## **HOT TOPIC**

## **REMINDER:**

## REFRAIN FROM COLLECTING COST SHARE FROM QUALIFIED MEDICARE BENEFICIARY (QMB) ENROLLEES

The QMB Program is a Medicaid benefit that pays Medicare premiums and cost sharing for certain low-income Medicare beneficiaries. Federal law prohibits Medicare providers from collecting Medicare Part A and Part B coinsurance, copayments, and deductibles from those enrolled in the QMB program, including those enrolled in Medicare Advantage and other Part C plans.

## **Identifying QMB Enrollees**

Providers and suppliers can use Medicare eligibility data provided to Medicare providers, suppliers, and their authorized billing agents (including clearinghouses and third-party vendors) by CMS's HIPAA Eligibility Transaction System (HETS) to verify a patient's QMB status and exemption from cost-sharing charges.

Providers and suppliers may verify a patient's QMB status through state online Medicaid eligibility systems or other documentation, including Medicaid identification cards and documents issued by the state verifying enrollment in the QMB program.

For more information about your responsibilities and QMB patients, please visit the CMS QMB website: <a href="https://www.cms.gov/medicare-medicaid-coordination/medicare-and-medicaid-coordination/medicare-medicaid-coordination-office/qmb.html">www.cms.gov/medicare-medicaid-coordination/medicare-medicaid-coordination/medicare-medicaid-coordination-office/qmb.html</a>

