



## Expedited Review Process for Hospital Inpatients in Original Medicare

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### Provider Types Affected

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This MLN Matters Article is for inpatient hospitals billing Medicare Administrative Contractors (MACs) for services they provide to Medicare patients.

### Provider Action Needed

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In this Article, you'll learn about:

- How Medicare patients can appeal determinations that inpatient care is no longer necessary
- Medicare Claims Processing Manual updates concerning expedited reviews

**Make sure your staff knows this is a reformatting of the current instructions and there are no policy or instructional changes.**

### Background

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Medicare inpatients have a statutory right to appeal to a Beneficiary and Family Centered Care Quality Improvement Organization (BFCC-QIO) for an expedited review when a hospital, with physician concurrence, determines inpatient care is no longer necessary.

The regulatory foundation for such appeals is in these sections of the Social Security Act (the Act):

- [1866\(a\)\(1\)\(M\)](#)
- [1869\(c\)\(3\)\(C\)\(iii\)\(III\)](#)
- [1154\(e\)](#)

The resulting regulations are in [42 CFR parts 405.1205 & 405.1206](#)).

**CMS has reformatted the manual section to improve readability and understanding. There are no substantive changes.** Here's a summary of the key updates to the [chapter 30, section 200 of the manual](#):

- [Section 200.2](#) discusses the scope which includes all hospitals, including Critical Access Hospitals (CAHs). This section also reminds hospitals of the need to give an Important Message from Medicare (IM) to inpatients who are in Original Medicare.
- [Section 200.2.1](#) tells you about exceptions for situations where patients aren't eligible for expedited review
- [Sections 200.3.1 through 200.3.2](#) tell you about changes to the IM, how to complete the IM and instructions for timely delivery of the IM (both the initial IM and follow-up IM)
- [Section 200.4.4](#) tells you about hospital responsibilities upon learning a patient asked for an expedited determination
- [Section 200.4.5](#) gives you information on the Detailed Notice of Discharge (DND)

The entire revision of the manual is part of [CR 12546](#) for your review.

## More Information

We issued [CR 12546](#) to your MAC as the official instruction for this change.

For more information, [find your MAC's website](#).

## Document History

Date of Change	Description
January 21, 2022	Initial article released.

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