

HICN to MBI Transition Period Ends 12/31/19

Physicians/Providers/Suppliers have 20 weeks until all claims must be submitted with MBIs only

If a beneficiary has not yet received his/her new Medicare card, he/she must contact 1-800-Medicare to update their home address to ensure another card can be mailed to the correct address.

As you are aware, Medicare Beneficiary Identifier and will replace the SSN-based Health Insurance Claim Number (HICN) for all Medicare Beneficiaries.

All new Medicare cards have been issued and we are reminding the Medicare patients to bring the new card with them to all of their Physicians and provider medical/hospital visits.

The transition period will end on 12/31/2019 and all claims and transactions MUST use the MBI as of January 1, 2020.

It is imperative that providers begin to use the MBI as soon as possible as we do not want them to have any issues once the transition period ends.

Here are a few ways your members can obtain the New MBI:

- Ask your Medicare patients during Patient Intake/Registration: At time of service, ask your patients for their new Medicare card.
- For those patients that are not able to give their card during their visit, please offer them this flyer created by CMS as a reminder to bring the card to you the next time they visit, or send to you in an alternate way: Get Your New Medicare Card
- If they don't have their card with them at the time of service, remind them they can use MyMedicare.gov to get their new Medicare number
- Offer patients who do not have their card the CMS approved flyer Get Your New Medicare Card
- Use the NGSConnex secure MBI look-up tool - Registered users of NGSConnex can access the MBI Lookup Tool to get their patients' MBIs. The user must enter the patient's first and last name, their date of birth, and their SSN (not their HICN), and the provider's NPI.
- If the provider does not have access to NGSConnex, Go to NGSConnex to register for a free account

- Check the remittance advice (formerly Explanation of Medicare Benefits)
- Throughout the transition period, when a claim is submitted with a valid HICN, the MBI will be returned on the remittance. The returned MBI on the remittance is not a verification of Medicare entitlement. Please ensure you go through normal eligibility verification steps once you have the MBI.