



The Impact of Medicare Secondary Payer Compliance

Over the life of a workers'
compensation claim

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Learning objectives

- 1 Defining MSP compliance
- 2 Why MSP compliance is challenging
- 3 The areas of MSP compliance
- 4 Why worry about MSP compliance
- 5 How MSP compliance impacts the life of my claim
- 5 My MSP Compliance Resources

Defining MSP compliance

MSP compliance

<p>Medicare Secondary Payer Act of 1980 42 USC Section 1395y(b)(2)</p>	<p>Medicare Advantage statute (Part C) expressly acknowledges MA payments are “made secondary” (42 U.S.C. §1395w-22(a)(4))</p>	<p>The Medicare Prescription, Improvement and Modernization Act of 2003 [Pub. L. No. 108-173], (42 U.S.C. §1395) (Part D)</p>
<p>Section 111 of the Medicare, Medicaid, and SCHIP Extension Act of 2007 (MMSEA) Pub. L. No. 110-173 (2007) (42 U.S.C. §1395y(b)(8)) (MIR)</p>	<p>Strengthening Medicare and Repaying Taxpayers Act of 2012 (SMART) 42 U.S.C. §1395t</p>	<p>Provide Accurate Information Directly (PAID) Act 42 U.S.C. §1395y(b)(8)(G)</p>

MSP Act has been amended



All insurers are now considered primary payers and “responsible” parties are obligated to reimburse Medicare.

CMS recognizes three NGHP type of claims:

- Workers’ compensation
- Liability
- No-fault

The non-group health plans (NGHP) include:

- Workers’ compensation
- Auto insurers liability
- Homeowners insurers liability
- Commercial General Liability (CGL) Insurers-premises liability
- Professional Liability insurers-malpractice
- Self-insured entities
- Auto, CGL, Homeowners policies also have No-Fault coverage known as Med Pay, PIP

Why MSP compliance is challenging

Why MSP compliance is challenging



20% of
case load



Multiple facets
Three areas of compliance



Claim
specific



Multiple
governmental agencies



Changing
guidelines



CMS
terminology

Areas of MSP Compliance

Protection of Medicare's interest



It is the responsibility of all parties involved in a settlement to assure Medicare's interest has been considered.

Medicare is due protection in three areas:

**Section 111
Reporting**

**Conditional
Payments**

**Medicare
Set-Aside**

Each area has its own rules, policies and procedures.

Section 111 of MMSEA is Mandatory Insurer Reporting (MIR)

Responsible Reporting Entity (RRE)	The insurer underwriting company who bears the responsibility of MSP noncompliance rather than the third-party administrator (TPA) even though the TPA often provides information that fills the data fields within the claims system.
Mandatory Insurer reporting (MIR)	Required for claimants who are currently Medicare eligible
Medicare Query to determine eligibility	Medicare allows for its database to be queried to know if the claimant is a current Medicare beneficiary or will be one in the next three months.
MIR data	Required and needed to transmit to The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) during prescribed quarterly reporting/submission time
Required data fields for all claim types:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Same query data fields• Three claim types-workers' compensation, liability, and no-fault
Coordination of Benefits (COB)	Allow plans that provide health and/or prescription coverage for a person with Medicare to determine their respective payment responsibilities

Conditional Payments



Payments made by Medicare for treatment related to the auto, liability, no-fault, or work comp claim where primary payer has/may have an obligation to make payment

Medicare (Part A and B)
Medicare Advantage Plan (Part C)
Prescription Drug Plan (Part D)

- Primary payers must reimburse Medicare for conditional payments it has made, Arises even if liability is contested
- Responsibility for reimbursement can be demonstrated by acceptance of compensability, settlement, judgment, arbitration award, or other payment made pertaining to the claim
- Part C and Part D plans are third-party payers that stand in the shoes of Medicare and require repayment of conditional payments just like Medicare

Medicare Set-Aside



A Medicare Set-Aside is an account set up to pay future related medical expenses otherwise reimbursable by Medicare for an injured person that would have been paid by Medicare had the injury/illness NOT been the responsibility of the primary payer.

