The Medicare Shared Savings Program (Shared Savings Program) is excited to unveil an updated format of the ACO Spotlight Newsletter! We have streamlined the newsletter content to be more concise and user-friendly. The left column on this page highlights upcoming deadlines and webinars dates. The newsletter has prioritized the content to highlight activities that require immediate action, resources that are newly available, and any upcoming events.

**PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS**

**DID YOU KNOW?**

**Update: Performance Year 2016 Quality Reporting Concluded**

The 2016 GPRO Web Interface (WI) quality reporting period was briefly extended and closed on Monday, March 20th, 2017. We are pleased to share that 99 percent of ACOs completed GPRO WI reporting.

We are now working to calculate ACO performance on the CAHPS for ACOs and claims/administrative-based measures, as well as prepare the 2016 quality performance reports. We are also beginning our webinars on quality topics to go over the 2017 quality measurement approach and to support successful reporting for 2017. Please continue to watch the ACO Spotlight for webinar announcements, news, and updates.

**Claim and Claim Line Feed Formatting Changes – Effective April 2017**

Effective in April 2017, CMS will add two new files to the existing set of Claim and Claim Line Feed (CCLF) files containing new variables to allow ACOs to better analyze the utilization of services provided under benefit enhancements (e.g., Skilled Nursing Facility (SNF) data relevant to the use of the SNF 3-Day Rule Waiver), and will include Medicare Demonstration Special Processing Numbers, also referred to as Program Demo Codes. The two new files and their variables were outlined in depth at the February 1, 2017 CCLF User Group. We encourage ACOs to review the webinar’s content in the Events section of the ACO SSP Portal along with version 18 of the CCLF Information Packet available in the Resources section.
The ACO Information Center is available to answer questions related to [SSP ACO Portal](#), Managed File Transfer (MFT), and/or Claim and Claim Line Feeds (CCLFs). Call 1-888-734-6433 (select Option 2) or use TTY/TDD 1-888-734-6563.

**NOW AVAILABLE**

**Medicare Revalidation Requirements for all Medicare-Enrolled Providers & Suppliers**

We provide three opportunities throughout any given performance year for CMS to review and provide feedback on your submitted ACO Participant and SNF Affiliate List changes. As a reminder, **the first deadline to submit change requests (CRs) for CMS review is March 31, 2017.**

The Shared Savings Program requires all ACO participants to be enrolled in Medicare ([42 CFR § 425.20](#)). Section 6401 (a) of the Affordable Care Act established a requirement for all enrolled ACO providers/suppliers to revalidate their Medicare enrollment information under new enrollment screening requirements. In order to streamline the revalidation process and reduce the ACO providers/suppliers burden, CMS implemented several revalidation processing improvements. We believe these tools are helpful for reminding your ACO providers/suppliers to revalidate timely and maintain their Medicare enrollment in order to minimize any adverse impact to their ACO participant status.

The most efficient way for a provider or supplier to submit revalidation information is by using the Internet-based **Provider Enrollment Chain and Ownership System (PECOS)** on the CMS website. PECOS allows you to review information currently on file, update, and submit a revalidation via the Internet. It is important for providers and suppliers to keep all of their contact information in PECOS up-to-date so the Medicare Administrative Contractor (MAC) can contact them as needed.

A listing of all currently enrolled providers/suppliers is available by using the [Medicare Revalidation List](#). You can search for a provider/supplier by last name, first name, organization name, or by National Provider Identifier (NPI), or download a list of revalidation due dates. Those on the list due for revalidation will display a revalidation due date, all other providers/suppliers not up for revalidation will display a “TBD” (to be determined) in the due date field. The revalidation due date will be posted up to six months in advance of the revalidation due date to provide sufficient notice and time for the ACO provider/supplier to comply. The revalidation due date list is refreshed once every two months on or around the first of the month and two months of due dates are appended at that time. For more information on ACO provider/supplier revalidation, please visit the [CMS Revalidation webpage](#) or have the provider/supplier contact their MAC.

