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# Appendix For Section 6

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# Blue Shield Medicare Advantage Plan Required Billing Elements

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## Skilled Nursing Facility Discharges (SNF or TCU)

### Background

There have been longstanding federal regulations designed to protect member rights for Medicare Advantage (MA) enrollees. These regulations include the right to due process, with appeal rights when any service or item being denied or as cited in Section 422.568(c) of the Balanced Budget Act, when a discontinuation of a service occurs, and the member disagrees.

For skilled nursing facility discharges, discontinuation of service, continued stay beyond the maximum Medicare / Blue Shield Medicare Advantage plan covered benefit of 100 days per benefit period, a specific, regulatory notice is required to be provided to the beneficiary (member) (or legal representative) and said notice requires a signed acknowledgement of receipt.

### What constitutes a valid acknowledgement of receipt?

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) has external review performed through Maximus Federal Services (Maximus). We are summarizing from Maximus “Reconsideration Notes”, the guidelines for appropriate notice of receipt of the Notice of Non-Coverage (NONC) for SNF discharges. Signature validates receipt of the notice but does not imply any agreement. The notice ties to delivery of member rights and for a notice to be considered to have occurred, the following guidelines apply:

Delivery in person is preferable and the member must sign the actual notice. For appeals cases, the plan must provide a copy of the actual notice delivered, not a sample letter, along with the signature page, with the member signature, acknowledging receipt.

If a member refuses to sign an acknowledgment of receipt of the Notice of Non-Coverage, both the beneficiary’s medical chart and the “refusal to sign” page of the notice should reflect:

- The date the notice was delivered.
- The individual who delivered the notice.
- Specific reasons for the member’s refusal to sign the notice receipt acknowledgment form.
- If a witness is able to attest a patient’s refusal to sign, document the delivery of the notice and obtain the witness’s signature as attestation to the patient’s refusal to sign.
- If a witness is not available, the individual delivering the notice should sign the acknowledgment form to attest the attempted delivery of the Notice of Non-Coverage.

Enhancements to build on the acknowledgment of receipt in the case of a refusal to sign:

- Often, a verbal notice of a planned discharge occurs prior to delivery of the actual written notice. Although not required, if a verbal notice occurs, it can be easily noted on the Acknowledgment of Receipt page prior to delivery of the notice to the member. By noting the verbal notice on the acknowledgment of receipt, the case documentation is enhanced, should an issue be subsequently appealed. NOTE: Verbal notice does not meet the requirements for valid notice. Verbal notice can only be used to enhance the case documentation related to the actual delivery of a valid notice with a signed acknowledgement of receipt.

# Blue Shield Medicare Advantage Plan Required Billing Elements

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## Skilled Nursing Facility Discharges (SNF or TCU) *(cont'd.)*

### Guardians and Incompetent Patients

A Notice is not valid if delivered knowingly to an incompetent patient. Having a patient being discharged from skilled nursing care with a diagnosis of dementia is not likely to hold as a valid notice on appeal unless there are documented attempts to also deliver the Notice of Non-Coverage (NONC) to and secure a signed acknowledgment from any legal guardian or other family members.

Legal guardians include court appointed guardians, family members with Durable Power of Attorney for Health Care, or appropriate legal counsel/attorney representation. Additionally, it is also recognized that, as a practical matter, there are circumstances when appointment documentation cannot be obtained in a timely manner. If a member is not competent or is physically unable to sign the statement, and the representative is the spouse or next of kin, the notice acknowledgement that is signed by a default representative should be clearly documented by the facility as to the applicability of a state allowable person to be a default representative. In the event there is any controversy related to such default representation, only a representative as determined by the appropriate state court would be accepted.

If verbal or telephonic notice is provided to a representative, this is only as back up to the actual signed acknowledgement of written notice. The member officially receives notice when the written notice is delivered, and a signed acknowledgement obtained or a clearly documented refusal to sign the acknowledgement occurs.

We are challenged when a guardian is unwilling to sign the acknowledgment of receipt of the notice and direct hand delivery is not viable. In such cases, document all attempts to both verbally inform and to physically deliver the notice carefully. If delivery of the notice to a guardian for an incompetent patient is via mail, keep all receipts from the courier service or certified mail (return receipt required) to demonstrate delivery of the notice. In such cases, the signed courier service or other confirmation of delivery can be submitted as valid acknowledgement of receipt.

