

Eli's Hospice Insider

Hospice News: Make ADR Deadlines Or Risk Auto Denials

MAC targets claims for long-stay hospice patients.

Don't be late in responding to additional development requests, or you could be very sorry.

That's the message from HHH Medicare Administrative Contractor **CGS**, which reminds providers that they have 30 days to submit their ADR responses. "If documentation is not mailed within the 30-day request, it may begin to auto-deny unnecessarily," the MAC warns on its website.

This is a pertinent issue for hospices, who have been on the receiving end of multiple widespread edits lately. CGS lists six hospice widespread edits on its website at www.cgsmedicare.com/hhh/medreview/med_review_edits.html, compared to just two edit topics for home health agencies.

The edit generating the most ADRs is 5101T, which selects claims with a length of stay greater than 180 days and a primary diagnosis of 331.0 (Alzheimer's disease), 799.3 (debility), or 496 (COPD). CGS has sent out more than 3,920 ADRs for it, according to information CGS supplied to the **National Association for Home Care & Hospice**.

Resource: For information on CGS edits of long-stay hospice patients and tips for documenting terminal illness for patients with slow-declining diagnoses, see Eli's Hospice Insider, Vol. 5, No. 6.