### March Claim and Claim Line Feeds

March Claim and Claim Line Feeds (CCLFs) are available for eligible ACOs to download from their MFT mailbox. These files are available in your MFT mailbox for 30 days.
Updated Claim and Claim Line Feed Uses and Limitations Guide

Now available through the SSP ACO Portal (under resources) is a recently-updated guide on "Uses and Limitations of the Claim and Claim Line Feed (CCLF) Files (Version 3)" to include detailed descriptions of content from the following 2016 webinars:

- Appendix A recaps the November 2, 2016 CCLF User Group presentation on “Comparing CCLFs to and Projecting ACO Trends from the Quarterly Expenditure/Utilization Reports”
- Appendix B recaps the March 2, 2016 CCLF User Group presentation on “SSP CCLFs and Monthly Enrollment Flags on the Quarterly and Annual Assignment”

To listen to the recordings of these prior events, follow the hyperlinks above. If you did not previously register for this event, please do so to access the audio recording.

We remind ACOs that there are limitations to using the CCLF files to replicate or validate your ACO’s assigned beneficiaries and expenditures/utilization calculations in aggregate reports produced by CMS. The CCLF files provide the minimum data necessary to effectively coordinate care for your patient population.

Benchmark Calculations, Financial Reconciliation, and Reports Webinar Slides and Recordings

Wednesday, March 15, 2017 and Thursday, March 16, 2017: Benchmark Calculations, Financial Reconciliation, and Reports. Links to the audio recordings for the March 15, 2017 (targeted for Tracks 1 & 2 ACOs) and March 16, 2017 (targeted for Track 3 ACOs) Benchmark Calculations, Financial Reconciliation and Reports webinars are available on the SSP ACO Portal Events Calendar, search by Webinar Date. The link to the March 15, 2017 recording is also provided here, along with the link to the March 16, 2017 recording provided here.

**REMINDERS**

**Integrated Learning System: Suicide Prevention Webinar**

The Integrated Learning System (ILS) is a cross-model learning system designed to accelerate collaborative learning and improve CMS program success. Participants across all initiatives such as Shared Savings Program ACOs, Bundled Payments for Care Improvement, and Health Care Innovation Awards, can connect and share promising practices. The ILS is partnering with the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) to host a live webinar, titled Zero Suicide: A Comprehensive Health Systems Approach to Suicide Prevention, on Thursday March 30, 2017 at 1:00 p.m. Eastern Time.

The webinar will highlight the importance of a health systems approach to address suicide prevention, specifically focusing on SAMHSA’s Zero Suicide Tool. Participants will learn how to incorporate suicide prevention activities into their respective organizations. All CMS program participants are encouraged to attend.

If your organization is already implementing a breakthrough innovation related to mental health promotion and/or suicide prevention and would like to share with the larger CMS program community, email ILSSupport@lewin.com. Be a part of this important partnership!

Register here: https://lewingroup.adobeconnect.com/sp330/event/event_info.html
EVENT ANNOUNCEMENTS

Registration Open: Spring 2017 In-Person Learning Collaboratives

Registration is now open for several In-Person Learning Collaborative (IPLC) meetings. Links to the registration pages for those IPLCs are included in the table below. Learning Systems for ACOs will host these regional meetings for all Medicare ACOs across the country beginning this spring. This effort brings together ACOs in each CMS region to exchange ideas and information. There is no registration fee to attend; however, space for these meetings is limited. Please limit enrollment to two participants per ACO, no vendors.

Information for each event will be posted here as it becomes available. Please save the date for the event in your region!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CMS Region</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Region 1: CT, MA, ME, NH, RI, VT</td>
<td>Monday, May 15, 2017</td>
<td>Federal Reserve Bank of Boston 600 Atlantic Avenue Boston, MA 02110</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Click HERE to RSVP by May 10</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>Region 2: NJ, NY, PR, VI</td>
<td>Friday, May 19, 2017</td>
<td>New Jersey Hospital Association 760 Alexander Road Princeton, NJ 08543</td>
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<tr>
<td>Region 3: DE, DC, MD, PA, VA, WV</td>
<td>Monday, April 10, 2017</td>
<td>CMS Central Office 7500 Security Boulevard Baltimore, MD 21244</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Click HERE to register by April 3</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>Region 4: AL, FL, GA, KY, MS, NC, SC, TN</td>
<td>Friday, June 23, 2017</td>
<td>Centers for Disease Control and Prevention 1600 Clifton Road Atlanta, GA 30333</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Region 5: IL, IN, MI, MN, OH, WI</td>
<td>Friday, May 5, 2017</td>
<td>Federal Building Conference Center 77 West Jackson Boulevard Chicago, IL 60604</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Click HERE to RSVP by April 20</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>Region 6: AR, LA, OK, NM, TX</td>
<td>Thursday, June 15, 2017</td>
<td>The Meadows Conference Center 2900 Live Oak Street Dallas, TX 75204</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regions 7 &amp; 8: CO, IA, KS, MO, MT, NE, ND, SD, UT, WY</td>
<td>Thursday, April 20, 2017</td>
<td>Daniels Fund 101 Monroe Street Denver, CO 80206</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Click HERE to RSVP by April 13, 2017</em></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regions 9 &amp; 10: AK, AZ, CA, HI, ID, NV, OR, WA</td>
<td>Friday, June 9, 2017</td>
<td>Seattle Art Museum 1300 First Avenue Seattle, WA 98101</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Integrated Learning System: Suicide Prevention Webinar