- The patient's chart should document any verbal notice
- Document attempted delivery to member and guardian
- Obtain signed acknowledgement of receipt or document (and preferably witness) actual delivery of the notice, where there is a refusal to sign

*Note: In cases where care must be coordinated through an offsite guardian, provide adequate time for delivery of a valid notice. (A courier service delivery will delay notice and potentially discharge by only one day if they are able to deliver to the guardian. U.S. Certified mail is not as predictable.)*

# Blue Shield Medicare Advantage Plan Required Billing Elements

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## Skilled Nursing Facility Discharges (SNF or TCU) *(cont'd.)*

### Regulatory Changes and the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services

**Important Notice:** The Grijalva Final Rule 42 C.F.R. § 422.620 contains provisions required under the settlement agreement in the Grijalva v. Shalala litigation concerning appeal rights under the Medicare managed care program to Medicare Advantage (MA) enrollees at the time of discharge from an inpatient hospital stay. For the Grijalva portion, which relates to SNF, Home Health and CORF discharges, the effective date was January 1, 2004. The current requirement still in effect for IPAs is to deliver the Notice of Non-Coverage (NONC) within one day prior to the effective date of the discharge.

#### ***The Final Rule Requires:***

- The right to an immediate review of a Medicare Advantage Organization (MAO) discharge decision by an independent review body if the enrollee believes services should continue.
- Advanced written notice to all MA enrollees **at least two days before** the termination of certain services (before planned termination of Medicare coverage of their skilled nursing facility (SNF), home health agency (HHA) or comprehensive outpatient rehabilitation facility (CORF) services), with instructions on how to obtain a detailed notice and file an appeal.
- Upon request, a specific and detailed explanation of why services are either no longer medically necessary or are no longer covered by the health plan. The health plan also needs to describe any applicable Medicare coverage rule, MA policy, contract provision or rationale upon which the termination decision was based.

In addition, the final rule requires MAOs to provide detailed discharge notices only in those situations where enrollees indicate dissatisfaction with the health plan's decision. All Medicare beneficiaries who are treated in a hospital will continue to receive generic notices upon admission that will inform them of their appeal rights, but only those beneficiaries that disagree with the decision to be discharged must be issued a detailed written notice of non-coverage one day before their hospital coverage ends. If an appeal is filed, beneficiaries remain entitled to continuation of coverage for their hospital stay until the quality improvement organization renders a decision.

Enrollees then may request an independent review of the MA organization's decision to end coverage of SNF, HHA or CORF services. In the event of a timely appeal request, an MA organization must issue a second, detailed notice that explains the reasons why Medicare coverage should end.

CMS has designated Quality Improvement Organizations (QIOs) to conduct these fast-track reviews. QIOs are suitable for the fast-track appeals process in light of their experience in performing similar, immediate reviews of inpatient hospital discharges. The QIO that has an agreement with the SNF, HHA, or CORF providing the enrollee's services will process the appeal. The MA organization must provide the second, detailed notice to both the QIO and the enrollee.

# Blue Shield Medicare Advantage Plan Required Billing Elements

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## Skilled Nursing Facility Discharges (SNF or TCU) *(cont'd.)*

### Regulatory Changes & the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services *(cont'd.)*

***Provider Notification of Termination.*** An important feature of the final rule provisions is that Medicare would charge providers with the actual delivery of the required notices. CMS believes that the providers themselves are in the best position to deliver the notices to enrollees, and that it would be placing an unreasonable burden on MAO's to require that they deliver the notices to affected enrollees. The MA organization would retain ultimate responsibility for the decision to terminate services and for financial coverage of the services, however. The services would remain covered until four calendar days after an enrollee receives the termination notice, or if the Independent Review Entity reviews the decision, until noon on the day after an Independent Review Entity decision upholding the MAO's decision. CMS believes that the requirement that providers issue these notices, in effect on behalf of MAO's, best ensures that beneficiaries receive these notices in a timely manner. To facilitate implementation of this policy, we are proposing under §422.502(I) that all contracts between MAO's and their providers must specify that the providers will comply with the notice and appeal provisions in subpart M of the federal requirements.

