**PART A**  
**PART B**

Coverage starts/Coertura empieza  
**03-03-2016**  
**03-03-2016**

2

**YM Farm**  
YM INSURANCE INFORMATION

INSURED **JOE, JOHN M & JAMES Z**

POLICY NUMBER **999 8920-E05-25A**  
YR **2008** MAKE **HONDA**

AGENT **Rocky BolBao** EFFECTIVE **12/1/2016 TO 12/31/2017**  
PHONE **(309) 555-7777** VIN **1BoX1N6FoRL1F31ZX**

BODILY INJURY / PROPERTY DAMAGE  
MEDICAL PAYMENT  
COMPREHENSIVE  
COLLISION  
EMERGENCY ROAD SERVICE  
PPV F SERVICE

1

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## WHEN A PATIENT BRINGS YOU THIS...

Dual Eligible MA Patient

**MEDICARE HEALTH INSURANCE**

Name/Nombre  
**JOHN**

Medicare Number/Número de Medicare  
**1EG4-TE5-MK72**

Entitled to/Con derecho a  
**PART A**  
**PART B**

Coverage starts/Coertura empieza  
**03-03-2016**  
**03-03-2016**

1

**OptimaHealth**

OPTIMA FAMILY CARE  
MEDICAID XP  
Member Name: JOHN DOE  
Member Number: 9999999999  
Group Number: OFC  
Member Effective Date: 01-01-19  
PCP Name: JANE DOE  
PCP Phone: 999-999-9999

Medicaid #: 999999999999  
DOB: 99/99/9999

Detailed benefit information is available at [optimahealth.com](http://optimahealth.com)

2

**hmsa**  
Essential Advantage (HMO)

Subscriber Name  
**KIMO M ALOHA**

Subscriber ID  
**XLKA000012345678**

PLAN (80840) MEDICAL T-C  
RXBIN **004336** PART D **885**  
RXPCN **MED04DV**  
RXGRP **RX8645**  
RXID **A000012345678**

Group **M12480** Medicare Rx  
CMS H7317 001

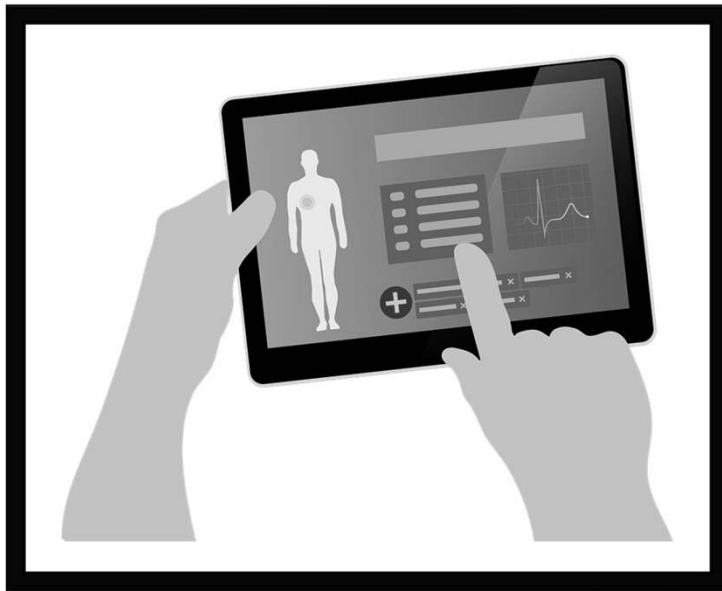
Primary Care Provider  
DR MOKI HANA

CMPCARE **S01**

HMSA  
Akamai Advantage

MEDICARE HMO

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## **CHIROPRACTIC COVERAGE AND CLINICAL DOCUMENTATION REQUIREMENTS**

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## **MEDICARE COVERAGE OF CHIROPRACTIC (NATIONAL POLICY)**

### **Medicare Benefit Policy Manual Chapter 15 – Covered Medical and Other Health Services**

**Table of Contents**  
*(Rev. 10639, 03-12-21)*  
*(Rev. 10573, 03-24-21)*

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## MEDICARE COVERAGE OF CHIROPRACTIC

### 30.5 - Chiropractor's Services

(Rev. 23, Issued: 10-08-04, Effective: 10-01-04, Implementation: 10-04-04)  
B3-2020.26

A chiropractor must be licensed or legally authorized to furnish chiropractic services by the State or jurisdiction in which the services are furnished. In addition, a licensed chiropractor must meet the following uniform minimum standards to be considered a physician for Medicare coverage. Coverage extends only to treatment by means of manual manipulation of the spine to correct a subluxation provided such treatment is legal in the State where performed. All other services furnished or ordered by chiropractors are not covered.

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## MAINTENANCE THERAPY

### B. Maintenance Therapy

Under the Medicare program, Chiropractic maintenance therapy is not considered to be medically reasonable or necessary, and is therefore not payable. Maintenance therapy is defined as a treatment plan that seeks to prevent disease, promote health, and prolong and enhance the quality of life; or therapy that is performed to maintain or prevent deterioration of a chronic condition. When further clinical improvement cannot reasonably be expected from continuous ongoing care, and the chiropractic treatment becomes supportive rather than corrective in nature, the treatment is then considered maintenance therapy. For information on how to indicate on a claim a treatment is or is not maintenance, see §240.1.3.

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An x-ray may be used to document subluxation. The x-ray must have been taken at a time reasonably proximate to the initiation of a course of treatment. Unless more specific x-ray evidence is warranted, an x-ray is considered reasonably proximate if it was taken no more than 12 months prior to or 3 months following the initiation of a course of chiropractic treatment. In certain cases of chronic subluxation (e.g., scoliosis), an older x-ray may be accepted provided the beneficiary's health record indicates the condition has existed longer than 12 months and there is a reasonable basis for concluding that the condition is permanent. A previous CT scan and/or MRI is acceptable evidence if a subluxation of the spine is demonstrated.

## **ESTABLISH MEDICAL NECESSITY**

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## **CONDITIONS THAT WARRANT ACTIVE TREATMENT**

- Acute subluxation-A patient's condition is considered acute when the patient is being treated for a new injury, identified by x-ray or physical exam as specified above. The result of chiropractic manipulation is expected to be an improvement in, or arrest of progression, of the patient's condition.

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## **CONDITIONS THAT WARRANT ACTIVE TREATMENT**

- Chronic subluxation-A patient's condition is considered chronic when it is not expected to significantly improve or be resolved with further treatment (as is the case with an acute condition), but where the continued therapy can be expected to result in some functional improvement. Once the clinical status has remained stable for a given condition, without expectation of additional objective clinical improvements, further manipulative treatment is considered maintenance therapy and is not covered.

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## **HOW MANY VISITS....**

### **240.1.5 - Treatment Parameters**

(Rev. 23, Issued: 10-08-04, Effective: 10-01-04, Implementation: 10-04-04)

B3-2251.5

The chiropractor should be afforded the opportunity to effect improvement or arrest or retard deterioration in such condition within a reasonable and generally predictable period of time. Acute subluxation (e.g., strains or sprains) problems may require as many as three months of treatment but some require very little treatment. In the first several days, treatment may be quite frequent but decreasing in frequency with time or as improvement is obtained.

Chronic spinal joint condition implies, of course, the condition has existed for a longer period of time and that, in all probability, the involved joints have already "set" and fibrotic tissue has developed. This condition may require a longer treatment time, but not with higher frequency.

