

Forwarded for your information:

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## **PECOS Dark Days**

Due to scheduled maintenance, the Internet-based Provider Enrollment, Chain and Ownership System (PECOS) will be unavailable from Wed Sep 29 through Sun Oct 3. Internet-based PECOS allows physicians, non-physician practitioners, providers, and other suppliers to enroll or make a change to their existing Medicare enrollment information over the Internet.

If you would like to enroll or make a change to your existing Medicare enrollment record, you can do either of the following:

- Use Internet-based PECOS prior to Wed Sep 29 or after Sun Oct 3. For more information about Internet-based PECOS, see the appropriate “Getting Started” guide available in the Downloads section at [http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MedicareProviderSupEnroll/04\\_InternetbasedPECOS.asp#TopOfPage](http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MedicareProviderSupEnroll/04_InternetbasedPECOS.asp#TopOfPage). There is a “Getting Started” guide for physicians and non-physician practitioners and one for provider and supplier organizations.
- Complete and submit the paper Medicare provider enrollment application(s) (CMS-855) along with any required supporting documentation and mail the application(s) to the appropriate Medicare carrier, fiscal intermediary, or A/B MAC. The CMS-855 forms are downloadable from the CMS forms page: [www.cms.hhs.gov/cmsforms](http://www.cms.hhs.gov/cmsforms).

If you need assistance or have questions, contact the Medicare fee-for-service contractor serving your State.

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CMS to Host Listening Session Regarding Confidential Feedback Reports and the Implementation of a Value-Based Payment Modifier for Physicians

September 24, 2010
CMS Headquarters

CMS will host a listening session on September 24th as part of the transition to a value-based purchasing program for services of physicians and certain other professionals, as well as other related provisions under the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (known as the Affordable Care Act (ACA)). The ACA contains provisions that continue and expand the Physician Feedback Program and also require implementation of a value-based payment modifier to the Fee-For-Service physician fee schedule. The purpose of the listening session is to solicit comments on approaches being considered as we implement these provisions.

Physicians, physician associations, and all others interested in the use of confidential feedback reports as one means of enhancing quality and efficiency are invited to

participate, in person or by calling in to the teleconference. The meeting is open to the public, but attendance is limited to space and teleconference lines available.

For the complete Federal Register notice, which includes registration information, visit <http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2010/pdf/2010-19128.pdf> on the web.

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## **Training Video on the Process Based Quality Improvement (PBQI) Process**

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) is pleased to announce a training video on the Process Based Quality Improvement (PBQI) Process is now available on YouTube. The training video describes the process quality measure report in detail and discusses its use for quality monitoring purposes. The process quality measure report provides home health agencies with opportunities to use process measures for process-based quality improvement (PBQI) purposes.

To access the video, please visit <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hNno1GIVAPA> on the internet.

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Tenth National Education Call on Medicare Fee-For-Service (FFS) Implementation of HIPAA Version 5010 and D.0 Transactions: “Medicare FFS 5010 Program: Taking EDI to the Next Level”

Wed Sep 29, 2pm to 3:30pm EST

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) will host its tenth national education call regarding Medicare FFS’s implementation of HIPAA Version 5010 and D.0 transaction standards on September 29, 2010. This session will focus on the TA1, 999 and 277CA transactions. Subject matter experts will review Medicare FFS specific changes as well as general information to help the audience prepare for the transition; the presentation will be followed by a Q&A session. The presentation will be available on the CMS website within 24 hours of the call by clicking on the following link: <http://www.cms.gov/Versions5010andD0/V50/list.asp>. Please bookmark this new “5010 National Calls” web page.

Target Audience: Vendors, clearinghouses, and providers who will need to make Medicare FFS specific changes in compliance with HIPAA version 5010 requirements.
Subject: Medicare Fee-For-Service (FFS) Implementation of HIPAA Version 5010 Acknowledgement Transactions (TA1, 999, 277CA)

Agenda:

- General Overview
- Medicare Specific Changes
- Timelines and Deadlines
- What you need to do to prepare

- Q & A

Conference call details:

- Date: Wed Sep 29, 2010
- Time: 2pm ET
- Conference Title: Tenth National Education Call on Medicare Fee-For Service (FFS) Implementation of HIPAA Version 5010 and D.0 Transactions

In order to receive the call-in information, you must register for the call. It is important to note that if you are planning to sit in with a group, only one person needs to register to receive the call-in data. This registration is solely to reserve a phone line, NOT to allow participation. Registration will close at 2pm ET on Tue Sep 28 or when available space has been filled. No exceptions will be made, so please be sure to register prior to this time.

1. To register for the call participants need to go to:
<http://www.eventsvc.com/palmettogba/092910>
2. Fill in all required data.
3. Verify that your time zone is displayed correctly in the drop down box.
4. Click "Register."
5. You will be taken to the "Thank you for registering" page and will receive a confirmation email shortly thereafter. Note: Please print and save this page, in the event that your server blocks the confirmation emails. If you do not receive the confirmation email, please check your spam/junk mail filter as it may have been directed there. If assistance for hearing impaired services is needed the request must be sent to medicare.ttt@palmettogba.com no later than 3 business day before the event.

