



Medicare Outpatient Observation Notice (MOON) Notification Template and Instructions

February 2, 2017

On August 6, 2015, Congress enacted the Notice of Observation Treatment and Implication for Care Eligibility (NOTICE) Act, which requires all hospitals and critical access hospitals (CAHs) to provide written notification and an oral explanation of such notification to members receiving observation services as outpatients for more than 24 hours.

The OMB-approved standardized Medicare Outpatient Observation Notice (MOON), form CMS-1061, and instructions *are now available for use*. The MOON was developed to inform all Medicare beneficiaries when they are an outpatient receiving observation services, and are not an inpatient of the hospital or CAH. In accordance with the statute, the notice must include the reasons the individual is an outpatient receiving observation services and the implications of receiving outpatient services, such as required Medicare cost-sharing and post-hospitalization eligibility for Medicare coverage of skilled nursing facility services. Hospitals and CAHs must deliver the notice no later than 36 hours after observation services are initiated or sooner if the individual is transferred, discharged, or admitted.

All hospitals and CAHs are required to provide this statutorily required notification ***no later than March 8, 2017***. The notice and accompanying instructions are available at:

<https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Medicare-General-Information/BNI/index.html>

Please contact Provider Network Operations at the numbers below with any questions.

Thank you!

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