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MLN Matters Updates from CMS

National Provider Identifier (NPI) Education Articles

As Medicare's May 23rd National Provider Identifier (NPI) implementation approaches, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) reminds providers to visit the NPI **MLN Matters** national provider education articles, courtesy of the **Medicare Learning Network** .

The National Provider Identifier (NPI) is a Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) Administrative Simplification Standard. The NPI is a unique identification number for covered health care providers. Covered health care providers and all health plans and health care clearinghouses will use the NPIs in the administrative and financial transactions adopted under HIPAA. The NPI is a 10-position, intelligence-free numeric identifier (10-digit number). This means that the numbers do not carry other information about healthcare providers, such as the state in which they live or their medical specialty.

The **Medicare Learning Network** has created many **MLN Matters** articles on the various aspects of Medicare's NPI implementation. A comprehensive list of the NPI articles is available at http://www.cms.hhs.gov/NationalProvIdentStand/Downloads/MMArticles_NPI.pdf on the CMS Website.

New MLN Quarterly Journal Ad — NPI MLN Matters Articles

This quarter's journal ad features the MLN Matters articles available regarding Medicare's implementation of the National Provider Identifier (NPI).

Each calendar quarter, the **Medicare Learning Network** creates a journal advertisement based on an initiative or new product of particular importance during that time frame. National, state, and local associations are encouraged to use this journal ad in their publications and/or newsletters and Websites, as appropriate.

The files for this quarter's ad, as well as future ads, can be found at <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MLNGenInfo> on the CMS Website. Once on the page, click on **Quarterly MLN Journal Ad** (zip file) in the Downloads Section.

Medicare Learning Network (MLN) Bookmark Now Available!

The MLN Bookmark lists: the topics covered by the educational products and services of the MLN, the various product types available to the learner, as well as the web address for the MLN. This product is appropriate for distribution at health care professional conferences, provider outreach and education activities, and other appropriate types of provider/supplier events.

The MLN Bookmark is available for download at <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MLNProducts/downloads/MLNBookmrk-006960.pdf> on the CMS Website. You can also order hard copies of the bookmark through the MLN Product Ordering page at http://cms.meridianksi.com/kc/main/kc_frame.asp?kc_ident=kc0001&loc=5 on the Web.

A version of the MLN Bookmark is also available for distribution to Indian Health Care Professionals. To view this bookmark, go to

<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MLNProducts/downloads/MLN-AIANBookmrk006954.pdf> or to order hard copies go to http://cms.meridianksi.com/kc/main/kc_frame.asp?kc_ident=kc0001&loc=5 on the Web.