

Medicare Outpatient Observation Notice (MOON)

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 individuals receiving observation services as outpatients for more than 24 hours.

The purpose of this Provider Update is to announce the availability of the OMB-approved standardized Medicare Outpatient Observation Notice (MOON), form CMS-10611. All hospitals and critical access hospitals (CAH's) are required to provide this statutorily required notification no later than March 8, 2017.

A copy of the notice and accompanying instructions are attached and also available on www.HighmarkWholesale.com –select Provider, and then click on Forms & Reference Materials.

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 cost-sharing and post-hospitalization eligibility for 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. A copy of the signed document should be maintained in the patient's medical record.

If you have questions about this Provider Update, please contact your Provider Relations Representative directly.

****Action Required – Please use this link to complete the attestation to acknowledge you have accessed, reviewed and understand Highmark Wholesale's Medicare Outpatient Observation Notice (MOON):**

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/G96KCDW>