Medicare Enrollment for Dentists
Requirements affecting Medicare patients in need of prescriptions

CareOregon Dental

Background

With the implementation of Section 6405 of the Affordable Care Act, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services published a final rule in May 2015, which requires all physicians and eligible professionals—including dentists—who prescribe Part D covered drugs enroll in Medicare or opt-out for those prescriptions to be covered under Part D.

Who does this affect?

All dentists (including oral surgeons) who treat Medicare beneficiaries

What do I need to do?

Enroll with, or, opt-out of Medicare

When does this start?

June 1, 2016. Dentists should allow sufficient application processing time (approximately 60 days) to avoid denial of prescription drug claims by Part D plans.

Why do I need to act?

Dentists who write prescriptions for Part D drugs must be enrolled in an approved status or have a valid opt-out affidavit on file with Medicare in order to prescribe medication to their qualifying patients with Part D drug plans.

Dentists who do not take action may experience pharmacy or patient complaints that they are not being reimbursed for the prescriptions the dentist writes. Pharmacies may refuse to accept prescriptions or force the patient to pay.

How do I enroll?

Providers can enroll in Medicare by using the online PECOS (Provider Enrollment, Chain and Ownership System) at https://pecos.cms.hhs.gov/pecos/login.do or by completing a paper 855O application at http://www.cms.gov/Medicare/CMS-Forms/CMS-Forms/CMS-Forms-List.html.

What information do I need for the application?
1. SSN
2. NPI (Type 1 – Individual)
3. Medicare Identification Number (PTAN), *if issued*
4. Name of training institution and year graduated
5. License number, effective date, state where issued
6. DEA number, effective date, state where issued
7. Adverse legal action info, *if applicable*
8. Correspondence mailing address and contact person info

Section 1B: Select either "Employed by a Medicare-enrolled FQHC" or "Dentist not employed by any of the above."

Section 4A: Oral surgeons select "Oral Surgery (dentist only)." All other dentists select "Undefined Physician Type" and specify "Dentist" in the space provided. *CMS soon plans to revise the enrollment application to add "Dentist" as a physician specialty.*

After submitting an enrollment application via PECOS, you must
1. Print, sign and date (blue ink recommended) the Certification Statement(s), and
2. Mail the Certification Statement(s) and applicable supporting documentation to the designated Medicare contractor.

The Medicare contractor will not be able to begin to process your enrollment application until it receives a signed and dated Certification Statement.

**Note that dentists and other practitioners who complete Form CMS-855-O do not have Medicare billing privileges for submitting claims to Medicare for services they furnish to Medicare beneficiaries.

<u>How</u> can I opt out?

To opt out of Medicare, a dentist must file an affidavit with each applicable Medicare carrier and enter into written "Private Contracts" with patients who are Medicare beneficiaries. Opting out requires specific compliance requirements, including rules for documentation and deadlines, that must be understood prior to deciding whether to opt out.

<u>Where</u> do I submit my application?

Noridian Healthcare Solutions
P.O. Box 6702, Fargo, ND 58108-6702
877-908-8431

<u>Where</u> do I verify my enrollment status?

https://data.cms.gov/dataset/Medicare-Individual-Provider-List/u8u9-2upx.

<u>Where</u> can I get a list of Part D drugs?

Medicare Part D generally covers FDA approved prescription drugs (eg. antibiotics, analgesics) with the exception of some drug categories excluded by law (eg. cough/cold and weight loss drugs). There is no list of Part D covered drugs, as each prescription drug benefit plan has its own formulary. For more information, see http://www.medicare.gov/part-d/coverage/part-d-coverage.html.

Enrollment Resources
- A guide on completing the online CMS-855O application http://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Provider-Enrollment-and-Certification/MedicareProviderSupEnroll/Downloads/OrderReferHowToGuide.pdf
- Information about using PECOS to enroll in Medicare https://www.cms.gov/Outreach-and-Education/Medicare-Learning-Network-MLN/MLNProducts/Downloads/Internet-Based-PECOS-FAQs-Fact-Sheet-ICN909015.pdf

Opt-Out Resources
- CMS Medicare Benefits Policy Manual, Chapter 15, Section 40 https://www.cms.gov/Regulations-and-Guidance/Guidance/Manuals/downloads/bp102c15.pdf
- https://www.cms.gov/Outreach-and-Education/Medicare-Learning-Network-MLN/MLNMattersArticles/Downloads/SE1311.pdf