***Timing of Notices.*** Section 422.624(b)(1) addresses the timing of the required notices. In general, the provider would notify the enrollee of the MAO's decision to terminate covered services two calendar days before the scheduled termination. Again, the current requirement still in effect is within one day of the date of discharge. If the provider services are expected to be furnished to an enrollee for a time span of fewer than two calendar days in duration, the enrollee should be given the notice upon admission to the provider (or at the beginning of the service period if there is no official "admission" to a non-institutional provider, such as in an HHA setting). The notice must be given in all situations, regardless of whether an enrollee agrees with the decision that his or her services should end.

CMS would allow providers a full working "day" within which to deliver the termination notice, with any notification delivered during normal business hours on a given day serving to initiate the four-day standard on that day, even if the timing of the delivery of the notice resulted in fewer than 24 hours to ask for an Independent Review Entity appeal, and fewer than 96 hours between notification and the proposed termination of services. That is, a notice delivered to a member at 2 p.m., Monday, would indicate that the member has until noon, Tuesday, to appeal to the Independent Review Entity, with termination of services scheduled for noon, Friday.

# Blue Shield Medicare Advantage Plan Required Billing Elements

## Skilled Nursing Facility Discharges (SNF or TCU) *(cont'd.)*

### Regulatory Changes & the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services *(cont'd.)*

**Delivery of Notices.** §422.624(c) specifies that “delivery” of a notice is valid only if a member has signed and dated the notice to indicate that he or she both received the notice and can comprehend its contents. This policy is consistent with our requirements governing delivery of similar notices, such as the requirements set forth in HCFA Program Memoranda A-02-018 for HHA Advanced Beneficiary Notices. Under this concept, a member who is comatose, confused, or otherwise unable to understand or act on his or her rights could not validly “receive” the notice, necessitating the presence of an authorized representative for purposes of receiving the notice. Similarly, presenting the standardized notice to a person who is illiterate, blind, or unable to understand English would not constitute successful “delivery” of the notice. Such situations could be remedied either through use of an authorized representative if that person has no barriers to receiving the notice or through other steps (such as use of a translator or language accessible version of the notice) that overcome the difficulties associated with notification.

*Note: CMS would not interpret the requirement for successful delivery to permit an enrollee to extend coverage indefinitely by refusing to sign a notice of termination. If an enrollee refuses to sign a notice, the provider would annotate its copy of the notice to indicate the refusal, and the date of the refusal would be considered the date of receipt of the notice. Paragraph (c) describes what constitutes an effective delivery of a termination notice. The notice would have to be delivered timely, using standardized format and language, and include all of the elements required under §422.624(b)(2).*

### BLUE SHIELD OF CALIFORNIA APPEAL PROCESS FOR NOTICE OF NON-COVERAGE HHA, SNF, CORF

#	Responsible Party	Activity	Time Requirement
	IPA/MSO	Determines termination date and drafts Notice of Medicare Non-Coverage (NOMNC). Faxes to SNF, HHA, CORF. If SNF, HHA, CORF prepare their own notices then notification needs to be given for termination date.	No less than 2 days prior to termination of services
1.	SNF, HHA, CORF	Issues NOMNC and obtains member's signature. SNF- at least 2 days prior to termination. If < 2 days of service, then on admission or first visit, if the enrollee’s services are expected to be fewer than 2 days in duration, the SNF, HHA, or CORF should notify the enrollee at the time of admission to the provider. If, in a non-institutional setting, the span of time between services exceeds two days, the provider should deliver the notice no later than the next to last time that services are furnished. If benefits are exhausted a notice is required, the member may appeal, however these are referred back to the health plan to review and respond to this appeal. If a HHA is going out for an evaluation only, the agency is not required to send a notice. Also when only partial services are being discontinued (i.e., PT ends, but HHC continues), no notice is needed until all services end.	2 days prior to termination of services

