



Related MLN Matters Article #: SE0580

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Influenza/Flu Season and Available Resources for Providers

Key Words

SE0580, Influenza, Flu, Immunization, MM3936, MM3618, Education, Brochures, Articles, Guide

Provider Types Affected

Physicians, non-physician practitioners, providers, and other health care professionals who bill Medicare carriers or fiscal intermediaries (FIs) for flu vaccines and vaccine administration

Key Points

- SE0580 alerts providers to the influenza resources that are available to them and their patients.
- The following are Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) web-based resources included in The Immunization Educational Resource Web Guide, a one-stop shopping location for informational and educational resources related to CMS immunization initiatives:
 - MLN Matters articles – Overview page for all MLN articles is at <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MLNmattersarticles/> on the CMS web site. Specifically, view MM3936 and MM3618 at <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MLNmattersarticles/downloads/MM3936.pdf> and <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MLNmattersarticles/downloads/MM3618.pdf> on the CMS web site.
 - Brochures – specifically Adult Immunizations and Hepatitis Vaccine Benefits: http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MLNproducts/downloads/adult_immunization_06-08-05.pdf
 - How to Bill Medicare for Influenza and Pneumococcal Vaccinations: <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MLNproducts/downloads/flupdf.pdf>
 - Medicare Preventive Services Educational Resource Web Guide: http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MLNProducts/35_PreventiveServices.asp
 - Quick Reference Information: Medicare Preventive Services: http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MLNProducts/downloads/qr_prevent_serv.pdf
 - Downloadable Publications: <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MLN/pubs.asp>
 - Web-Based Training Modules (WBTs): http://cms.meridianksi.com/kc/main/kc_frame.asp?kc_ident=kc0001&loc=1

- The *Immunization Educational Resource Web Guide* is available at http://www.cms.hhs.gov/AdultImmunizations/05_CMS%20Initiatives.asp on the CMS web site.
- Other CMS resources include the following:
 - 2006 Administration Fee Reimbursement Rates: <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/AdultImmunizations/Downloads/0506vaccreimburs033006.pdf>
 - Medicare Preventive Services Influenza/Pneumococcal Immunizations Web Page: http://www.cms.hhs.gov/AdultImmunizations/02_Providerresources.asp#TopOfPage
 - Fact Sheets and News Releases Regarding Medicare and Preventives Services: <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/apps/media/>
 - Frequently Asked Questions: <http://questions.cms.hhs.gov>
- Other available resources:
 - American Lung Association (ALA) Flu Center site located at <http://www.flucliniclocator.org>. This site enables individuals to input their zip code and find a flu clinic location in their area.
 - Providers are able to add their flu clinic to this site by visiting <http://lungusa2.org/embargo/flucliniclocator05/> on the Internet.
 - 2-1-1 Information and Referral Service
 - Influenza Pocket Guides/Information about Vaccines - Although hard copy versions of the Influenza Pocket Guides are no longer available, electronic and camera-ready versions are available, copyright free and can be found at <http://www.immunize.org/influenza/pocketguide.htm> on the Internet.

Important Links

<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MLNMattersArticles/downloads/SE0580.pdf>

<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MLNMattersArticles/downloads/MM3936.pdf>

<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MLNMattersArticles/downloads/MM3618.pdf>

<http://www.flucliniclocator.org/>

<http://www.211.org>

<http://www.airs.org>

<http://www.vaccineinformation.org>