

CMS Manual System	Department of Health & Human Services (DHHS)
Pub 100-04 Medicare Claims Processing	Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS)
Transmittal 3286	Date: June 26, 2015
	Change Request 9222

SUBJECT: Medicare Part A Skilled Nursing Facility (SNF) Prospective Payment System (PPS) Pricer Update FY 2016

I. SUMMARY OF CHANGES: This attachment provides information on the updates to the payment rates used under the PPS for SNFs, for FY 2016, as required by statute. The update can be found in Chapter 6, Section 30.7 of the Claims Processing Manual.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2015

**Unless otherwise specified, the effective date is the date of service.*

IMPLEMENTATION DATE: October 5, 2015

Disclaimer for manual changes only: The revision date and transmittal number apply only to red italicized material. Any other material was previously published and remains unchanged. However, if this revision contains a table of contents, you will receive the new/revised information only, and not the entire table of contents.

II. CHANGES IN MANUAL INSTRUCTIONS: (N/A if manual is not updated)

R=REVISED, N=NEW, D=DELETED-*Only One Per Row.*

R/N/D	CHAPTER / SECTION / SUBSECTION / TITLE
N/A	N/A

III. FUNDING:

For Medicare Administrative Contractors (MACs):

The Medicare Administrative Contractor is hereby advised that this constitutes technical direction as defined in your contract. CMS does not construe this as a change to the MAC Statement of Work. The contractor is not obligated to incur costs in excess of the amounts allotted in your contract unless and until specifically authorized by the Contracting Officer. If the contractor considers anything provided, as described above, to be outside the current scope of work, the contractor shall withhold performance on the part(s) in question and immediately notify the Contracting Officer, in writing or by e-mail, and request formal directions regarding continued performance requirements.

IV. ATTACHMENTS:

Recurring Update Notification

Attachment - Recurring Update Notification

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I. GENERAL INFORMATION

A. Background: Annual updates to the PPS rates are required by §1888(e) of the Social Security Act, as amended by the Medicare, Medicaid, and SCHIP Balanced Budget Refinement Act of 1999 (the BBRA), the Medicare, Medicaid, and SCHIP Benefits Improvement and Protection Act of 2000 (the BIPA), and the Medicare Prescription Drug, Improvement, and Modernization Act of 2003 (the MMA), relating to Medicare payments and consolidated billing for SNFs.

B. Policy: Each July, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) publish the SNF payment rates for the upcoming fiscal year (that is, October 1, 2015 through September 30, 2016) in the Federal Register, available online at <https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Medicare-Fee-for-Service-Payment/SNFPayment/List-of-SNF-Federal-Regulations.html>. The update methodology is identical to that used in the previous year, which includes a forecast error adjustment whenever the difference between the forecasted and actual change in the SNF market basket exceeds 0.5 percentage point. The statute mandates an update to the Federal rates using the latest SNF full market basket adjusted for productivity. The payment rates will be effective October 1, 2015.

II. BUSINESS REQUIREMENTS TABLE

"Shall" denotes a mandatory requirement, and "should" denotes an optional requirement.

Number	Requirement	Responsibility								
		A/B MAC			D M E	Shared-System Maintainers				Other
		A	B	H H H		F M V C	M I C M S S	V M S	C W F	
9222.1	Medicare systems shall apply the FY 2015 SNF PPS payment rates that are effective for service dates beginning October 1, 2015 through September 30, 2016.					X				

III. PROVIDER EDUCATION TABLE

Number	Requirement	Responsibility

		A/B MAC			D M E M A C	C E D I
		A	B	H H H		
9222.2	MLN Article: A provider education article related to this instruction will be available at http://www.cms.gov/Outreach-and-Education/Medicare-Learning-Network-MLN/MLNMattersArticles/ shortly after the CR is released. You will receive notification of the article release via the established "MLN Matters" listserv. Contractors shall post this article, or a direct link to this article, on their Web sites and include information about it in a listserv message within 5 business days after receipt of the notification from CMS announcing the availability of the article. In addition, the provider education article shall be included in the contractor's next regularly scheduled bulletin. Contractors are free to supplement MLN Matters articles with localized information that would benefit their provider community in billing and administering the Medicare program correctly.	X				

IV. SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Section A: Recommendations and supporting information associated with listed requirements:

"Should" denotes a recommendation.

X-Ref Requirement Number	Recommendations or other supporting information:
	N/A

Section B: All other recommendations and supporting information: N/A

V. CONTACTS

Pre-Implementation Contact(s): Jason Kerr, 410-786-2123 or Jason.Kerr@cms.hhs.gov , John Kane, 410-786-0557 or John.Kane@cms.hhs.gov

Post-Implementation Contact(s): Contact your Contracting Officer's Representative (COR).

VI. FUNDING

Section A: For Medicare Administrative Contractors (MACs):

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ATTACHMENTS: 0