# Blue Shield Medicare Advantage Plan Required Billing Elements

#	Responsible Party	Activity	Time Requirement
2.	Enrollee	Disagrees with the discharge, the enrollee must contact the Quality Improvement Organization (QIO), Health Services Advisory Group, Inc. This request is made either in writing, telephone or fax, by noon the day after receipt of the NOMNC. The notice is still considered timely as long as Health Services Advisory Group, Inc. receives the appeal request no later than noon the day before the effective date that Medicare coverage ends.	No later than noon the day after receipt of notice
3.	QIO = Health Services Advisory Group, Inc.	Receives Appeal request from enrollee or representative. Immediately notifies Medicare Advantage and the provider of the enrollee's request for a fast track appeal by phone and fax.	Day 1 begins
4.	MA (Medicare Advantage) = Medicare Advantage plan	Receives notice of appeal from Health Services Advisory Group, Inc. (by phone & fax) requesting the following information for review: A copy of the advance notice of termination (NONMC), a copy of the detailed explanation of Non-coverage (DENC), a copy of enrollee's medical records, and a copy of other documents as requested.	Day 1
5.	Blue Shield Medicare Advantage plan	Contact CM at IPA/MSO and request the information above faxed to Health Services Advisory Group, Inc. for review. Advise of same day requirement for sending these records. Request coversheet confirming records were sent to Health Services Advisory Group, Inc., copy of NONMC and DENC faxed to Blue Shield Medicare Advantage plan. Also contact should be made to SNF requesting records & NOMNC be faxed to Health Services Advisory Group, Inc. for review with confirmation of this to Blue Shield. Health Services Advisory Group, Inc. needs the detailed chart notes that SNF's have for review.	Day 1
6.	Blue Shield Medicare Advantage plan	If IPA/MSO is unable to make Day 1 submission requirement, notify Manager, Director or Medical Director.	Day 1
7.	Blue Shield Medicare Advantage plan	Manager, Director or Medical Director then contacts IPA Director of UM/QM & or Medical Director to obtain documents.	Day 1
8.	IPA/MSO	Faxes records to: 1.) Health Services Advisory Group, Inc. Copy of NOMNC with member's signature or documentation of refusal to sign, copy of DENC and copy of enrollee's medical records. 2.) Member/representative: Mails DENC. Upon request, all documents sent to Health Services Advisory Group, Inc.	Day 1



## Blue Shield Medicare Advantage Plan Required Billing Elements

#	Responsible Party	Activity	Time Requirement
9.	IPA/ Blue Shield Medicare Advantage plan	HMO ONLY: IPA makes decision to rescind the termination date and send new letter to member. Fax copy of letter to Health Services Advisory Group, Inc. PPO ONLY: Blue Shield makes decision to rescind the termination date and send new letter to member.	Resolved Go to step 14  Resolved Go to step 14
10.	Health Services Advisory Group, Inc.	Reviews documents. Renders decision to uphold or overturn. Notifies Blue Shield Medicare Advantage plan of decision by phone or fax. Mails letters of determination to Blue Shield Medicare Advantage plan and enrollee.	Day 1 If Resolved Go to step 14
11.	Health Services Advisory Group, Inc.	If documents not received by Health Services Advisory Group, Inc., on Day 2, Health Services Advisory Group, Inc. sends to Blue Shield Medicare Advantage plan , "Notice: Failure to Comply" requesting documents again.	Day 2
12.	Blue Shield Medicare Advantage plan	Call IPA/MSO contact again to ensure all documents are faxed to Health Services Advisory Group, Inc. for review.	Day 2
13.	Health Services Advisory Group, Inc.	Review documents Render decision to uphold or overturn Notifies IPA and Blue Shield Medicare Advantage plan of decision by phone or fax. Mails letters of determination to Blue Shield Medicare Advantage plan and enrollee.	Day 2
14.	Blue Shield Medicare Advantage plan	Logs all actions, dates and times in Notes document.  Prepare file for each appeal with notes on left side of folder, all other documents are filed on right side of folder, latest on top Record case in Grijalva Appeals tracking log.	Real time
15.	Blue Shield Medicare Advantage plan	Cases are filed away in a locked cabinet alphabetically.	Conclusion

# Blue Shield Medicare Advantage Plan Required Billing Elements

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## Skilled Nursing Facility Discharges (SNF or TCU) *(cont'd.)*

### Contractual and Billing Requirements

Contracts already obligate providers to compliance with state and federal regulations. As part of the new CMS rule, contracted entities must comply with applicable notice and appeal provisions in subpart M, including but not limited to, the notification requirements in §§422.620 and 422.624 and the requirements in §422.626 concerning supplying information to an Independent Review Entity.