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## **LCD'S AND LCA'S**

- **LCD= LOCAL COVERAGE DETERMINATION**
  - Provides information on how to establish medical necessity, limitations and documentation requirements for initial and subsequent visits (Palmetto LCD is document L37387)
- **LCA= LOCAL COVERAGE ARTICLE**
  - Provides Billing and Coding Guidance (Palmetto LCA is Document A56616)

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## **• LCD/LCA RULES**

- Always use the LCD/LCA for your MAC (Medicare Administrative Contractor)
- Always use the most recent version

**LCD'S AND LCA'S**

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## Jurisdiction M Part B MAC

Part B Providers in North and South Carolina, Virginia and West Virginia

### HOW TO FIND YOUR LCD/LCA

COVID-19

AMBULANCE PA

OUTPATIENT DEPARTMENT PA

PROVIDER ENROLLMENT

CLAIMS PAYMENT ISSUES LOG

FEE SCHEDULES

CERT

MEDICAL POLICIES

IMPORTANT UPDATE

#### MEDICAL REVIEW: RESPONDING TO ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION REQUEST (ADRS)

You can respond to ADRs in several ways: eServices, portal, esMD (Electronic Submission of Medical Documentation), or mail in your form. The fastest and easiest is through our eServices portal. [Learn More >](#)

#### EDUCATIONAL EVENTS

##### UPCOMING EVENTS

4/18 JM Provider Enrollment Open House: April 18, 2023 **REGISTRATION CLOSED**

Hot Topic Tuesday Teleconference: April 18, 2023 **REGISTER - 3 DAYS LEFT**

Successful Submission of an Immediate Offset Request Webinar: April 18, 2023 **REGISTER - 3 DAYS LEFT**

4/20 Meet with Your MAC: April 20, 2023 **REGISTRATION CLOSED**

[View All Events](#)

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## Medical Policies

Proposed LCD Status Report

Frequently Asked Questions

Informal Meetings or New LCD Requests

LCD Development Meetings

LCD Reconsideration Process

LCDs, NCDs, Coverage Articles

Contact Medical Affairs  
Our representatives are ready to assist you.

## LCDs, NCDs, Coverage Articles

Published 03/02/2023

### Local Coverage Determinations (LCDs)

- Proposed LCDs
- Active LCDs
- Future Effective LCDs
- Retired LCDs
- MCD Archive
  - Proposed LCDs one year after being released to the final LCD
  - Retired LCDs and articles one year after their retirement dates
  - Superseded versions of active LCDs and articles after one year
  - All ICD-9 LCDs and articles now reside on the MCD archive

### Articles

- MCD Articles
- Local Coverage Article for Self-Administered Drug Exclusion List (A53066)
- Local Coverage Article for Billing and Coding: Independent Diagnostic Testing Facilities (IDTF) (A58559)

### National Coverage Determinations (NCDs)

- NCDs
- The link to the [Reconsideration Process](#) must be used for any suggested changes to the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS). Only CMS can update NCDs.

The table below provides a current list of all active LCD and MCD articles.

LCD ID	Article	CPT*/HCPCS

Consent Form  
View the Consent to Public Disclosure of Participation form

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Document starting with "L" is the LCD for Clinicians

Document starting with "A" is the Billing and Coding Article

Chemodenervation	L33458	Billing and Coding: Chemodenervation	A56646	64611, 64612, 64615, 64616, 64617, 64642, 64643, 64644, 64645, 64646, 64647, 64650, 64653, 64999, 67345, 95873, 95874, J0585, J0586, J0587, J0588	B	FEEDBACK
Chiropractic Services	L37387	Billing and Coding: Chiropractic Services	A56616	98940, 98941, 98942	B	
				90785, 90791, 90792, 96127, 96146, 96160, 96161, 99202, 99203, 99204, 99205, 99211,		

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NOVITAS SOLUTIONS

Medicare JL  
Providers in DC, DE, MD, NJ & PA

Effective end of day May 11, 2023, the Department of Health and Human Services intends to end the federal Public Health Emergency (PHE) for the COVID-19 pandemic. As we move forward, many of the flexibilities and waivers instituted during the PHE are now permanent or extended due to Congressional action, while others may expire as they were intended to address the rapidly changing pandemic, not to permanently replace standing guidelines. To assist you in navigating this transition, Novitas developed consolidated resources categorizing relevant CMS instruction for services provided during the PHE and after the PHE ends.

- Coronavirus (COVID-19) Information
- COVID-19 vaccine and monoclonal antibodies

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Our education event process has changed for the better!  
Our process will be easier, faster, and better! Click here to learn more. (4/6)

**Novitasphere**  
All users must log in to Novitasphere at least once every 30 days to maintain access.  
Sign up | Login

Change provider location or address  
Deductibles / Coinsurance / Therapy thresholds  
Enrollment forms - CMS-855  
Claim processing issues  
Modifiers  
Medicare overpayments

**Resource Center**  
Avoid

COVID-19 vaccine

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**Medicare JL**  
Providers in DC, DE, MD, NJ & PA

**View & Search Active or Retired Local Coverage Determinations (LCDs)**

Find LCDs by using our Medical Policy Search Tool, browsing the active policy index for a complete listing of active LCDs and Articles, and by viewing the retired LCDs and Articles index.

- FastTrack to Medicare Coverage Policies Tool**  
Do you find it challenging to identify a Medicare coverage policy concerning a particular item or service? Not sure what to do if a Medicare coverage policy doesn't exist? The FastTrack to Medicare Coverage Policies tool provides a hierarchy of critical resources to determine if a Medicare policy exists, and if not, what to do next.
- Medical Policy Search Tool**  
Try our Medical Policy Search Tool. It is a fast and easy way to search for articles, LCDs or NCDs. Please keep in mind that not every service will have an LCD or NCD. In the absence of an LCD, NCD, or CMS Manual Instruction, Reasonable and Necessary guidelines still apply.
- List of All Active LCDs and Articles (including Response to Comment Articles)**  
For convenience, we have created an alphabetical listing of all active LCDs and Articles. The applicable CPT/HCPCS codes are listed to the right of each LCD and/or Article. Refer to the hyperlinked LCD and/or Article for specific information. In the absence of a LCD, NCD, or CMS Manual Instruction, Reasonable and Necessary guidelines still apply.
- List of All Retired LCDs and Articles**  
If an LCD or Article has been retired, they are still accessible using our Retired LCD and Article listing. LCDs and Articles that have been retired for less than one year remain on the Medicare Coverage Database (MCD). LCDs and Articles that have been retired one year or more are housed on the MCD Archive. If you do not see the LCD or Article that you are looking for in the list below, try searching the MCD Archive.
- National Coverage Determinations**  
In the absence of a Local Coverage Determination, National Coverage Determination, or the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services Manual Instruction, reasonable and necessary guidelines still apply.

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(Rev. 10573, 03-24-21)

**Chapter 15 – Covered Medical and Other Health Services**

Cardiac Event Detection Monitoring	<a href="#">L34953</a>	<a href="#">A56600</a>	93268, 93270, 93271, 93272
Cardiac Rhythm Device Evaluation	<a href="#">L34833</a>	<a href="#">A56602</a>	93260, 93261, 93279, 93280, 93281, 93282, 93283, 93284, 93286, 93287, 93288, 93289, 93292, 93293, 93294, 93295, 93296, 93724
Cardiology Non-emergent Outpatient Stress Testing	<a href="#">L35083</a>	<a href="#">A56423</a>	0742T, 75559, 75563, 78429, 78430, 78431, 78432, 78433, 78434, 78459, 78491, 78492, 78451, 78452, 78453, 78454, 93015, 93016, 93017, 93018, 93350, 93351, 93352
Cataract Extraction (including Complex Cataract Surgery)	<a href="#">L35091</a>	<a href="#">A56615</a>	66840, 66850, 66852, 66920, 66940, 66982, 66983, 66984, 66987, 66988
Chiropractic Services		<a href="#">A58345</a>	98940, 98941, 98942
Colon Capsule Endoscopy (CCE)	<a href="#">L36807</a>	<a href="#">A56414</a>	91113
		<a href="#">A59073</a>	96360, 96361, 96365, 96366, 96367, 96368, 96369, 96370, 96371, 96372, 96373, 96374, 96375, 96376, 96377, 96379, 96401, 96402, 96405, 96406, 96409, 96411, 96413, 96415, 96416, 96417, 96420, 96422, 96423, 96425, 96440, 96446, 96450, 96521, 96522, 96523, 96542, 96549, C9399, C9487, J0129, J0248, J0485, J0491, J0517, J0565, J0638, J0717, J0896, J0897, J1300, J1301, J1442, J1447, J1602, J2182, J2323, J2353, J2354, J2357, J2506, J2786, J2793, J3245, J3357, J3358, J3380, J3590, Q5101, Q5108, Q5110, Q5111, Q5120, Q5122, Q9989
Compounded Drugs Used in an		<a href="#">A54100</a>	10475, 10278, 17000

**Medicare Benefit Policy Manual**  
**Chapter 15 – Covered Medical and Other Health Services**

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If there is NO LCD, the NCD (National Coverage Documents) will apply

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# ADDITIONAL AIDS FOR DOCUMENTATION COMPLIANCE

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**2021-03****Date**

2021-03


**Topic** Provider Compliance**Title** Medicare Documentation Job Aid For Doctors of  
Chiropractic**Format**

Educational Tool

**ICN:** MLN1232664

**Publication Description:** A new Medicare Documentation Job Aid For Doctors of Chiropractic Medicare Learning Network Fact Sheet is available. Learn about how to respond to medical records requests, documentation to support medical necessity and medical records which support “corrective treatment.”

