



News Flash – Do you have your NPI? National Provider Identifiers (NPIs) will be required on claims sent on or after May 23, 2007. Every health care provider needs to get an NPI. Learn more about the NPI and how to apply for an NPI by visiting <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/NationalProvIdentStand/> on the CMS website.

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Annual Medicare Contractor Provider Satisfaction Survey: Make Your Voice Heard!

Provider Types Affected

All Medicare FFS providers, especially those receiving the 2007 Medicare Contractor Provider Satisfaction Survey.

Provider Action Needed

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) is publishing this Special Edition (SE) article to alert providers that in early January 2007 CMS will disseminate the 2007 Medicare Contractor Provider Satisfaction Survey (MCPSS) to a new sample of Medicare providers. If you receive the survey, CMS encourages you to respond because your input is NEEDED and will be used to support claims processing improvement by Medicare fee-for-service (FFS) contractors and to reform the Medicare Program.

Background

The 2007 MPCSS survey is designed so that it **can be completed in about 15 minutes** and providers can submit their responses via a secure Web site, mail, fax, or over the telephone. CMS will ask providers to respond by February 2007.

The views of each provider in the survey are important because they represent many other organizations similar in size, practice type and geographical location.

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The MCPSS focuses on seven major aspects of the provider-contractor relationship:

- Provider communications
- Provider inquiries
- Claims processing
- Appeals
- Provider enrollment
- Medical review
- Provider audit and reimbursement.

Respondents are asked to rate their experience working with Medicare FFS contractors using a scale of 1 to 6, with "1" representing "not at all satisfied" and "6" representing "completely satisfied."

Additional Information

More information about the MCPSS and results of the 2006 survey are available at <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MCPSS/> on the CMS website.

News Flash - It's Not Too Late to Get the Flu Shot. We are in the midst of flu season and a flu vaccine is still the best way to prevent infection and the complications associated with the flu. But re-vaccination is necessary each year because flu viruses change each year. Please encourage your Medicare patients who haven't already done so to get their annual flu shot. – And don't forget to immunize yourself and your staff. Protect yourself, your patients, and your family and friends. Get Your Flu Shot – Not the Flu! Remember - Influenza vaccination is a covered Part B benefit. Note that influenza vaccine is NOT a Part D covered drug. Health care professionals and their staff can learn more about Medicare's coverage of adult immunizations and related provider education resources, by reviewing Special Edition MLN Matters article SE0748 at <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MLNMattersArticles/downloads/SE0748.pdf> on the CMS website."

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