



September 10, 2014

**Medicare Secondary Payer Mandatory Reporting Provisions in
Section 111 of the Medicare, Medicaid, and SCHIP Extension Act of 2007
(See 42 U.S.C. § 1395y(b)(7)&(b)(8))**

**ALERT: Change in Reporting of Medicare Health Insurance Claim Numbers (HICNs) and
Social Security Numbers (SSNs) for Non-Group Health Plan (NGHP) Responsible
Reporting Entities (RREs)**

In accordance with Section 204 of the Strengthening Medicare and Repaying Taxpayers Act of 2012 (SMART Act), the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) is modifying the existing requirements related to the submission of HICNs and SSNs when NGHP RREs report settlements, judgments, awards, or other payments.

CMS highly recommends, but does not require, that NGHP RREs submit the HICN or full SSN as part of their reports, as it significantly increases CMS' ability to accurately identify an individual as a Medicare beneficiary. However, effective January 5, 2015, where a NGHP RRE cannot obtain an individual's HICN or full SSN, RREs may report the following data elements that will enable CMS to properly identify a Medicare beneficiary:

- Last five digits of SSN,
- First Initial,
- Surname,
- Date of Birth, and
- Gender.

If NGHP RREs are unable to obtain or do not provide the HICN, full SSN, or any of the above listed data elements, they must document their attempts to obtain this information. (RRE's may use the model language provided by CMS located in the Downloads section of the Mandatory Insurer Reporting (MIR) for NGHP page at <http://go.cms.gov/mirnghp>.)

A subsequent Alert will be published prior to the January 5, 2015 implementation, which will include additional instructions for entry of the partial SSN into the Claim Input File or Query Input File. Please continue to visit the MIR NGHP section of the CMS.gov web site at <http://go.cms.gov/mirnghp> for the most current information.

The information included in this Alert supersedes the applicable language in the MMSEA Section 111 Medicare Secondary Payer Mandatory Reporting Liability Insurance (Including Self-Insurance), No-Fault Insurance, and Workers' Compensation User Guide (Version 4.2) and the MMSEA Section 111 Coordination of Benefits Secure Website (COBSW) User Guide (Version 7.6) and will be incorporated into subsequent versions of these User Guides.