



Processing Instructions to Update the Standard Paper Remit (SPR)

MLN Matters Number: MM11112

Related Change Request (CR) Number: 11112

Related CR Release Date: February 1, 2019

Effective Date: July 1, 2019

Related CR Transmittal Number: R2245OTN

Implementation Date: July 1, 2019

PROVIDER TYPE AFFECTED

This MLN Matters Article is intended for physicians, providers and suppliers billing Medicare Administrative Contractors (MACs) for services provided to Medicare beneficiaries.

PROVIDER ACTION NEEDED

Change Request (CR) 11112 instructs MACs to update their systems to ensure that SPRs mailed after July 1, 2019, mask the Health Insurance Claim Number (HICN), so the Social Security Number (SSN) does not show. Make sure your billing staff is aware of these instructions.

BACKGROUND

With the passage and signing of the Social Security Number Fraud Prevention Act of 2017, which became Public Law No. 115-59, the law, restricts the inclusion of SSNs on documents sent by mail by the Federal Government effective not later than 5 years after the date of its enactment.

CR 11112 instructs MACs to update their systems, effective July 1, 2019, to mask the HICNs (for example, xxxxx7777A, xxxxx7777C1) and the Railroad Retirement Board HICNs (for example, Axxxxx1370, WCAxxxxx2388, and CAxxxxx1) on any print file used to create an SPR for mailing. **The Medicare Beneficiary Identifier (MBI) will not be masked.**

(Note: This masking requirement does not apply to RRB numbers issued before March 1964, which include an alpha prefix and 6 digits (for example, A000000.)

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The official instruction, CR 11112, issued to your MAC regarding this change is available at <https://www.cms.gov/Regulations-and-Guidance/Guidance/Transmittals/2019Downloads/R2245OTN.pdf>.

If you have questions, your MACs may have more information. Find their website at <http://go.cms.gov/MAC-website-list>.

DOCUMENT HISTORY

Date of Change	Description
February 1, 2019	Initial article released.

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