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**mln**  
Educational Tool

KNOWLEDGE • RESOURCES • TRAINING

Print-Friendly Version

## Medicare Documentation Job Aid for Chiropractic Doctors

**What's Changed?**

No substantive content updates.

### Introduction

Has a Medicare contractor sent you a request for documentation, but you aren't sure your records comply? This job aid is designed to help you (chiropractic doctors) respond to documentation requests.

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### Documentation Guidance

Documentation guidance includes, but is not limited to:

**Patient Information**

- Include the patient's name and date of service on all documentation

**Subluxation**

- Include documentation of subluxation demonstrated by x-ray, date of x-ray: \_\_\_\_\_
  - Include a CT scan and or MRI demonstrating subluxation of spine.
  - Include documentation of your review of the x-ray, MRI, or CT, noting level of subluxation.
  - Include x-rays taken within 12 months before or 3 months following the beginning of treatment.
- In certain cases of chronic subluxation (for example, scoliosis), Medicare may accept an older x-ray if the patient's health record indicates the condition existed longer than 12 months and it is reasonable to conclude the condition is permanent.

Or

- Include documentation of subluxation demonstrated by physical examination. Documentation must show at least 2 elements of Pain, Asymmetry/misalignment, Range of motion abnormality, Tissue tone changes (P.A.R.T.), including 1 that falls under Asymmetry/misalignment or Range of motion abnormality.
  - Include dated documentation of initial evaluation
  - Include primary diagnosis of subluxation (including level of subluxation)
  - Include documentation of presence or absence of subluxation for every visit
  - Include any documentation supporting medical necessity

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### Initial Evaluation

- History
  - Date of initial treatment
  - Description of current illness
  - Symptoms directly related to level of subluxation causing patient to seek treatment
  - Family history, if relevant (recommended)
  - Past health history (recommended)
  - Mechanism of trauma (recommended)
  - Quality and character of symptoms or problem (recommended)
  - Onset, duration, intensity, frequency, location, and radiation of symptoms (recommended)
  - Aggravating or relieving factors (recommended)
  - Prior interventions, treatments, medication, and secondary complaints (recommended)
- Contraindications (for example, risk of injury to patient from dynamic thrust or discussion of risk with patient) (recommended)
- Physical examination (P.A.R.T.)
  - Evaluation of musculoskeletal and nervous system through physical examination
- Documentation of presence or absence of subluxation for every visit
- Treatment given on day of visit (if applicable)
  - Include specific areas and levels of the spine where manipulation was performed.
  - Medicare may cover treatment performed using hand-held devices; however, Medicare does not offer additional payment or recognize an extra charge for use of the device.

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### Treatment Plan

- Frequency and duration of visits (recommended)
- Specific treatment goals (recommended)
- Objective measures to evaluate treatment effectiveness (recommended)

### Subsequent Visit

- History
  - Review of chief complaint
  - Changes since last visit
  - System review, if relevant
- Physical examination (P.A.R.T.)
  - Assessment of change in patient condition since last visit
  - Evaluation of treatment effectiveness
- Documentation of presence or absence of subluxation for every visit
- Treatment given on day of visit (include specific areas and levels of spine where manipulation was performed)

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### General Guidelines

- Make sure medical records submitted show that the service is a corrective treatment, rather than maintenance
  - For Medicare purposes, place an AT modifier on a claim when you provide active or corrective treatment to treat acute or chronic subluxation
    - Do not use Modifier AT when you perform maintenance therapy
    - Only use modifier AT when chiropractic manipulation is reasonable and necessary as defined by national and local policy
    - **Note:** Presence of the AT modifier may not indicate the service is reasonable and necessary. As always, contractors may deny after medical review.
- Make sure you know these policies, along with any local coverage determination in your area, to better understand how active or corrective chiropractic services are covered.
- Submit records for all dates of service on a claim
- Make sure documentation is legible and complete, including signatures
- Include legible signatures and credentials of professionals providing services
  - If signatures are missing or illegible, include a completed signature attestation statement.
  - For illegible signatures, include a signature log.
  - For electronic health records, include a copy of electronic signature policy and procedures describing how notes and orders are signed and dated. Validating electronic signatures depends on obtaining this information.
- Include abbreviation key (if applicable)
- Include any other documentation to support medical necessity of services billed, as well as documentation specifically requested in an additional documentation request (ADR) letter
- Include a copy of the Advance Beneficiary Notice of Noncoverage (if applicable)

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## CODING AND BILLING

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## CPT CODES THAT ARE COVERED

- 98940- CMT 1-2 Regions
- 98941- CMT 3-4 Regions
- 98942- CMT 5 Regions

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ACCEPT ASSIGNMENT		NO ASSIGNMENT		
Proc. Code & Modifier	Par Fee	Non-Par Fee	Limiting Charge	Effective Date
98940	\$27.61	\$26.23	\$30.16	01/01/2023
# 98940	\$21.91	\$20.81	\$23.93	01/01/2023
98941	\$39.77	\$37.78	\$43.45	01/01/2023
# 98941	\$33.73	\$32.04	\$36.85	01/01/2023
98942	\$51.60	\$49.02	\$56.37	01/01/2023
# 98942	\$45.56	\$43.28	\$49.77	01/01/2023

\* Click on a row to view additional information about the Procedure Code

# - These amounts apply when services is performed in a facility setting.

C - The payment for the technical component is capped at the OPPS amount.

Limiting charge applies to unassigned claims by non-participating providers.

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## ABOUT THE NON-PAR LIMITING CHARGE

- **Limiting Charge:** Only applies when the provider chooses not to accept assignment. (Patient pays up front)
- **The Limiting Charge** is the maximum amount a nonparticipating provider may legally charge a beneficiary when filing an unassigned claim.

<https://medicarepaymentandreimbursement.com/>

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## PRIMARY DX CODES-SUBLUXATION (SEGMENTAL AND SOMATIC DYSFUNCTION)

- M99.01- OF CERVICAL REGION
- M99.02- OF THORACIC REGION
- M99.03- OF LUMBAR REGION
- M99.04- OF SACRAL REGION
- M99.05- OF PELVIC REGION

THESE ARE THE ONLY CODES  
PERMITTED IN BOX 21A OF THE  
CMS 1500 CLAIM FORM

MEDICARE CODES: THESE  
CODES ARE NOT NORMALLY  
USED IN COMMERCIAL PAYER  
SCENARIOS

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**-AT:** Appended to CMT code to indicate patient is undergoing **ACUTE TREATMENT** to correct a Subluxation

**-GA:** Appended to CMT code to indicate that the patient is no longer under Active Treatment and they have signed an **Advance Beneficiary Notice, choosing OPTION 1** (more on this later)

**-GY:** Appended to all **Statutorily NON COVERED** services that may be billed to Medicare

**-GP:** Appended to Physical Therapy codes 97xxx to indicate the patient is under a **Physical Therapy Plan of Care**

## COMMON MODIFIERS USED IN CHIROPRACTIC BILLING OF MEDICARE B

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## EXCERPTS FROM PALMETTO GBA LCA

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For Medicare purposes, a chiropractor **must** place an AT modifier on a claim when providing active/corrective treatment to treat acute or chronic subluxation. However the presence of the AT modifier may not in all instances indicate that the service is reasonable and necessary. As always, contractors may deny if appropriate after medical review.

