NC AHEC PRACTICE SUPPORT

CMS COVID-19 Relief for Medicare Providers

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) announced an expansion of its accelerated and advance payment program for Medicare participating health care providers and suppliers. This is to ensure providers and suppliers have the resources necessary to combat the 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19).

- Accelerated and advance Medicare payments provide emergency funding and address cash flow issues based on historical payments when there is disruption in claims submission and/or claims processing.
- These expedited payments are typically offered in natural disasters to accelerate cash flow to the impacted health care providers and suppliers.
- The payments can be requested by hospitals, doctors, durable medical equipment suppliers and other Medicare Part A and Part B providers and suppliers.
- Most providers will be able to request an advance of up to 100% of their Medicare reimbursement amount for a three month period.

To qualify for accelerated or advance payments, the provider or supplier must:

- Have billed Medicare for claims within 180 days immediately prior to the date of signature on the provider's/ supplier's request form,
- Not be in bankruptcy,
- Not be under active medical review or program integrity investigation, and
- Not have any outstanding delinquent Medicare overpayments.

Medicare will start accepting and processing the Accelerated/Advance Payment Requests immediately. CMS anticipates that the payments will be issued within seven days of the provider's request.

An informational fact sheet and application information are listed at this site:
https://www.cms.gov/files/document/Accelerated-and-Advanced-Payments-Fact-Sheet.pdf.

For more information, please contact your regional NC AHEC Practice Support coach or contact NC AHEC Practice Support at practicesupport@ncahec.net.