THURSDAY, MARCH 30, 2017

Audience: All ACOs

This webinar will highlight the importance of a health systems approach to address suicide prevention, specifically focusing on SAMHSA’s Zero Suicide Tool. Participants will learn how to incorporate suicide prevention activities into their respective organizations.

- Topic: Zero Suicide: A Comprehensive Health Systems Approach to Suicide Prevention
- Date: Thursday, March 30, 2017
- Time: 1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. Eastern Time

To register and join the webinar, click on the following link or copy/paste it into your web browser: https://lewingroup.adobeconnect.com/sp330/event/event_info.html

GPRO Web Interface Lessons Learned

THURSDAY, APRIL 6, 2017

Audience: All ACOs

This webinar will review lessons learned with PQRS Group Practices and ACOs from the 2016 data submission period.

- Topic: GPRO Web Interface Lessons Learned
- Date: Thursday, April 6, 2017
- Time: 1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. Eastern Time

You will be required to register before entering the event. Please aim to register in advance to ensure that you do not miss the beginning of the session.

Option 1: To join the webinar, click on the following link or copy/paste it into your web browser: https://events-cms.webex.com/events-cms/onstage/g.php?MTID=e43e2139b8e8d4cbaa7e18752bc2c280f

Audio for this event will be streamed online. This is the default option. However, if you are unable to listen to the audio stream using a computer that is connected to the Internet, please dial in by telephone using the details below:

Option 2:
To join the event by telephone only

US TOLL: 1-844-396-8222

Access Code: 908 101 636

Medicare Shared Savings Program ACO: Preparing to Apply for the 2018 Program Year

THURSDAY, APRIL 6, 2017

Audience: Potential 2018 Shared Savings Program renewal, SNF 3-Day Rule Waiver, Medicare ACO Track 1+ Model (Track 1+ Model), and initial applicants.

During this call, learn about the Shared Savings Program and how to prepare to apply for the January 1, 2018 start date. This call will include information about the Track 1+ Model and the SNF 3-Day Rule Waiver.
Topics:

- Introduction to the Shared Savings Program
- Shared Savings Program requirements, including Tracks 1, 2, and 3
- Track 1+ Model
- SNF 3-Day Rule Waiver
- Antitrust and ACOs
- Preparing to apply
- Application process

If you are planning to apply you should also attend the call on April 19, 2017 (details provided in the next webinar announcement). Visit the How to Apply webpage to review important information, dates, and materials prior to the call.

To register for this webinar and to get more information, visit MLN Connects Event Registration.

ACO Learning System Webinar: Identifying and Coordinating Care for Special Populations

THURSDAY, APRIL 13, 2017

Audience: All ACOs

The Shared Savings Program requires ACOs to have certain processes in place, including processes to promote patient engagement and coordinate care, and meet patient centeredness criteria (as described at 42 CFR § 425.112). For example, in its process to promote patient engagement, the ACO must include a method for evaluating the health needs of the ACO’s population, including consideration of diversity in its patient populations and a plan to address their needs. This webinar will feature presentations from the researchers and two ACOs featured in this work:

- Montefiore ACO will present its population health strategy. In particular, the ACO will discuss its unique methodology for identifying and prioritizing patients for care management services, including how it incorporates social determinants of health into its care management model.
- Fairview Health Services ACO will discuss its approach to patient engagement, including how the organization has integrated patient-generated measures, such as patient activation, into care and used these measures in clinical decisions and evaluating outcomes.