## THE -AT MODIFIER

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### Coding Information

#### CPT/HCPCS Codes

#### Group 1 Paragraph:

N/A

#### Group 1 Codes:

CODE	DESCRIPTION
98940	CHIROPRACTIC MANIPULATIVE TREATMENT (CMT); SPINAL, 1-2 REGIONS
98941	CHIROPRACTIC MANIPULATIVE TREATMENT (CMT); SPINAL, 3-4 REGIONS
98942	CHIROPRACTIC MANIPULATIVE TREATMENT (CMT); SPINAL, 5 REGIONS

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<b>CPT/HCPCS Modifiers</b>	
<b>Group 1 Paragraph:</b>	
N/A	
<b>Group 1 Codes:</b>	
<b>CODE</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>
AT	ACUTE TREATMENT (THIS MODIFIER SHOULD BE USED WHEN REPORTING SERVICE 98940, 98941, 98942)

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<b>ICD-10-CM Codes that Support Medical Necessity</b>	
<b>Group 1 Paragraph:</b>	
The use of an ICD-10-CM code listed below does not assure coverage of a service. The service must be reasonable and necessary in the specific case and must meet the criteria specified in the Chiropractic Services L37387 LCD.	
<b>Group 1 Codes:</b>	
<b>CODE</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>
M99.01	Segmental and somatic dysfunction of cervical region
<b>CODE</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>
M99.02	Segmental and somatic dysfunction of thoracic region
M99.03	Segmental and somatic dysfunction of lumbar region
M99.04	Segmental and somatic dysfunction of sacral region
M99.05	Segmental and somatic dysfunction of pelvic region

**PALMETTO LCA**

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## NOVITAS LCA

### Group 1 Codes: (12 Codes)

CODE	DESCRIPTION
M99.00	Segmental and somatic dysfunction of head region
M99.01	Segmental and somatic dysfunction of cervical region
M99.02	Segmental and somatic dysfunction of thoracic region
M99.03	Segmental and somatic dysfunction of lumbar region
M99.04	Segmental and somatic dysfunction of sacral region
M99.05	Segmental and somatic dysfunction of pelvic region
M99.10	Subluxation complex (vertebral) of head region
M99.11	Subluxation complex (vertebral) of cervical region
M99.12	Subluxation complex (vertebral) of thoracic region
M99.13	Subluxation complex (vertebral) of lumbar region
M99.14	Subluxation complex (vertebral) of sacral region
M99.15	Subluxation complex (vertebral) of pelvic region

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### BILLING MEDICARE FOR STATUTORILY NON-COVERED SERVICES

- You are not required to bill for non covered services (ie: exams, xrays, therapy) **BUT**
- Patients may want you to file the claim
- Patient may have a true secondary
- Medicare may be a secondary payer

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## BILLING MEDICARE ADVANTAGE PLANS

- Understand your contracts: Are you IN or OUT of Network with the MA plan?
- ALWAYS verify coverage and benefits
- NOTIFY patient in advance if you are OON and there are no benefits
- Most MA Plans follow Medicare Guidelines, some have expanded coverage
- Some MA plans do not honor the AT modifier

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## DEEMED PROVIDER UNDER MA PLANS

- When an enrollee in a private fee for service (PFFS) plan offered by a Medicare Advantage (MA) Organization obtains services from a provider, then for those services, that provider is classified into one of the following three mutually exclusive provider types:
- A provider is a **direct-contracting** provider if that provider has a direct contract (that is, a signed contract) with the MA Organization (*meaning they are already contracted as an "in network" provider in that plan*)
- A provider is a **deemed-contracting** provider if:
  - The provider is aware in advance of furnishing services, that the person receiving the services is enrolled in a PFFS plan
  - The provider has **reasonable access** to the plan's terms and conditions of payment; and the service provided is covered by the plan
- A provider is **non-contracting provider** if that provider does not have a direct *contract* and is not **deemed**

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### DEEMED PROVIDER UNDER MA PLANS

- A provider is "aware in advance" of enrollment if notice of enrollment for this enrollee was obtained from:
  - The enrollee (e.g., presentation of an enrollment card)
  - CMS
  - A Medicare intermediary
  - A carrier
  - The MA Organization itself
- A provider has "reasonable access" to the plan's terms and conditions of payment if the plan makes accessible its terms and conditions of payment through:
  - Mail
  - E-mail
  - Fax
  - Telephone
  - A plan Web site

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### EXAMPLE OF DEEMING

- The following examples illustrate typical situations in which the provider becomes deemed contracting:
  - An enrollee walks into a physician's office for the first time, advises the physician that he or she is a member of the PFFS plan and presents his or her plan enrollment card.
  - **Since the provider had the opportunity to call the plan phone number on the enrollee card, the provider is considered deemed contracting as soon as s/he provides services, even though the provider did not actually check the terms and conditions of payments.**
  - **Once the provider is "DEEMED" they must accept terms of payment and reimbursement. So if there are no benefits, and the provider did not notify the patient in advance that they were out of network with their plan, the provider could not balance bill the patient for the non covered services.**

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<p><b>MEDICARE B AND MEDICARE ADVANTAGE TIMELY FILING</b></p>	<p><b>1 YEAR</b> FROM DATE OF SERVICE</p>
---	---

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<p><b>14 BUSINESS DAYS FROM THE DATE IT IS ACCEPTED FOR ADJUDICATION</b></p>
<p>MEDICARE PROCESSING TIME</p>

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ABN'S (ADVANCE BENEFICIARY NOTICES) are used to inform patients that certain services and procedures may not be covered, and they may be financially liable.

ABN's are used in all practice settings, with all types of insurance companies, including Medicare B, Medicare Advantage, and Commercial Payers.

Failure to Notify patients in advance that a service might not be covered could result in the provider having to write off the entire claim, if not paid

## ABN'S

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# THE MEDICARE ABN

## BACKGROUND

You must issue an ABN:

- When an item or service is not reasonable and necessary under Medicare Program standards, including care that is:
  - Experimental and investigational or considered “research only”
  - **Not indicated for diagnosis or treatment in this case**
  - Not considered safe and effective
  - More than the number of services Medicare allows in a specific period for the corresponding diagnosis

Excerpt from MLN: **ICN MLN909183 July 2020**

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Generally, CMS recognizes three events known as “ABN Triggering Events” where a supplier must furnish an ABN to a beneficiary prior to furnishing items or services. These three events are:

- a) **Initiation** – At the beginning of a new patient encounter, start of a plan of care, or beginning of treatment, a supplier must issue an ABN to the beneficiary if the supplier knows or reasonably believes that Medicare is likely going to deny payment.
- b) **Reduction** – A supplier must issue an ABN to a beneficiary if there is a reduction in the patient’s care plan and the patient would like to continue receiving care that is no longer considered medically reasonable or necessary.
- c) **Termination** – A supplier must issue an ABN to a beneficiary if there is a discontinuation of certain items or services and the beneficiary would like to continue receiving care that is no longer medically reasonable and necessary.

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## CHANGES TO ABN RULES AS OF 10/14/21

- Beginning on October 14, 2021 (“Effective Date”), suppliers must use the updated and revised ABN guidelines found in Chapter 30, Section 50 of the *Medicare Claims Processing Manual*. A few of the key provisions that were revised include:
  - (i) the events that trigger the furnishing of an ABN,
  - (ii) general notice preparation requirements,
  - (iii) the furnishing of ABNs to dual eligible individuals, and (iv) the period of effectiveness.

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Prior to the July 14, 2021, revisions, ABNs were effective for up to one year. However, as of the Effective Date of revised provisions, **a valid ABN will remain effective indefinitely** so long as there is no change in:

- the patient's plan of care;
- the beneficiary's health status that would require a change in treatment for the non-covered condition; and/or
- there are changes to the Medicare coverage guidelines for the items or services in question.