- Any claimant who receives a settlement, judgment or award that includes an amount for future medical expenses must take Medicare's future interest with respect to related medical expenses
- The purpose of an MSA is to estimate, as accurately as possible, the total cost that will be incurred for all future related medical expenses otherwise reimbursable by Medicare pertaining to the underlying claim
- MSA allocation includes line item medical and pharmacy needs projected over the life expectancy of the claimant
- An MSA allocation amount represents a portion of the total settlement amount that is designated to pay for all future related medical, surgical, and prescription expenses pertaining to the claim(s)

Why to be concerned about MSP compliance

Risk and consequences of noncompliance

Risk and consequences of non-compliance



Conditional Payment Recovery
Demands from CMS to
Insurers/TPAs to reimburse



Plaintiffs alleging bad faith in
handling of Conditional
Payment Resolution Process



Jurors deciding whether
Insurers acted reasonably
in handling conditional
payment issues



Treasury offsets are taken from
Insurers/TPAs assets for debts
owed to CMS

Risk and consequences of noncompliance



Medicare beneficiary may seek to overturn the Settlement Agreement due to Medicare conditional payment resolution mistake



Lawsuits against the insurer/RRE using the False Claims Act to recoup conditional payments which include triple damages



Medicare beneficiaries, beneficiaries estate, Part C Medicare Advantage Plans and Part D Prescription Drug Plans will file a private cause of action against the insurer/RRE seeking recovery, including double damages not to mention astronomical defense costs

Risk and consequences of noncompliance



Medicare will deny payment for related treatment to beneficiaries who have no MSA



Medicare will deny payment for related treatment to beneficiaries who have misspent or cannot account for MSA funds



Medicare will deny payment for related treatment to beneficiaries until the total settlement amount is spent on related care



State courts finding MSAs not needed or defining MSA terms and amounts outside their jurisdiction and contrary to MSP Act

Risk and consequences of noncompliance



Settlement language lacking Medicare details binding on parties, leaving parties unprotected from MSP viewpoint



Civil money penalties up to \$1,000 per day per claim will be assessed against insurers/RREs for failure to report or for reporting inaccurately, incompletely or untimely to CMS the acceptance of ORM, an ORM Termination Date, ICD diagnosis codes, TPOC date and amount

How MSP compliance impacts the life of my claim

MSP compliance through the life of the claim

GOALS:
Identify Medicare Beneficiaries for MIR and cost mitigation

GOALS:
Accurately report appropriate claims to Medicare and monitor claim activity to address cost drivers prior to settlement.

GOALS:
Timely and accurately close out MIR responsibility, resolve any open conditional payment items and appropriately fund MSA allocation.

	Onset of claim	Life of claim	Settlement	Post settlement
Compliance requirements	MIR Query claim to determine Medicare Beneficiary Status	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Turn ORM to Y • Report Accepted ICD codes • Monitor for Clinical intervention • Monitor for conditional Payments 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report all TPOC, enter ORM termination date, confirm ICD codes • Resolve all outstanding conditional payments • Include MSA allocation in settlement 	Reimburse conditional payment made prior to settlement
Adjuster action recommended	Query five key data elements until claimant becomes beneficiary or claim settles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Respond to CP notices timely • Approve Clinical Intervention 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Request a final demand for conditional payments and settle all demands • Include appropriate MSP language in settlement documents 	Process notices from CRC, BCRC, Treasury
Compliance services	Beneficiary Monitoring through Section 111 Reporting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Medicare Clinical Mitigation • Conditional payment Verification Analysis, Dispute 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MSA/MSA Submission • Final Conditional Payment Demand 	Conditional Payment Analysis, Dispute and Appeals

Actions needed during...

Onset of claim

Mandatory Insurer Reporting Responsibilities

- Obtain the big five to query the claim
- Confirmed to be a Medicare beneficiary?
(Add compensable ICD codes)
- Assuming responsibility for future medical?
 - Turn ORM indicator to Y (once turned to Y do not return to N or it will delete the claim from the Medicare System)
- Did Medicare provide contact information for a Medicare Advantage Plan (MAP) and/or Part D Plan (PDP)?
- The PAID Act requires CMS to provide MAP/PDP contact information to you for any MAP/PDP that provided coverage in the past three years

Life of claim

Settlement

Post settlement

Actions needed during...

Onset of claim

Life of claim

Settlement

Post settlement

Claims can evolve, and insurers must remain compliant as changes occur

- Monitor claim for changes in accepted conditions to update ICD codes
- Monitor to see if Medicare has made a conditional payment
- Review medical treatment regime for appropriate of care and cost drivers that might impact ability to obtain a reasonable MSA

Actions needed during...

Onset of claim

Life of a claim

Settlement

Delayed funding

Could involve a process determining who is to be paid and how much that isn't known at time of settlement.

MSA

Has the threshold for review been met? \$25,000 for Medicare beneficiary; \$250,000 threshold if reasonable expectation of becoming a Medicare beneficiary

Submission

If applicable, submit MSA to CMS for review and approval.

Final demand

Following CMS approval, checking to see if any outstanding conditional payments.

Settlement language

Updating Section 111

TPOC, ORM termination, ICD codes

Post settlement

Actions needed during...

Onset of claim

Settlement

Post settlement

What if Medicare denies beneficiary's benefits?

