

Regence BlueCross BlueShield of Utah MedAdvantage Notice of Medicare Non-Coverage (NOMNC) Fact Sheet

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) requires that members enrolled in Medicare Advantage health plans, like Regence BlueCross BlueShield of Utah MedAdvantage (Regence MedAdvantage), have the right to a fast track review by a Quality Improvement Organization (QIO) if they appeal the discontinuation of their skilled nursing facility coverage.

It is imperative that your organization understands that **Medicare requires the *Notice of Medicare Non-Coverage (NOMNC) form to be issued for every discharge***. The NOMNC form informs the patient the date coverage of services from your facility ends, and describes the member appeal process.

The following information highlights the process that Regence MedAdvantage participating facilities must follow. It also lists resources for additional information and gives a sample case scenario.

Who must sign:

- Patients (or their authorized representative) whose coverage for services from your facility will end.

What you must do:

- Provide a Regence NOMNC form to Regence MedAdvantage patients and obtain their signature on the form.
- Fax a copy of the signed and dated form to Regence at 1 (800) 453-4341 and keep a copy in the patient's medical record as required by CMS.
- In the case of an emergency, the information on the Regence NOMNC form can be conveyed over the telephone to the authorized representative. In this circumstance, providers must document on the NOMNC form that the notice and telephone number for the QIO was provided via telephone.

When to issue the NOMNC form:

- The form must be signed and a copy faxed to Regence **no later than two days before a patient's coverage of services from your facility is due to terminate**.
- If services are expected to be less than two days, deliver the notice upon admission.
- If the patient chooses to appeal, he or she must contact the QIO to request a review no later than noon on the day before services are to end. The QIO appeal decision will generally be completed within 48 hours of the patient's request for a review.
- With respect to weekends, although QIOs are open, Regence is closed. If possible, providers should try to deliver the Regence NOMNC form early enough in the week to minimize the possibility of extended liability for weekend services.
- See the enclosed detailed timeline for more information.

Where to find Regence NOMNC forms:

- Forms are available in the Forms section of the *Provider Web Site* at www.ut.regence.com/physician. Be sure to select the correct version of the form. Versions are available for **home health** and **skilled nursing facilities**.

Where to find additional information:

- CMS requirement #42 CFR 422.624(b) (2) can be found as a final rule published in the April 4, 2003 edition of the *Federal Register*, Vol. #68, No. #16652.
- CMS provides detailed explanations of the appeal process, along with frequently asked questions, on their Web site at: www.cms.hhs.gov/MMCAG.
- Contact your provider consultant or Regence MedAdvantage Provider Customer Service at 1 (877) 508-7362 if you have additional questions.

Skilled Nursing Facility Sample Scenario:

On May 25th, Jane Doe is admitted to a Skilled Nursing Facility (SNF) after surgery. On June 2nd, Regence MedAdvantage contacts the SNF to deliver a Regence NOMNC form to Ms. Doe indicating she will be discharged on June 4th.

DATE	MEMBER	QIO and REGENCE
May 25 th	Jane Doe is admitted to SNF.	
June 2 nd	NOMNC Distribution Date Jane Doe receives advance notice that coverage ends June 4 th .	SNF delivers a <i>Regence Notice of Medicare Non-Coverage</i> (NOMNC) form which is signed by the member or designated representative. A copy of the signed Regence NOMNC form is faxed to Regence at 1 (800) 453-4341.
June 3 rd	If Jane Doe does not agree with discharge, she must file appeal with QIO by noon.	If Jane Doe appeals, QIO notifies Regence to provide medical information and detailed notice to the QIO by end of day. Provider may be asked to provide copy of signed Regence NOMNC form and medical records.
June 4 th	Last Authorized Day If Jane Doe appealed, she should receive a decision from the QIO by end of day.	QIO decision will overturn, uphold, or determine a new discharge date. If Jane Doe does not appeal and is discharged on this date, she has no liability.
June 5 th	If the QIO agrees with original discharge date, Jane Doe is liable for care starting today.	If the QIO overturns Regence's decision to discontinue SNF care, Regence is liable for services through the date given by the QIO. If Regence determines that no additional SNF care is required beyond the date specified by the QIO, the facility must issue a new Regence NOMNC form.