If any of the above-mentioned criteria changes during the course of treatment, the supplier must issue a new ABN to the beneficiary. If the beneficiary is receiving items or services that are repetitive or continuous in nature, the supplier may issue another ABN after the first year, but it will no longer be required to do so.

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## **THE MEDICARE ABN AND CHIROPRACTIC**

- ONLY MEDICARE PART B
- ONLY FOR SPINAL MANIPULATIONS
- OTHER SERVICES UNDER A VOLUNTARY ABN
- USE THE MOST CURRENT FORM Form CMS-R-131 (Exp.01/31/2026)
- ISSUE ABN WHEN YOU BELIEVE MEDICARE WILL STOP PAYING
- ISSUE NEW ABN IF THERE IS A NEW TX PLAN/NEW DX
- NO LONGER NECESSARY TO FILL OUT ANNUALLY (AS OF OCT 15<sup>TH</sup> 2021)

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A. Notifier: &lt;YOUR CLINIC HERE&gt;

B. Patient Name:

C. Identification Number:

**Advance Beneficiary Notice of Non-coverage (ABN)**

**NOTE:** If Medicare doesn't pay for Spinal Manipulations below, you may have to pay. Medicare does not pay for everything, even some care that you or your health care provider have good reason to think you need. We expect Medicare may not pay for the Spinal Manipulations below.

D.	E. Reason Medicare May Not Pay:	F. Estimated Cost
98940: 1-2 Region Spinal Manipulation	Medicare only covers chiropractic treatment to correct a spinal misalignment (subluxation).	98940 - \$40.00 98941 - \$55.00 98942 - \$70.00
98941: 3-4 Region Spinal Manipulation	Maintenance treatment is not a covered service.	
98942: 5 Region Manipulation		

**WHAT YOU NEED TO DO NOW:**

- Read this notice, so you can make an informed decision about your care.
- Ask us any questions that you may have after you finish reading.
- Choose an option below about whether to receive the Spinal Manipulations listed above.

**Note:** If you choose Option 1 or 2, we may help you to use any other insurance that you might have, but Medicare cannot require us to do this.

**G. OPTIONS: Check only one box. We cannot choose a box for you.**

- ☐ **OPTION 1.** I want the Spinal Manipulations listed above. You may ask to be paid now, but I also want Medicare billed for an official decision on payment, which is sent to me on a Medicare Summary Notice (MSN). I understand that if Medicare doesn't pay, I am responsible for payment, but I can appeal to Medicare by following the directions on the MSN. If Medicare does pay, you will refund any payments I made to you, less co-pays or deductibles.
- ☐ **OPTION 2.** I want the Spinal Manipulations listed above, but do not bill Medicare. You may ask to be paid now as I am responsible for payment. I cannot appeal if Medicare is not billed.
- ☐ **OPTION 3.** I don't want the Spinal Manipulations listed above. I understand with this choice I am not responsible for payment, and I cannot appeal to see if Medicare would pay.

**H. Additional Information:**

This notice gives our opinion, not an official Medicare decision. If you have other questions on this notice or Medicare billing, call 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227/TTY: 1-877-486-2048). Signing below means that you have received and understand this notice. You also receive a copy.

I. Signature:

J. Date:

CMS does not discriminate in its programs and activities. To request this publication in an alternative format, please call: 1-800-MEDICARE or email: [AltFormatRequest@cms.hhs.gov](mailto:AltFormatRequest@cms.hhs.gov).

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no person is required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is 0938-0046. The time required to complete this information collection is estimated to average 7 minutes per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering the data needed, and completing and reviewing the information collection. If you have comments concerning the accuracy of the time estimate or suggestions for improving this form, please write to: CMS, 7500 Security Boulevard, Ann Arbor, MI 48106-0001, (419) 269-0800.

Form CMS-R-131 (Exp. 06/30/2025)

Form Approved OMB No. 0938-0566

**EXAMPLE OF A  
CHIROPRACTIC ABN****REVIEW WITH  
PATIENT****DO NOT TELL THEM  
WHAT OPTION TO  
CHOOSE!**

85

A. Notifier: (NAME OF CLINIC)

B. Patient Name:

C. Identification Number:

**Advance Beneficiary Notice of Noncoverage (ABN)**

**NOTE:** If Medicare doesn't pay for THE TREATMENTS below, you may have to pay.

Medicare does not pay for everything, even some care that you or your health care provider have good reason to think you need. We expect Medicare may not pay for the D. below.

D.	E. Reason Medicare May Not Pay:	F. Estimated Cost
Examination HCPCS Codes 99202, 99203, 99212, 99213	These services are not covered by Medicare when referred or performed by a Doctor of Chiropractic.	Exam- \$50-225 Xray - \$75-125
Physical Therapy Services HCPCS Codes 97110, 97012, G0283, All 97xxx codes		Therapy - \$25 - 150 (fee schedule available)

**WHAT YOU NEED TO DO NOW:**

- Read this notice, so you can make an informed decision about your care.
- Ask us any questions that you may have after you finish reading.
- Choose an option below about whether to receive the TREATMENTS listed above.

**Note:** If you choose Option 1 or 2, we may help you to use any other insurance that you might have, but Medicare cannot require us to do this.

**G. OPTIONS: Check only one box. We cannot choose a box for you.**

- ☐ **OPTION 1.** I want the D. listed above. You may ask to be paid now, but I also want Medicare billed for an official decision on payment, which is sent to me on a Medicare Summary Notice (MSN). I understand that if Medicare doesn't pay, I am responsible for payment, but I can appeal to Medicare by following the directions on the MSN. If Medicare does pay, you will refund any payments I made to you, less co-pays or deductibles.
- ☐ **OPTION 2.** I want the D. listed above, but do not bill Medicare. You may ask to be paid now as I am responsible for payment. I cannot appeal if Medicare is not billed.
- ☐ **OPTION 3.** I don't want the D. listed above. I understand with this choice I am not responsible for payment, and I cannot appeal to see if Medicare would pay.

**H. Additional Information:** This notice is for informational purposes to inform you of your financial responsibility should you choose to have these services. You are not required to select an Option from Section G

This notice gives our opinion, not an official Medicare decision. If you have other questions on this notice or Medicare billing, call 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227/TTY: 1-877-486-2048). Signing below means that you have received and understand this notice. You also receive a copy.

I. Signature:

J. Date:

CMS does not discriminate in its programs and activities. To request this publication in an alternative format, please call: 1-800-MEDICARE or email: [AltFormatRequest@cms.hhs.gov](mailto:AltFormatRequest@cms.hhs.gov).

**EXAMPLE OF A  
VOLUNTARY  
CHIROPRACTIC ABN****NOTIFIES PATIENTS  
OF SERVICES THAT  
ARE NOT COVERED  
BY MEDICARE****INFORMATIONAL  
ONLY, PATIENT  
DOES NOT NEED TO  
CHOOSE ANY  
OPTIONS**

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**ABN'S FOR NON-PAR PROVIDERS AND DUAL ELIGIBLE PATIENTS (Medicare/Medicaid) ARE FILLED OUT SLIGHTLY DIFFERENTLY. EXAMPLES AND GUIDELINES AVAILABLE ON REQUEST.**

**SEND EMAIL TO [INFO@GOLDSTARMEDICAL.NET](mailto:INFO@GOLDSTARMEDICAL.NET)**

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## **WHAT ABOUT MEDICARE ADVANTAGE PLANS?**

- DOCUMENTATION REQUIREMENTS ARE THE SAME
- CODING REQUIREMENTS MAY BE DIFFERENT
  - Some MA plans do not recognize AT mod.
  - Some MA plans have expanded coverage
- MA plans do not recognize the Medicare ABN. They may have one of their own, or use a generic ABN

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Advance Beneficiary Notices (ABN) | x +

https://www.aetna.com/health-care-professionals/newsletters-news/office-link-updates-june-2021/medicare-updates-june-2021/advance-beneficiary-notices-abn.html

Bookmarks: G Suite - Gmail, Do..., YouTube, Gmail, MATHIS LAW LOGIN, PRO PUBLICA TREA..., Maximizer CRM Live, BAYLOR SCOTT AN..., Salary Paycheck Cal..., Identity Guard | Ide..., Reading list

**aetna** Contact us Espanol Search Explore Aetna sites

Join our network Claims Prescriptions Resources News Login

## ABNs aren't valid for Medicare Advantage members

Providers should be aware that an Advance Beneficiary Notice of Noncoverage (ABN) is not a valid form of denial notice for a Medicare Advantage member. The Original Medicare program uses ABNs — sometimes called “waivers.” But you can't use them for patients in Aetna® Medicare Advantage plans, since the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) prohibits them.