#### Questions & Answers:

- **Is the provider or MA organization required to obtain an enrollee's signature on the advance termination notice or detailed termination notice?**

The provider must obtain the enrollee's or authorized representative's signature on the advance termination notice (NOMNC), which ensures that the enrollee received the notice, and that financial liability may be properly transferred to the enrollee for any days beyond the effective date that Medicare coverage ends. The provider must place the original NOMNC in the enrollee's case file, and give a copy to the enrollee. In the event of an appeal, the provider must also provide a copy to the Quality Improvement Organization (QIO), since the QIO is responsible for verifying that the provider delivered a valid notice to the enrollee.

The MA organization does not need to obtain the enrollee's or authorized representative's signature on the detailed notice, which is called the Detailed Explanation of Non-Coverage (DENC).

- **Suppose that an enrollee is receiving physical therapy, wound care, and IV in a SNF. If the SNF only discontinues the IV, is the SNF required to deliver an NOMNC to the enrollee two days prior to the IV ending?**

No. A provider is not required to deliver the NOMNC two days prior to one service ending, while other Medicare-covered services continue. The fast-track appeals process applies only to situations when the enrollee will no longer receive Medicare-covered services from the provider. The scenario described would be considered a reduction, rather than a termination, of services.

- **Many patients receiving home health care only require a single visit. Can the NOMNC be given during the first (and last) visit?**

Yes. In cases where the services or visits will be less than two days, the NOMNC may be given upon admission, or during the only visit.

- **If a member is in a SNF, gets pneumonia and subsequently needs to go to an acute setting, should the member receive the NOMNC?**

No. The NOMNC is not intended or required for this situation.

- **Will SNFs, HHAs, and CORFs be required to retain copies of NOMNCs in patients' medical records? Will the MA organization need to obtain a copy?**

The provider should retain a copy of the NOMNC as part of the patient's medical record; however, MAO's and providers should determine how and where the notices should be maintained to meet medical records' retention policies.

# Blue Shield Medicare Advantage Plan Required Billing Elements

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## Skilled Nursing Facility Discharges (SNF or TCU) *(cont'd.)*

### Contractual & Billing Requirements *(cont'd.)*

- **If a provider is discontinuing a previously authorized, discrete increment of services, e.g., the MA organization authorized 12 skilled nursing visits by an HHA nurse, does the provider still have to issue a NOMNC if the provider is planning to discharge the patient as scheduled on the last visit? Why?**  
Yes. The provider must deliver the NOMNC no later than the next-to-last visit in this example. Providing a notice to the enrollee not only conveys when the services are going to end, but also informs the enrollee of the right to appeal if the enrollee disagrees, and transfers liability to the enrollee if the enrollee continues to receive non-covered services.
- **Can you please clarify if whether the fast-track appeals process also includes psychiatric home health services?**  
Yes, the fast-track appeals process applies to psychiatric home health services.
- **How will providers know what their responsibilities are under the new fast-track appeals process?**  
CMS provides information to providers on their responsibilities under this new appeals process through CMS' Medlearn website, CMS' "list serve" of participating providers, outreach to provider trade associations, and CMS open door forums. In addition, we are instructing our fiscal intermediaries and carriers to include an article about the process in their next provider bulletins. QIOs also are required to provide education and training to the providers with whom they have agreements. MAO's must also do their part to ensure that their providers are educated about their responsibilities under the fast-track appeals process.
- **Will CMS release the NOMNC to providers, or will MAO's be required to distribute the notices to the providers directly?**  
The notices are available online at <https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Medicare-General-Information/BNI/MAEDNotices>. MAO's should work with their providers to determine whether direct distribution is necessary. The provider education material that we have distributed refers providers to the "appeals" website.

