

**MOA MEMBERS
FROM SUE A. WEINGARTNER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
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PECOS DEADLINE DELAYED UNTIL JANUARY 3, 2011

CMS has just announced that the deadline for Medicare ordering/referring doctors to be in the PECOS enrollment database has now been delayed (from April 5 2010) until January 3, 2011. (Recall that the PECOS database began in 2003, so thousands of ODs who enrolled in Medicare prior to 2003 will need to re-enroll -- on paper or online -- in Medicare as if they are enrolling for the first time.)

Also CMS plans to send a letter to all physicians who last enrolled more than 6 years ago to remind them to re-enroll. We do not believe this will be a warning letter, but more like a reminder. Officially it's still voluntary for physicians to re-enroll if their enrollment information is not in PECOS.

Members should not necessarily rely on a letter or future notification from CMS. Instead, doctors should strongly consider re-enrolling in Medicare this year if they receive such a letter OR find themselves absent from the Medicare list of "eligible" professionals for ordering/referring. The list is here:
http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MedicareProviderSupEnroll/06_MedicareOrderingandReferring.asp#TopOfPage