### What is and isn't covered

Providers in the Medicare program should know what services Original Medicare covers and those it does not.

Aetna Medicare Advantage plans must cover everything Original Medicare does. In some cases, they may provide coverage that is more generous. Or benefits that go beyond what's covered by Original Medicare. We urge you to call to verify coverage or if you have questions.

Providers in a Medicare Advantage plan can't charge a Medicare Advantage member for a service not covered under their plan unless that member gets a prior authorization determination (O'D) notice of denial from us before getting such services. If

**CHECK WITH  
YOUR MA  
PAYERS TO SEE  
IF THEY HAVE A  
FORM,  
OTHERWISE USE  
A GENERIC ABN**

Feedback

Type here to search 70°F Haze 4:36 PM 10/1/2021

89

YOUR CLINIC NAME YOUR CLINIC ADDRESS YOUR CLINIC CITY/STATE/ZIP

### Advance Notice of Non-Covered/Experimental Services

Patient Name:	Member ID Number:
Ordering Provider Name and NPI:	
Name of Provider(s) Rendering Services:	

Your provider has recommended that you receive the following medical service(s) / item(s)

Services/Items:	Estimated Costs:
SPINAL MANIPULATION CPT CODES 98940, 98941 AND 98942	\$45, \$55, \$75
Services/Items:	Estimated Costs:

Additional Information:  
Medicare only covers chiropractic treatment to correct a spinal misalignment (subluxation). Maintenance treatment is not a covered service.

We, \_\_\_\_\_ (name of provider rendering services), will submit a claim to your health plan, but expect that your health plan may not pay for these service(s) / item(s) because your health plan will determine that the services are:

- Not medically necessary benefits under your insurance plan; or
- Investigational under your health plan's medical policy guidelines.

The fact that your health plan may not pay for a particular item or service does not mean that you should not receive it. Please feel free to ask us to explain why your health plan may decide that the service(s) or item(s) are not medically necessary or are investigational, and why we recommend that you receive the service(s) / item(s).

Because \_\_\_\_\_ (name of provider rendering services) is contracted with your health plan, if the claim is denied for the reasons listed above, we are not allowed to bill you for the service unless you agree to pay us. The purpose of this form is to help you make an informed choice about whether you want to receive these service(s) / item(s), knowing in advance that you might have to pay for them yourself.

Choose one option, check one box, then sign and date.

☐ YES. I want to receive these items or services. I understand that:

- My health plan will not decide whether to pay unless I receive these items or services and my provider submits a claim to my health plan.
- My health plan will decide whether to pay based on the claim my provider submits, any supporting medical records, the terms of my benefit plan, and current My health plan medical policy guidelines.
- If My health plan denies the claim as not medically necessary or investigational, or I exceed the number of visits authorized by my health plan, I will have to pay for these services myself, and I agree to be personally and fully responsible for payment.
- If My health plan does pay the claim, you will refund to me any advance payments I made to you that are due to me.
- I can appeal My health plan's decision to deny payment of the claim.

☐ NO. I have decided that I do not wish submit further claims to my insurance company if they are either not medically necessary or investigational under my benefit plan, or if I have exceeded the number of visits authorized by my health plan. I understand that I will be afforded the option to pay cash for these services at a time of service discount.

☐ NO. I do not wish to have these services performed.

Signature of patient or person acting on patient's behalf \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

If a payer specific ABN is not available, use a generic form.

Can be used with MA and Commercial Payers for a variety of scenarios

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# NEW ABN MANDATORY AS OF 6/30/2023

- The current ABN Form Expires 6/30/2023
- ALL PATIENTS under ABNs must be issued a new one by the expiration date of 6/30/23
- You may start using the new ABN form now, it is available

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The screenshot shows the CMS website's 'FFS ABN' page. The breadcrumb trail is: Home > Medicare > Beneficiary Notices Initiative (BNI) > FFS ABN. The sidebar on the left lists various notices: Beneficiary Notices Initiative (BNI), FFS ABN (selected), FFS HHCCN, FFS SNF ABN, HINNs, FFS & MA NOMNC/DENC, MA Denial Notice, FFS & MA IM, Statutory Guidance, and FFS & MA MOON. The main content area features a heading 'FFS ABN' followed by an announcement dated April 4, 2023, stating that the ABN form CMS-R-131 has been approved for renewal and will be mandatory on 6/30/23. It also mentions that the renewed form will be mandatory on 01/31/2026. A link is provided to the 'Medicare Claims Processing Manual, 100-4, Chapter 30 (PDF)'. A 'Note' specifies that Skilled nursing facilities (SNFs) issue the ABN to transfer potential financial liability for items/services expected to be denied under Medicare Part B only. A 'Questions?' section is at the bottom. The footer shows the URL: https://www.cms.gov/Regulations-and-Guidance/Guidance/Manuals/Downloads/cim10430.pdf. The system clock indicates 4:01 PM on 4/14/2023.

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Advance Beneficiary Notice of Noncoverage - Adobe Acrobat Pro (32-bit)

File Edit View E-Sign Window Help

Home Tools Advance Benefic...

1 / 1 150%

☐ **OPTION 1.** I want the D. \_\_\_\_\_ listed above. You may ask to be paid now, but I also want Medicare billed for an official decision on payment, which is sent to me on a Medicare Summary Notice (MSN). I understand that if Medicare doesn't pay, I am responsible for payment, but I can appeal to Medicare by following the directions on the MSN. If Medicare does pay, you will refund any payments I made to you, less co-pays or deductibles.

☐ **OPTION 2.** I want the D. \_\_\_\_\_ listed above, but do not bill Medicare. You may ask to be paid now as I am responsible for payment. I cannot appeal if Medicare is not billed.

☐ **OPTION 3.** I don't want the D. \_\_\_\_\_ listed above. I understand with this choice I am **not** responsible for payment, and I cannot appeal to see if Medicare would pay.

**H. Additional Information:**

This notice gives our opinion, not an official Medicare decision. If you have other questions on this notice or Medicare billing, call **1-800-MEDICARE** (1-800-633-4227/TTY: 1-877-486-2048). Signing below means that you have received and understand this notice. You may ask to receive a copy.

**I. Signature:** **J. Date:**

You have the right to get Medicare information in an accessible format, like large print, Braille, or audio. You also have the right to file a complaint if you feel you've been discriminated against. Visit [Medicare.gov/about-us/accessibility-nondiscrimination-notice](https://www.medicare.gov/about-us/accessibility-nondiscrimination-notice).

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are to be subjected to a burden of more than 15 minutes per response, including the time to review instructions, search existing records, gather the information, and review and prepare the response. If you have comments concerning the accuracy of the time estimate or the instructions, please contact the Office of Management and Enterprise Services, Paperwork Reduction Project (2022-01-1850).

**ALL PATIENTS MUST HAVE THIS ABN ON FILE BY 7/1/23**

OMB control number: 0938-0566. Average 7 minutes per response. If you have comments, contact the Office of Management and Enterprise Services, Paperwork Reduction Project (2022-01-1850).

