

# Provider Update

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## **New CMS Requirement – Hospitals must use Medicare Outpatient Observation Notice (MOON) form**

CMS requires that all hospitals and critical access hospitals (CAHs) provide written notification and an oral explanation to individuals receiving observation services as outpatients for more than 24 hours.

Hospitals should use the OMB-approved standardized Medicare Outpatient Observation Notice (MOON), form CMS-10611. **All hospitals and CAHs are required to provide this statutorily required notification no later than March 8, 2017.** The notice and accompanying instructions are available at:

<https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Medicare-General-Information/BNI/index.html>

The MOON was developed to inform all Medicare beneficiaries, including Amerigroup\* Community Care Medicare Advantage members, when they are an outpatient receiving observation services, and are not an inpatient of the hospital or CAH. The notice must include the reasons the individual is an outpatient receiving observation services and the implications of receiving outpatient services, such as required Medicare cost-sharing and post-hospitalization eligibility for Medicare 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.

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\*In New Mexico, Amerigroup Community Care of New Mexico, Inc. In Texas, Amerigroup members in the Medicaid Rural Service Area are served by Amerigroup Insurance Company; all other Amerigroup members are served by Amerigroup Texas, Inc. In Washington, Amerigroup Washington, Inc.

Amerivantage is a DSNP plan with a Medicare contract and a contract with the State Medicaid program. In New Mexico: Amerivantage is an HMO with a Medicare contract. Enrollment in Amerivantage depends on contract renewal.

