

Swing Bed Hospital Conversion to the SNF PPS

Transmission of MDS Data

CMS will be contacting all swing bed hospitals later this month to establish transmission capability for the electronic submission of MDS data required under the SNF PPS. Starting April 15, 2002, the CMS contractor, the Iowa Foundation for Medical Care (IFMC) will be releasing a letter and questionnaire to all rural hospitals providing swing bed services. You will be asked to furnish the names of the individuals who will be handling the data transmission function so we can issue the proper system IDs and passwords. Copies of the letter and questionnaire are shown at the end of this document. Please complete and return the questionnaire within two weeks of receipt.

After your questionnaire is processed, the CMS contractors will issue your IDs and passwords, and let you know how to obtain a free copy of the MDS software, RAVEN-SB. A test version of this software will be available in early May, and can be used to enter, store, and transmit your MDS data.

Swing bed hospitals are not required to perform MDS assessments or transmit the electronic records until their effective date under the SNF PPS. However, we recommend that staff start to familiarize themselves with the software and transmission process as soon as they get their IDs and passwords, regardless of their SNF PPS effective date. That way, staff will have time to ask questions and resolve any problems before the SNF PPS requirements go into effect.

Our contractors have identified the providers shown below as swing bed hospitals. However, it is possible that the list may be incomplete or may not reflect recent changes in hospital status. For this reason, we encourage swing bed hospital staff to contact IFMC in the following situations:

- Your facility is not on the list.
- You have closed your swing bed unit, and are no longer certified as a Medicare swing bed provider.
- Your facility operates as a Critical Access Facility (CAHs) rather than as a rural hospital. Please remember that **CAHs are exempt from the SNF PPS, and do not have to transmit MDS data**. CAHs should ask to be removed from the rural hospital swing bed provider list.

IFMC, the CMS contractor, may be contacted by either phone or e-mail, as follows

Help Desk: 800-339-9313
E-mail Address: swing_help@ifmc.org.

[Raven SB & Data Submission Overview](#)
(ZIP file, 1480 bytes)

[Transmission of MDS Data](#)
(ZIP File, 147 bytes)

This contains the following files:

- **CMS_letter_1.doc** (Microsoft Word document, 44kb) - A copy of the letter that is scheduled for release between April 12-15.
- **CMS_letter_1_attch.doc** (Microsoft Word document, 27kb) - This is the questionnaire providers must complete in order to get their IDs and passwords.
- **Swingbedmsa07302002sorted.xls** (Microsoft Excel document, 456kb) - This is contains a revised (as of 7/30/02) list of all the swing bed hospitals we have identified.

MDS Transmission Users' Guide:

- [Cover Letter](#) (PDF file, 40kb)
- [Contents](#) (PDF file, 20kb)
- [Section 1](#) (PDF file, 32kb)
- [Section 2](#) (PDF file, 52kb)
- [Section 3](#) (PDF file, 2.12mb)
- [Section 4](#) (PDF file, 24kb)
- [Section 5](#) (PDF file, 14kb)
- [Section 6](#) (PDF file, 16kb)
- [Appendix A](#) (PDF file, 259kb)
- [Appendix B](#) (PDF file, 101kb)