**Form CMS-R-131 (Exp. 01/31/2026)** **Form Approved OMB No. 0938-0566**

1 70°F Mostly cloudy 4:03 PM 4/14/2023

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## TO OBTAIN NEW ABN TEMPLATES

- **EMAIL US! [LMOLINA@GOLDSTARMEDICAL.NET](mailto:LMOLINA@GOLDSTARMEDICAL.NET)** . Tell Liz you'd like the ABN templates!
- <https://www.cms.gov/medicare/medicare-general-information/bni/abn>
  - Scroll to the bottom of the page and find the window **DOWNLOADS**.
  - Download ABN Instructions
  - Download ABN Forms English and Spanish (ZIP)

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## MEDICARE PHONE CONTACT

### PALMETTO GBA

CUSTOMER SERVICE LINE: Call 1-855-696-0705 (Toll Free) 8:00-4:30 est

### NOVITAS SOLUTIONS

CUSTOMER SERVICE LINE: Call 877-235-8073 (Toll Free) 8:00-4:00 est

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## MEDICARE PROVIDER PORTALS

PALMETTO GBA – E-SERVICES PORTAL

NOVITAS SOLUTIONS - NOVITASPHERE

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Palmetto GBA  
A Division of UnitedHealthcare

Jurisdiction M Part B Topics - Tools - Forms - Events and Education - New to Medicare

The Palmetto GBA Provider Contact Center (PCC) will be closed 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. ET on Friday, February 11, 2022, for staff training.

## Jurisdiction M Part B MAC

Part B Providers in North and South Carolina, Virginia and West Virginia

COVID-19

AMBULANCE PA

OUTPATIENT DEPARTMENT PA

PROVIDER ENROLLMENT

CLAIMS PAYMENT ISSUES LOG

FEE SCHEDULES

CERT

MEDICAL POLICIES

**IMPORTANT UPDATE**

**COVID-19 PROVIDER ENROLLMENT AND ACCELERATED PAYMENT TELEPHONE HOTLINE**

The telephone hotline 1-833-820-6138 has been created for providers and suppliers to initiate provisional temporary Medicare billing privileges and address questions regarding provider enrollment flexibilities afforded by the COVID-19 waiver. The hotline is available Monday through Friday, from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. ET. [Learn More >](#)

**EDUCATIONAL EVENTS**

**REGISTER NOW!**

2/15 Jurisdiction J/M Part B Fee-For-Service Compensation (Formerly Known as Locum Tenens) Webinar: February 15, 2022 **REGISTER - 4 DAYS LEFT**

Hot Topic Tuesday Teleconference: February 15, 2022 **REGISTER - 3 DAYS LEFT**

2/22 Hot Topic Tuesday Teleconference: February 22, 2022

2/23 Part B Jurisdictions J and M Quarterly Updates Webinar: February 23, 2022

[View All Events](#)

**Top News**

**Cognitive Assessment**

Chat Now!

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NOVITAS SOLUTIONS

Medicare JL  
Providers in DC, DE, MD, NJ & PA

[Contact Us](#) [Join E-Mail List](#) [Policy Search](#) [Novitasphere](#) [Share Link](#)

[JL Home](#)

**Medicare Part B** [Change to A]

**JL Home**

2022 Participation

Novitasphere Portal

Appeals

CERT

Claims

Contact Us

EDUCATIONAL EVENTS

Electronic Billing-EDI

Enrollment

Evaluation & Management

Frequently Asked Questions

Fee Schedules

Forms Catalog

Join our E-mail Lists

Medical Policy / LCDs

Medical Review

News & Publications

Self-Service Tools

Specialties / Services

**Effective immediately**

## New mailing address

For appeals and general inquiries

New address for general inquiries and appeals (4/7)

**Novitasphere**

All users must log in to Novitasphere at least once every 30 days to maintain access.

[Sign up](#) [Login](#)

Change provider location or address  
Deductibles / Coinsurance / Therapy thresholds  
Enrollment forms - CHS-855  
Claim processing issues  
Modifiers  
Medicare overpayments

**Resource Center**

**COVID-19**

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## **PALMETTO GBA E-SERVICES PORTAL AND NOVITASPHERE**

- **ELIGIBILITY AND BENEFITS**
  - Does Patient have Medicare B or MA plan?
  - Is MCR Secondary?
  - Have they met their Part B Deductible?
- **CLAIM STATUS**
- **FIND EOB'S**
- **REDETERMINATIONS – 1<sup>ST</sup> LEVEL OF APPEAL**
- **MEDICAL CLAIMS ATTACHMENTS**

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## **MEDICARE CLAIMS INVESTIGATIONS**

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### Medicare Parts A & B Appeals Process



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# REOPENINGS

## Types of Reopenings

### Clerical Error Reopenings

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) defines clerical errors (including minor errors or omissions) as human or mechanical errors on the part of the party or the contractor, such as:

- Mathematical or computational mistakes
- Transposed procedure or diagnostic codes
- Inaccurate data entry
- Misapplication of a fee schedule
- Computer errors
- Denial of claims as duplicates which the party believes were incorrectly identified as a duplicate
- Incorrect data items, such as provider number, use of a modifier or date of service

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## Claim Corrections

RTP = RETURN TO PROVIDER

- The claim correction process only applies to RTP claims. A claim correction may be submitted online via the Direct Data Entry (DDE) system.
- To access RTP claims in the DDE Claims Correction screen, select option 03 (Claims Correction) from the Main Menu and the appropriate menu selection under Claims Correction (21 – Inpatient, 23 – Outpatient, 25 – SNF)
- RTP claims remain in this location (TB9997) and are available for correction for 180 days
- RTP claims are not finalized claims and do not appear on your Remittance Advice (RA). Therefore, correct the claim in DDE (xx7). Remember you cannot correct a medically denied line. You must leave those as non-covered and make necessary corrections. Once the claim processes, you may appeal any denied lines.

# CORRECTIONS

(CLAIM REJECTED – BILLING SUBMISSION ERRORS)

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## Appealing Medicare Decisions

Medicare FFS has 5 appeal process levels:

**Level 1** - MAC Redetermination

THROUGH YOUR MEDICARE  
PORTAL

**Level 2** - Qualified Independent Contractor (QIC) Reconsideration

**Level 3** - Office of Medicare Hearings and Appeals (OMHA) Disposition

**Level 4** - Medicare Appeals Council (Council) Review

**Level 5** - U.S. District Court Judicial Review

Make all appeal requests in writing.

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## First Appeal Level: MAC Redetermination

A redetermination is the first appeal level after the initial claim determination.

**Table 1. Redetermination FAQs & Answers**

Question	Answer
When must I file a request?	You must request a redetermination within <b>120 days</b> from the date you got the Electronic Remittance Advice (ERA) or Standard Paper Remittance (SPR) Advice that lists the initial determination. The receipt date is presumed to be 5 days after the notice date, unless there's evidence the determination, decision, or notice wasn't received within that time.

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How long does it take to decide?	MACs generally issue a decision within <b>60 days</b> of the redetermination request receipt date.  Your MAC tells you its decision via a Medicare Redetermination Notice (MRN), or if they reverse the initial decision and pay the claim in full, you get a revised ERA or SPR.
----------------------------------	---

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### Appeal Process Summary

Table 6. Appeal Process Summary

Level	Review Process Summary	Who decides?	When must I file a request?	How long does it take to decide?	AIC	Forms
First Level – MAC Redetermination	Document initial claim review determination	MAC	Up to 120 days after you get initial determination	60 days	No	CMS-20027 CMS-20031
Second Level – Qualified Independent Contractor (QIC) Reconsideration	Document redetermination review; send any missing appeal evidence	QIC	Up to 180 days after you get the Medicare Redetermination Notice (MRN)	60 days	No	CMS-20033
Third Level – Office of Medicare Hearings and Appeals (OMHA) Disposition	May be an interactive hearing between parties or an on-the-record review	Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) or attorney adjudicator	Up to 60 days after you get the QIC decision notice or after QIC reconsideration expiration time frame if you don't get a decision	90 days if appealing a QIC reconsideration decision or dismissal or 180 days if appeal was escalated to OMHA	Yes	OMHA-100 OMHA-100A OMHA-104
Fourth Level – Medicare Appeals Council (Council) Review	Document ALJ's review decision (you may request oral arguments)	Council	Up to 60 days after you get the OMHA's disposition notice or after expiration time frame if you don't get a decision	90 days if appealing an OMHA disposition or dismissal or 180 days if ALJ review time expired without an ALJ decision	No	DAB-101
Fifth Level – U.S. District Court Judicial Review	Judicial review	U.S. District Court	Up to 60 days after you get the Council decision notice or after Council expiration time frame if you don't get a decision	No statutory time limit	Yes	No HHS form available