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## **Version 5010 / D.0 National Calls**

Throughout the implementation of Version 5010/D.0, CMS will be hosting a variety of national education calls that will inform the Medicare Fee-for-Service provider community of the steps that they need to take in order to be ready for implementation. These calls will also give participants an opportunity to ask questions of Medicare subject matter experts. Please bookmark this link (<http://www.cms.gov/Versions5010andD0/V50/list.asp>) to the new 5010/D.0 National Calls web page to stay current on upcoming calls and view materials from past calls.

Keep Up to Date on Version 5010/D.0 and ICD-10: For the latest news and resources, please visit [www.cms.gov/Versions5010andD0](http://www.cms.gov/Versions5010andD0) for Version 5010 and <http://www.cms.gov/ICD10> for ICD-10 information.

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Now Available from CMS: Audio Transcript of the Mon Sep 13 "ICD-10 Implementation in a 5010 Environment Follow-up Conference Call"

The audio transcript of the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services' (CMS) Mon Sep 13 follow-up national provider conference call, "ICD-10 Implementation in a 5010 Environment," is now available. To access the audio transcript, go to http://www.cms.gov/ICD10/02c_CMS_Sponsored_Calls.asp#TopOfPage on the CMS website. Scroll to the bottom of the web page to the Downloads section to locate the audio file. The audio transcript is approximately 1 hour and 28 minutes in length. The written transcript will be available soon.

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***H1N1 & Seasonal Influenza Resources: What You Should Know and Do this Flu Season If You Are 65 Years and Older***

This document provides seasonal flu recommendations for adults 65 years of age and older.

<http://www.cdc.gov/flu/about/disease/65over.htm>

***H1N1 & Seasonal Influenza Resources: Influenza Vaccination Information for Health Care Workers***

This document provides lists of facts and recommendations for health care workers concerning the flu and vaccinations.

<http://www.cdc.gov/flu/HealthcareWorkers.htm>

***H1N1 & Seasonal Influenza Resources: CDC Statement on Discontinued Use of Pandemrix Influenza Vaccine in Europe***

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has become aware of recommendations made by the Finland National Institute for Health and Welfare (THL) to discontinue vaccination with Pandemrix, an adjuvanted H1N1 influenza vaccine, while an investigation is conducted looking into the observed rise in cases of narcolepsy among children and adolescents, mainly in Sweden and Finland.

[http://www.cdc.gov/vaccinesafety/Concerns/h1n1\\_narcolepsy\\_pandemrix.html](http://www.cdc.gov/vaccinesafety/Concerns/h1n1_narcolepsy_pandemrix.html)

***Questions & Answers: Seasonal Influenza***

Update of Seasonal Influenza Q&A

<http://www.cdc.gov/flu/about/qa/disease.htm>

***Questions & Answers: What's new about the flu vaccine for the 2010 – 11 flu season?***

[http://www.cdc.gov/flu/protect/vaccine/fluvox\\_whatsnew.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/flu/protect/vaccine/fluvox_whatsnew.htm)

***Questions & Answers: The Flu: Caring for Someone Sick at Home***

Learn what you can do to help your family this flu season. A [Spanish version](#) is also available.

<http://www.cdc.gov/flu/homecare/>

***Questions & Answers: 2009 – 2010 Influenza (Flu) Season***

Update on 2009-2010 Influenza (Flu) Season

<http://www.cdc.gov/flu/about/season/current-season.htm>

***Questions & Answers: Update to Misconceptions about Seasonal Influenza and Influenza Vaccines Q&A***

Update to Misconceptions about Seasonal Influenza and Influenza Vaccines Q&A  
<http://www.cdc.gov/flu/about/qa/misconceptions.htm>

***Questions & Answers: Locate all H1N1 Flu and Public Health Guidance Documents***  
<http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/guidance/>

***Food & Drug Safety: Recalls, Market Withdrawals, & Safety Alerts***

**For information on recent FDA recalls, market recalls, and safety alerts please click on the following link:**

<http://www.fda.gov/Safety/Recalls/default.htm>

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September Flu Shot Reminder

Vaccinate Early to Protect Against the Flu. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends a yearly flu vaccination as the first and most important step in protecting against flu viruses. Medicare pays for the flu vaccine and its administration for seniors and other Medicare beneficiaries with no co-pay or deductible. This year's vaccine will protect against three different flu viruses, including the H1N1 virus that caused so much illness last flu season. Take advantage of each office visit and start protecting your patients as soon as your 2010-2011 seasonal flu vaccine arrives. And, don't forget to immunize yourself and your staff. Get Your Flu Vaccine - Not the Flu.

Remember – Influenza vaccine plus its administration are covered Part B benefits. Note that influenza vaccine is NOT a Part D covered drug. For information about Medicare's coverage of the influenza vaccine and its administration, as well as related educational resources for health care professionals and their staff, please visit
<http://www.cms.gov/AdultImmunizations>.

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## **A new "twist" in the law makes it easier to save on your prescription drug costs.**

<http://www.ssa.gov/prescriptionhelp/>

Under a new law, more Medicare beneficiaries could qualify for Extra Help with their Medicare prescription drug plan costs because some things no longer count as income and resources. The Extra Help is estimated to be worth an average of \$3,900 per year. To qualify for the Extra Help, a person must be on Medicare, have limited income and resources, and reside in one of the 50 states or the District of Columbia.

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