

# SPECIAL eBULLETIN

FOR PROFESSIONAL AND FACILITY PROVIDERS

April 15, 2021

## EXTENDED THROUGH DECEMBER 2021: MEDICARE SEQUESTRATION TEMPORARY PAYMENT INCREASE

[Last year](#), Congress passed the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act) in part to assist providers with any operational and business challenges by providing emergency funding. Included in the CARES Act is the temporary suspension of Medicare sequestration reductions.

Yesterday, **the suspension of Medicare sequestration reductions was extended through December 31, 2021** in order to aid hospitals and providers continuing to experience significant financial challenges during the pandemic. Highmark has adjusted its processes to align with that decision.

For Medicare Advantage claims with dates of service from May 1, 2020 through December 31, 2021, Highmark will pass along to providers the current amount that claims are being reduced for sequestration. The increases will be applied to all Highmark Medicare Advantage HMO and PPO claim payments after determining any applicable Medicare secondary payment adjustments.

### COVID-19 INFORMATION

Visit the dedicated COVID-19 section on **Highmark's Provider Resource Center** to stay informed of the most up-to-date Highmark information relating to the public health emergency. Check back regularly as new guidance is available or any changes occur.