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Set up Provider Portal Access

Research Policy for  
Reopenings/Corrections and Appeals

Will be different than Medicare B

Will be different based on each  
individual payer

**APPEALS  
FOR  
MEDICARE  
ADVANTAGE  
CLAIMS**

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## **MEDICARE AUDITS**

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### **PRE-PAYMENT AUDIT**

- CLAIM IS AUDITED BEFORE PAYMENT IS ISSUED.
- USUALLY AUTOMATED-CONDUCTED DURING THE CLAIMS PROCESSING PHASE
- RESULTS IN CLAIMS REJECTION (RTP)
- SOME PRE-PAYMENT AUDITS WILL RESULT IN A MEDICAL RECORDS REQUEST

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## **CERT (COMPREHENSIVE ERROR RATE TESTING) AUDIT**

- The Comprehensive Error Rate Testing (CERT) Program, established by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), calculates error rates that measure both the extent to which providers are correctly submitting claims to Medicare and the extent to which contractors (including Palmetto GBA) are correctly paying claims
- Every month, the CERT contractor selects a random sample of both paid and denied claims processed by Palmetto GBA. The CERT Contractor sends letters to the providers who submitted those claims, requesting medical records and any additional documentation that will support the service(s) that were provided.

<https://www.palmettogba.com/palmetto/jmb.nsf/DIDC/8EEL8R5556~Specialties~Chiropractic>

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## **CERT (COMPREHENSIVE ERROR RATE TESTING) AUDIT**

- **Chiropractic Medical Records and Documentation**  
Medicare requires the individual who ordered or provided services be clearly identified in the medical records. The signature for each entry must be legible and should include the practitioner's first and last name and applicable credentials, e.g., P.A., D.O. or M.D. For more information about signatures, please refer to "Medicare Medical Records: Signature Requirements, Acceptable and Unacceptable Practices" and [CMS MLN Fact Sheet Complying with Medicare Signature Requirements](#) (PDF, 838 KB).  
  
When the CERT Contractor requests documentation from doctors of chiropractic medicine, the request letter will contain specific instructions to provide records/documentation for the preceding six months prior to the date of service for the sampled claim(s), if the services in those six months are associated with the same condition(s). When you submit documentation to the CERT Contractor in response to their request, it is imperative that you include the treatment plan to support chiropractic services planned and rendered for the course of treatment.

<https://www.palmettogba.com/palmetto/jmb.nsf/DIDC/8EEL8R5556~Specialties~Chiropractic>

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**FOLLOW THE DOCUMENTATION  
REQUIREMENTS CONTAINED IN THE  
CHIROPRACTIC JOB AID**

**THEY ARE THE SAME REQUIREMENTS THAT  
ARE REVIEWED IN CERT AUDITS**

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**COMMON ERRORS FOUND IN CERT AUDITS  
OF CHIROPRACTIC CLAIMS**

Common denials seen by Palmetto from CERT contractor reviews of Chiropractic care are as follows:

- Missing treatment plan (PLAN OF CARE)
- Chief Complaint is not clearly documented
- Regions being treated are not clearly documented
- Subluxation Levels not Defined

To avoid denial of your claim(s) requested, follow the documentation guidelines previously stated. All the requested documentation must be submitted to the CERT Contractor by the deadline stated in the request. If your claim is found in error Palmetto GBA is required to recoup any payment(s) that may have been made on the claim(s).

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## RECOVERY AUDIT CONTRACTORS (RAC)

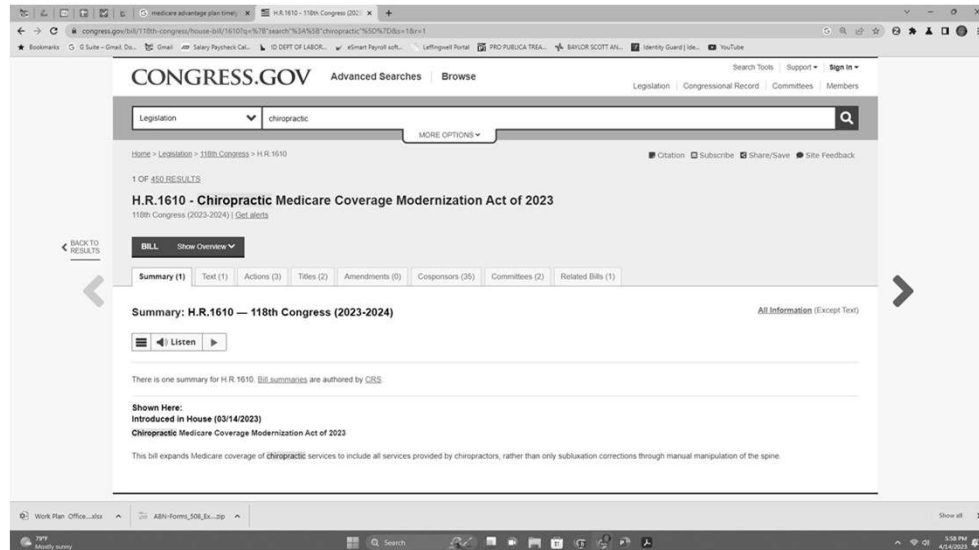
- RAC Audits usually target a specific area of Fraud, Waste and/or Abuse of the Medicare System
- Many times RAC Audits follow in the wake of the OIG Work Plans
- Much more comprehensive than CERT Audits
- Longer Look Back Period
- Extrapolation Audit
- CMS.GOV has a list of ACTIVE RAC audit topics

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The screenshot shows the CMS.gov website. At the top, a search bar contains the text "Chiropractic is currently NOT on the Active Audit list". Below the search bar, the navigation menu includes links for Home, About CMS, Newsroom, Archive, Help, and Print. The main content area is titled "Approved RAC Topics" and includes a section for "Medicare Fee for Service Recovery Audit Program". The page lists "Approved RAC Topics" and includes a search filter for "Chiropractic" which shows "No data available". The footer includes the CMS.gov logo and contact information for the U.S. Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services.

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# FEDERAL LEGISLATION AFFECTING CHIROPRACTIC



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## YOUR CONGRESSMEN

Representatives of the 118th United States Congress:

- 1st district: Rob Wittman (R) (since 2007)
- 2nd district: Jen Kiggans (R) (since 2023)
- 3rd district: Bobby Scott (D) (since 1993)
- 4th district: Jennifer McClellan (D) (since 2023)
- 5th district: Bob Good (R) (since 2021)
- 6th district: Ben Cline (R) (since 2019)
- 7th district: Abigail Spanberger (D) (since 2019)
- 8th district: Don Beyer (D) (since 2015)
- 9th district: Morgan Griffith (R) (since 2011)
- 10th district: Jennifer Wexton (D) (since 2019)
- 11th district: Gerry Connolly (D) (since 2009)

Contact Information for your  
Congressman/Woman

<https://www.congress.gov/members>

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CONGRESS.GOV Advanced Searches Browse

Legislation  MORE OPTIONS

Home > Legislation > 118th Congress > S.799

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**S.799 - Chiropractic Medicare Coverage Modernization Act of 2023**  
118th Congress (2023-2024) | [Get alerts](#)

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BILL Show Overview

Summary (0) Text (1) **Actions (1)** Titles (2) Amendments (0) Cosponsors (6) Committees (1) Related Bills (1)

**Actions Overview: S.799 — 118th Congress (2023-2024)** [All Information \(Except Text\)](#)

[Bill History — Congressional Record References](#)

Hide Filters 1 result for Actions Overview Sort by Newest to Oldest

Date	Actions Overview
03/14/2023	Introduced in Senate

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70°F Mostly sunny 6:02 PM 4/14/2023

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- Tim Kaine

<https://www.kaine.senate.gov/contact>

- Mark Warner

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**UVCA  
SAVE THE DATE!  
DEC 2, 2023 (SATURDAY)  
9AM – 5PM**

Live, IN PERSON Medicare Billing and Documentation Course  
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