

Eli's Hospice Insider

Hospice News: Are You Using Prior Authorization Form For Drugs?

The **Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services** really wants you to use the Prior Authorization form for Part D drugs it has issued. The form is voluntary, but "we want as little hassle as possible for all involved," said CMS's **Shelly Winston** in the agency's May 6 Open Door Forum for hospice providers.

Remember: CMS directed Part D plans to begin requiring prior authorization for all hospice patients' drugs last May, then pulled that back to only four categories of commonly related drug categories last July (see Eli's Hospice Insider, Vol. 7, No. 9).

The form and directions, which were approved by the **Office of Management and Budget** in March, are at www.cms.gov/Medicare/Prescription-Drug-Coverage/PrescriptionDrugCovContra/index.html .