# Blue Shield Medicare Advantage Plan Required Billing Elements

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## CMS Model Letters:

- DETAILED NOTICE OF DISCHARGE (Attachment A)
- NOTICE OF MEDICARE NON-COVERAGE (Attachment B)

(Attachment A – CMS Model Letter – **SAMPLE** - Must be 12 point font)

Patient Name:  
Patient ID Number:  
Physician:

**OMB Approval No. 0938-1019**  
Date Issued:

**{Insert Hospital or Plan Logo here}**  
**DETAILED NOTICE OF DISCHARGE**

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You have asked for a review by the Quality Improvement Organization (QIO), an independent reviewer hired by Medicare to review your case. This notice gives you a detailed explanation about why your hospital and your managed care plan (if you belong to one), in agreement with your doctor, believe that your inpatient hospital services should end on \_\_\_\_\_ . This is based on Medicare coverage policies listed below and your medical condition. **This is not an official Medicare decision.** The decision on your appeal will come from your Quality Improvement Organization (QIO).

- Medicare Coverage Policies:

\_\_\_\_ Medicare does not cover inpatient hospital services that are not medically necessary or could be safely furnished in another setting. (Refer to 42 Code of Federal Regulations, 411.15 (g) and (k)).

\_\_\_\_ Medicare Managed Care policies, if applicable: \_\_\_\_\_  
**{insert specific managed care policies}**

Other \_\_\_\_\_  
**{insert other applicable policies}**

- Specific information about your current medical condition:
- If you would like a copy of the documents sent to the QIO, or copies of the specific policies or criteria used to make this decision, please call **{insert hospital and/or plan telephone number}**.

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is 0938- 1019. The time required to complete this information collection is estimated to average 60 minutes per response, including the time to review instructions, search existing data resources, gather the data needed, and complete and review the information collection. If you have comments concerning the accuracy of the time estimate(s) or suggestions for improving this form, please write to: CMS, 7500 Security Boulevard, Attn: PRA Reports Clearance Officer, Mail Stop C4-26-05, Baltimore, Maryland 21244-1850. CMS 10066 (approved 5/2007)

# Blue Shield Medicare Advantage Plan Required Billing Elements

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(Attachment B – CMS Model Letter – SAMPLE - Must be 12 point font)

OMB Approval No. 0938-0953

{Insert provider contact information here}

## NOTICE OF MEDICARE NON-COVERAGE

**Patient name:**

**Patient number:**

**The Effective Date Coverage of Your Current** {insert type}

**Services Will End:** {insert effective date}

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- Your Medicare provider and/or health plan have determined that Medicare probably will not pay for your current {insert type} services after the effective date indicated above.
- You may have to pay for any services you receive after the above date.

### Your Right to Appeal This Decision

- You have the right to an immediate, independent medical review (appeal) of the decision to end Medicare coverage of these services. Your services will continue during the appeal.
- If you choose to appeal, the independent reviewer will ask for your opinion. The reviewer also will look at your medical records and/or other relevant information. You do not have to prepare anything in writing, but you have the right to do so if you wish.
- If you choose to appeal, you and the independent reviewer will each receive a copy of the detailed explanation about why your coverage for services should not continue. You will receive this detailed notice only after you request an appeal.
- If you choose to appeal, and the independent reviewer agrees services should no longer be covered after the effective date indicated above.
- Neither Medicare nor your plan will pay for these services after that date.
- If you stop services no later than the effective date indicated above, you will avoid financial liability.

### How to Ask For an Immediate Appeal

- You must make your request to your Quality Improvement Organization (also known as a QIO). A QIO is the independent reviewer authorized by Medicare to review the decision to end these services.
- Your request for an immediate appeal should be made as soon as possible, but no later than noon of the day before the effective date indicated above.
- The QIO will notify you of its decision as soon as possible, generally no later than two days after the effective date of this notice if you are in Original Medicare. If you are in a Medicare health plan, the QIO generally will notify you of its decision by the effective date of this notice.
- Call your QIO at: Health Services Advisory Group of California, Inc., 1-800-841-1602, TTY 1-800-881-5980, to appeal, or if you have questions.

# Blue Shield Medicare Advantage Plan Required Billing Elements

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See page 2 of this notice for more information.