- If Medicare has determined its interests weren't adequately considered.
 - Beneficiary hasn't exhausted MSA funds or improperly used funds.
-

What if conditional payments come in post settlement? Who is responsible?

- Did settlement language anticipate or specify what happens?
-

Professional admin to preserve the funds

Funding the annuity


Reversionary clauses

Key data drives in MSP compliance

	Section 111 Mandatory Insurer Reporting	Conditional Payments	Medicare Set Asides
Responsible Reporting Entity RRE	Is the company Medicare has identified as the responsible party for this claim i.e., Carrier or Self Insured Employer	Will receive notification of demands and any unpaid demands will be taken in the form of Offset from the RRE	Can be responsible for payments made by Medicare post settlement due to an underfunded MSA
Ongoing Responsibility of Medical ORM	Notifies Medicare of the RREs responsibility of the claimants treatment related to the ICD codes reported and populating a termination date notifies Medicare when the RRE is no longer responsible for the treatment of the claimant	As long as ORM remains open, the CRC will continue to seek reimbursement from the RRE	Should terminate after the MSA allocation is approved and the claim has settled to terminated the RREs responsibility
ICD Codes ICD	Are reported to Medicare to indicate the accepted injuries	All codes reported will be included in the CRCs recovery efforts, even codes reported in error	MIR ICD codes should be consistent with the MSA allocated conditions unless carrier/TPA inadvertently paid for unrelated conditions, which will be included by CMS in the MSA as a counter high.
Total Payment Obligation to Claimant TPOC	Notifies Medicare of the complete sum of money paid to the claimant to settle claim	Upon submission of the TPOC and the termination of ORM, the debtor moves from the RRE to the claimant.	Will include the amount of money designated in the MSA as part of the settlement funds
Date of Injury DOI	CMS DOI is the date of the accident/incident or the date of first exposure	Is used by Medicare to set up individual demands. For each date of injury there will be a separate recovery effort by the CRC and BCRC	A global settlement involving multiple DOIs may be included within one MSA. Each DOI and ICDs reported via MIR must be consistent with MSA allocation


MSP Compliance Resource

Print these resources to help with MSP compliance




MSP compliance through the life of the claim

	Onset of claim	Life of claim
Compliance requirements	MIR Query claim to determine Medicare Beneficiary Status	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Turn ORM to Y • Report Accepted ICD • Monitor for Clinical Injuries • Monitor for Conditional Payments
Adjuster action recommended	Query five key data elements until claimant becomes beneficiary or claim settles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Respond to CP notices • Approve Clinical Injuries
Compliance	Beneficiary Monitoring through...	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Medicare Clinical Mitigation • Conditional payments



Key data drives

	Section 111 Mandatory Insurer Reporting	Conditional Payments
Responsible Reporting Entity RRE	Is the company Medicare has identified as the responsible party for this claim i.e., Carrier or Self Insured Employer	Will receive notification of unpaid demands will be Offset from the RRE
Ongoing Responsibility of Medical ORM	Notifies Medicare of the RREs responsibility of the claimants treatment related to the ICD codes reported and populating a termination date notifies Medicare when the RRE is no longer responsible for the treatment of the claimant	As long as ORM remains conditional will continue to seek reimbursement from the RRE
ICD Codes ICD	Are reported to Medicare to indicate the accepted injuries	All codes reported will be used for CRCs recovery efforts, even in error



MSP Compliance Checklist

Onset of Claim

- All information reported correct?
- Section 111 reporting should be reviewed for errors
- Verify ICD codes are correct – be specific if possible
- Is ORM status correct?
- Does the claim fall under the \$750 exception?
- Deny claim at onset?
- Check for MAP/PDPs early
- The PAID Act requires CMS give you this information, so be aware if there are MAP/PDPs in play.
- Consider setting up a Recovery Agent as a back up
- Both entities would receive letters

Settlement

If closing out future medicals in settlement, consider a MSA.

- Does claim fall within threshold for review?
- If not pursuing MSA or outside threshold for review, was Medicare's interest adequately considered?

If obtaining MSA:

- Mitigation efforts on MSA pain points? i.e. medications, spinal cord stimulators, pain pumps, vague surgery recommendations.
- ICDs in MSA match Section 111 reporting?
- Funding? Self-administered vs...

Settlement / Post-Settlement

- Claimant properly informed of downstream effects with regard to Medicare? Possibility of Medicare denying benefits.
- MAP/PDP interests identified and resolved?

Post-Settlement Conditional Payments

- Did settlement address who is responsible?

Medicare denying payment of treatment?

- Were MSA funds properly used?
- MSA expenses documented and reported?
- MSA funds exhausted?

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