

MDS Alert

Reader Question: Pocket this PHE Waiver Knowledge

Question: I know there's a waiver available for the three-day qualifying hospital stay for Medicare beneficiaries, but I don't understand whether the section 1812(f) waiver applies to only beneficiaries diagnosed with COVID-19 or to all skilled beneficiaries on Medicare Part A. How do I interpret this?

New Jersey Subscriber

Answer: "The qualifying hospital stay waiver applies to all SNF-level beneficiaries under Medicare Part A, regardless of whether the care the beneficiary requires has a direct relationship to COVID-19," the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) says in a COVID-19 Waiver FAQ sheet.

For more information, see

<https://www.cms.gov/About-CMS/Agency-Information/EPRO/Current-Emergencies/Current-Emergencies-page>.