The goal of the webinar is to provide actionable information about innovative patient-centered activities, along with a description of barriers and facilitators to implementation. This is the second webinar in a two-part series on patient-centered care. The first webinar, “Patient Engagement in Governance and Care,” was held on November 30, 2016. For materials related to this and other past webinars, go to https://portal.cms.gov.

- Topic: Identifying and Coordinating Care for Special Populations
- Date: April 13, 2017
- Time: 2:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. Eastern Time

You will be required to register before entering the event. Please aim to register in advance to ensure that you do not miss the beginning of the session.

Option 1: To join the webinar, click on the following link or copy/paste it into your web browser:
http://event.on24.com/wcc/r/1368681/DC10E72D743709C3C952F44D8C7D36B3
Audio for this event will be streamed online. This is the default option. However, if you are unable to listen to the audio stream using a computer that is connected to the Internet, please dial in by telephone using the details below:

Option 2:
To join the event by telephone only
Access Code: 271840

**Medicare Shared Savings Program ACO: Completing the 2018 Application Process**

**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 19, 2017**

Audience: Potential 2018 Shared Savings Program renewal, SNF 3-Day Rule Waiver, Track 1+ Model, and initial applicants.

During this call, learn helpful tips to complete a successful 2018 application for the Medicare Shared Savings Program. This will include information about the Track 1+ Model and/or the SNF 3-Day Rule Waiver.

Topics:
- Completing an application
- ACO Participant Lists and agreements
- SNF Affiliate Lists and agreements (applicable to the SNF 3-Day Rule Waiver)
- Beneficiary assignment

Please review the materials from the April 6, 2017 Medicare Shared Savings Program ACO: Preparing to Apply for the 2018 Program Year webinar prior to the call. Visit the How to Apply webpage to review important information, dates, and other materials.

To register for this webinar and to get more information, visit MLN [Connects Event Registration](#).

**Information and Resources for ACOs and ACO Participants**

*From MLN Connects® (Medicare Learning Network)*

- The [HIPAA Basics for Providers: Privacy, Security, and Breach Notification Rules](#) fact sheet is available. Learn about:
  - Who must comply with the HIPAA privacy rule
  - Covered entities

- The [PECOS Technical Assistance Contact Information](#) fact sheet is available. Learn about:
  - Common problems and who to contact
  - PECOS resources

- A revised [Transitional Care Management Services](#) fact sheet is available. Learn about:
  - Health care professionals furnishing these services and supervision
  - Services settings, components, and billing
  - Frequently asked questions on billing
CONTACT INFORMATION FOR ACOS

To help ACOs navigate questions regarding the Shared Savings Program ACO.

**Program and Policy**

- **SharedSavingsProgram@cms.hhs.gov**
  - For current Shared Savings Program ACOs.
  - Be sure to specify your ACO ID (Axxxx) in the Subject line or text of the email.

- **ACO@cms.hhs.gov**
  - For external parties (i.e., non-ACOs).

**Health Plan Management System (HPMS)**

- **HPMS@cms.hhs.gov**
  - Technical inquiries that do not involve password resets.
  - HPMS_access@cms.hhs.gov
  - Inquiries related to User accessing CMS Portal

- **APOSD@cms.hhs.gov**
  - Technical inquiries related to MFT, CCLFs and the SSP ACO Portlet.
  - 1-888-734-6433 (select Option 2)

**Quality Information Systems (QIS)**

- **qnetsupport@hcqis.org**
  - Inquiries related to quality reporting, including quality sampling and measures specifications, use of the GPRO Web Interface, and EIDM accounts.
  - 1-866-288-8912
  - Be sure to note your incident number provided by the help desk for future reference.

- **ACOCAHPS@hcqis.org**
  - Inquiries related to technical assistance, comments or questions on the CAHPS survey for ACOs.
  - 1-800-562-1963

**CMS IT Help Desk**

- **CMS_IT_Service_Desk@cms.hhs.gov**
  - Inquiries related to password resets for your 4 character CMS User ID.

*Please Note: The ACO Spotlight newsletter is a weekly publication by CMS for ACOs participating in the Shared Savings Program. It is distributed by email only to ACO contacts listed CMS’ Health Plan Management System. This newsletter is not intended for public release.*