

## U.S. RAILROAD RETIREMENT BOARD

Name

RRB-3: Medicare: Part B (Supplementary Medical Insurance Payment System--Contracted to Palmetto Government Benefits

Administrators)

Federal Register

12-27-2007

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Effective Date

2-5-2008

System Location

Main Office: Palmetto Government Benefit Administrators, 17 Technology Circle, Columbia, South Carolina 29203-9591; Railroad Medicare Part B Office, Post Office Box 10066, Augusta, Georgia 30999.

Security Classification

None.

Categories of Individuals Covered by the System Qualified railroad retirement beneficiaries covered by MEDICARE, Part B, who file claims under the medical insurance program.

Categories of Records in the System

Name, health insurance claim number, address, date of birth, telephone number, description of illness and treatment pertaining to claim, indication of other health insurance or medical assistance pertinent to claim, date(s) and place(s) of physician service, description of medical procedures, services or supplies furnished, nature of illness(es), medical charges, name, address and telephone of physician, identifying number of provider, designation of payee, Part B entitlement date, Part B deductible status and amount of payment to beneficiary or payee.

Authority for Maintenance of the System

Section 7(d) of the Railroad Retirement Act of 1974 (45 U.S.C. 231f(d)).

Purpose(s)

Records in this system are maintained to administer the supplementary medical insurance (Part B) portion of Medicare under Title XVIII of the Social Security Act for qualified railroad retirement beneficiaries.

Routine Uses of Records Maintained in the System, Including Categories of Users and Purposes of Such Uses

- a. In the event the Board has determined to designate a person to be the representative payee of an incompetent beneficiary, disclosure of information concerning the benefit amount and other similar information may be made to the representative payee from the record of the individual.
- b. Information regarding payments and deductibles may be released to the Department of Health and Human Services for use in administering Title XVIII of the Social Security Act, as amended, and to establish, audit, and maintain account and vouchering records.
- c. Records may be disclosed in a court proceeding relating to any claims for benefits under Title XVIII of the Social Security Act and may be disclosed during the course of an administrative appeal



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hearing to individuals who need the records to prosecute or decide the appeal or to individuals who are requested to provide information relative to an issue involved in the appeal.

- d. Records may be disclosed to the General Accountability Office for auditing purposes and for collection of debts arising from overpayments under Title XVIII of the Social Security Act.
- e. (Standard Disclosure 1.)
- f. Pursuant to a request from an employer covered by the Railroad Retirement Act or the Railroad Unemployment Insurance Act, information regarding the status of a qualified railroad retirement beneficiary's enrollment in Medicare and premium payment status may be released to the requesting employer for the purposes of coordinating employee supplemental welfare benefits.
- g. If a request for information pertaining to an individual is made by an official of a labor organization of which the individual is a member and the request is made on behalf of the individual, information from the record of the individual concerning his or her entitlement and premium status may be disclosed to the labor organization official.
- h. (Standard Disclosure 4.)
- i. (Standard Disclosure 7.)
- j. Information may be furnished to the U.S. Postal Service and to State and local police authorities for investigation of the loss, theft, and/or forgery of Medicare checks.
- k. Information may be furnished to the State licensing boards for review of unethical practices or nonprofessional conduct. When such information has been disclosed to a State licensing board, it may also be disclosed when requested to State agencies investigating such conduct under Titles V and XIX of the Social Security Act and to the TRICARE organization and to TRICARE contractors that are not also Medicare contractors.
- I. General guidelines dealing with length of stay, diagnosis and other criteria used in the claims process to establish the basis for payment may be disclosed to the requester. Information regarding physicians' prevailing or customary charges may be furnished.
- m. The following general types of information may be disclosed to Title XIX agencies (to a state agency or to a carrier acting for a State agency charged with administration of a program under Title XIX):



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Physician, other practitioner and supplier identification numbers, and charges of physicians or other practitioners or suppliers for services furnished to beneficiaries.

- n. Information on such matters as entitlement, benefit payment, or benefit utilization relating to an individual may be disclosed to any State agency or to a carrier acting for a State agency charged with the administration of a program under Title XIX. Note: Disclosure to State agencies administering other Federal grants-in-aid programs requires the authorization of the beneficiary or his/her legal representative.
- (Standard Disclosure 2.)

Disclosure to Consumer Reporting Agencies

None.

Policies and Practices for Storing, Retrieving, Accessing, Retaining, and Disposing of Records in the System

Paper, magnetic tape and microforms. Storage

Retrievability Health insurance claim number, name

The contractor is bound by the contract set forth by the Railroad Safeguards

> Retirement Board which contains specific instruction regarding its responsibility in claim information handled and released, and by guidance and procedures issued by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS). It is also bound by the same regulations regarding disclosure and security of information as the Board itself.

Records are maintained by the insurance company office for 27 Retention and Disposal

months. At the end of 27 months the material is sent to the storage areas maintained by the insurance company. Records are retained

and stored in accordance with guidelines issued by CMS.

System Manager(s) and Address

Office of Programs--Director of Policy and Systems, U.S. Railroad Retirement Board, 844 North Rush Street, Chicago, Illinois 60611-

2092.

Notification Procedure

Requests for information regarding an individual's record should be in writing, including the full name, social security number and railroad retirement claim (if any) of the individual. Before information about any record will be released, the individual may be required to provide proof of identity, or authorization from the individual to permit release of information. Requests should be sent to the Office of Programs--Director of Operations, U.S. Railroad Retirement Board,



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844 North Rush Street, Chicago, Illinois 60611-2092.

Record Access Procedure See Notification section above.

Contesting Record

Procedure

See Notification section above.

Record Source Categories Claimant, his/her authorized representative or his/her survivors, the

Social Security Administration, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid

Services and its contractors, physicians, and hospitals.

Exemptions Claimed for

the System

None.