

Eli's Hospice Insider

Hospice News: Hospices On Payment Hook For Vaccinations

Expect to get calls from other providers seeking payment for vaccinations starting this fall.

Why? That's when a claims system edit will go in that will prevent any provider type except a hospice from receiving reimbursement for a vaccination for a hospice patient, the **Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services** explains in a May 3 Transmittal (CR 8098).

"Currently, a hospice can provide vaccines (Influenza, Pneumococcal, and Hepatitis B vaccines) to those beneficiaries who request them, including those who have elected the hospice benefit," CMS explains in the transmittal that takes effect Oct. 7. "These services are only covered when provided to hospice beneficiaries by their hospice provider. This Change Request (CR) updates Medicare systems to prevent non-hospice providers from providing vaccines to hospice beneficiaries."

The CR is online at www.cms.gov/Regulations-and-Guidance/Guidance/Transmittals/Downloads/R1217OTN.pdf.