Form CMS 10123-NOMNC (Approved 12/31/2011)  
H0504\_12\_095B File & Use 05052012

OMB approval 0938-0953

## If You Miss The Deadline to Request An Immediate Appeal, You May Have Other Appeal Rights:

- If you have Original Medicare: Call the QIO listed on page 1.
- If you belong to a Medicare health plan: Call your plan at the number given below.

Plan contact information:

Blue Shield Medicare Advantage Plan  
Attn: Medicare Appeals and Grievances Dept.  
P.O. Box 927  
Woodland Hills, CA 91365-9856

Ph: 1-800-776-4466  
TTY: 1-800-794-1099  
Fax: 1-916-350-6510

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Additional Information (Optional):

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Please sign below to indicate you received and understood this notice.

I have been notified that coverage of my services will end on the effective date indicated on this notice and that I may appeal this decision by contacting my QIO.

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Signature of Patient or Representative  
Form CMS 10123-NOMNC (Approved 12/31/2011)

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Date  
OMB approval 0938-0953

# Blue Shield Medicare Advantage Plan Required Billing Elements

## Optional Attachment to assist with documentation

Please fax completed (signed) Notice of Medicare Non-Coverage (NOMNC) to:

\_\_\_\_\_

### CONFIRMATION OF NOTICE BY TELEPHONE

(Notification by telephone is done only in situations where the notice must be delivered to an incompetent enrollee in an institutional setting. See *Medicare Managed Care Manual*, Chapter 13, Section 60.1.3 for reference.)

Name of person contacted: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of contact: \_\_\_\_\_

Time: \_\_\_\_\_

AM  PM

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Health Plan/SNF/HHA/CORF/Medical Group Representative

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

### CONFIRMATION OF FOLLOW-UP NOTICE BY MAIL

(Notification by mail must also be done if telephone notification was made. This is done only in situations where the notice must be delivered to an incompetent enrollee in an institutional setting. See *Medicare Managed Care Manual*, Chapter 13, Section 60.1.3 for reference.)

Mailing address:

\_\_\_\_\_

Date sent: \_\_\_\_\_ Via:  US Mail  Certified Mail  FedEx  Priority Mail

\_\_\_\_\_  
Tracking # (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

### CONFIRMATION OF REFUSAL TO SIGN

*I confirm that the Notice of Medicare Non-Coverage was hand-delivered to the member or the member's authorized representative; however, the member or the member's authorized representative refused to sign the acknowledgment of receipt.*

Name of person receiving notice: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of delivery: \_\_\_\_\_

Time: \_\_\_\_\_

AM  PM

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Person Delivering Notice

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

# Blue Shield Medicare Advantage Plan Required Billing Elements

Guidance Checklist When Issuing NOMNC to Other Than Member (See Medicare Managed Care Manual, Chapter 13, Section 60.1.3)	Responsible Party		Initial Completed	Date	Time
	SNF	BSC/MG/ IPA			
Call patient's representative the day letter is issued. (Date of conversation is the date of the receipt of the NONMC). ID self and give organization, contact name and number, purpose of call (right to file an appeal) and describe the appeal right being discussed (e.g., QIO vs. expedited).					
Inform representative that skilled services will no longer be covered beginning on: (date) _____ and financial responsibility starts on (date) _____					
Advise representative of appeal rights. (You must read directly from the letter)					
Advise representative that an appeal must be phoned to HSAG by 12:00 p.m. the following day of receipt of the NOMNC or phone call.					
Provide the representative with the QIO name (HSAG) and phone number listed in the appeal section of the letter. Provide address, fax or other method of communication needed by representative for QIO to receive appeal in a timely fashion.					
Inform representative how to get a detailed notice describing why the enrollee's services are not being covered					
Provide at least one phone number of an advocacy organization or 1-800-MEDICARE					
Confirm the telephone contact by written notice mailed same day.					
If direct phone contact cannot be made, including leaving voice mail, mail the notice to the representative, certified mail, return receipt requested. (If the <b>Medical Group</b> is sending the certified mail, the Facility must notify the Medical Group immediately that certified mail is required.)  (If the <b>Facility</b> sent the certified mail, and HSAG is processing an appeal, the certified returned receipt must be submitted to HSAG. If not submitted, the appeal may be decided in favor of the member solely due to lack of the receipt which is the evidence of timely notification.)					
Document that representative understands the information provided.					