# **MSP Input File Reporting Methods Introduction**

#### Slide 1 of 22 - MSP Input File Reporting Methods Introduction



#### **Slide notes**

Welcome to the Medicare Secondary Payer (MSP) Input File Reporting Methods course.

Slide 2 of 22 - Disclaimer

# Disclaimer

While all information in this document is believed to be correct at the time of writing, this Computer Based Training (CBT) is for educational purposes only and does not constitute official Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) instructions for the MMSEA Section 111 implementation. All affected entities are responsible for following the instructions found at the following link: https://go.cms.gov/mirghp.

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## Slide 3 of 22 - Course Overview



#### **Slide notes**

This course reviews what must be reported on the MSP Input File, including the two reporting options and reporting exclusions. It reviews the definition of an Active Covered Individual including current employment status and employer size. It gives examples of Active Covered Individuals and reviews the data flow when using the Active Covered Individual option. This course also describes the Finder File Method, its data flow, and the query submission process.

The course concludes with a discussion of the quarterly update MSP Input File.

## Slide 4 of 22 - MSP Input File



#### Slide notes

To comply with the Section 111 requirements, all GHP Responsible Reporting Entities (RREs) must submit the MSP Input File. The MSP Input File is used to report information for GHP covered individuals who meet the following conditions:

They are Medicare beneficiaries. Their GHP coverage is primary to Medicare and Medicare is their secondary payer of benefits. Please Note: Employers, insurers, third party administrators, group health plans, and other group health plan sponsors are always responsible for understanding when they are providing coverage primary to Medicare, and for paying appropriately. See 42 U.S.C. 1395y(b), and 42 C.F.R. Part 411, for the applicable statutory and regulatory provisions, and CMS manuals and Web pages for further detail.

## Slide 5 of 22 - MSP Input File



#### **Slide notes**

Since an RRE may not know whether a covered individual is a Medicare beneficiary, the RRE may choose one of the following approaches to determine whom to report on the MSP Input File. The first approach requires the RRE to identify all GHP covered individuals who satisfy the requirements of the Active Covered Individual definition. Once identified, the RRE will report these Active Covered Individuals on the MSP Input File. The second approach provides the RRE with a tool (i.e., the "Finder File") whereby the RRE can identify which of their GHP covered individuals are Medicare beneficiaries through the query process, prior to creating and submitting the MSP Input File. Once identified, the RRE will report the Active Covered Individuals who are Medicare beneficiaries on their MSP Input File. The Section 111 COBSW may also be used to submit an online query of Medicare status to identify which of their GHP covered individuals are Medicare beneficiaries. Once identified, the RRE will report the Active Covered Individuals who are Medicare beneficiaries on their MSP Input File. The Section 111 COBSW may also be used to submit an online query of Medicare status to identify which of their GHP covered individuals are Medicare beneficiaries. Once identified, the RRE will report the Active Covered Individuals who are Medicare beneficiaries on their MSP Input File.

## Slide 6 of 22 - MSP Input File Exclusions



## Slide notes

When GHP Responsible Reporting Entities (RREs) create the MSP Input File for MMSEA Section 111 reporting, they should exclude the following: coverage that is secondary to Medicare; coverage when Medicare is primary;

Records for retirees covered by an employer's retirement plan; any type of Medicare coverage (e.g., Medicare Advantage records (Part C)); TRICARE (health care program for active and retired uniformed service members and their families);

Stand-alone dental coverage; Stand-alone vision coverage; Stand-alone mental/behavioral healthcare coverage; Flexible Spending Account (FSA) and Health Savings Account (HSA) plans and; COBRA

(Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1985) coverage, unless individual is receiving dialysis or has had a kidney transplant. Note: COBRA is a federal law that allows individuals to keep their employer group health plan coverage

for a limited period of time after their employment ends or after they would otherwise lose coverage. A Medicare beneficiary whose coverage is through COBRA is not considered an Active Covered Individual and should not be reported on the MSP Input File unless this individual is receiving dialysis or has had a kidney transplant.





For purposes of Section 111 reporting, an Active Covered Individual is defined as all individuals covered in a GHP age 45 through age 64 who have coverage based on their own or a family member's current employment status.

All individuals covered in a GHP age 65 and older who have coverage based upon their own or a spouse's current employment status. All individuals covered in a GHP who have been receiving kidney dialysis or who have received a kidney transplant, regardless of their own or a family member's current employment status and regardless of their age. All individuals covered in a GHP who are under age 45, are known to be entitled to Medicare, and have coverage in the plan based on their own or a family member's current employment status.





Active Covered Individual Definition Current Employment Status. The phrase "current employment status" in the definition of Active Covered Individual refers to the subscriber's employment status. This includes employees who may be in a temporary disability status. It does NOT include a subscriber who is a retiree covered by an employer's retirement plan.

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Refer to 42 C.F.R. Part 411.101 and 42 C.F.R. Part 411.170 for details on Employer Size. RREs are required to submit the Employer Size on the MSP Input File (Field 16). The Benefits Coordination & Recovery Center (BCRC) uses the Employer Size when determining whether the GHP coverage is primary to Medicare. When calculating the number of employees, RREs should use the total number of employees in an organizational structure (parent, subsidiaries and sibling companies) rather than just the number of employees in the particular subsidiary being reported on. In other words, employer size is the total number of full or part-time employees, not the number of covered lives under a particular GHP.

Employer size is not relevant with respect to reporting individuals who have been receiving kidney dialysis or have received a kidney transplant, or have End Stage Renal Disease (ESRD).





If an employer has less than 20 full and/or part-time employees as defined in 42 C.F.R. Part 411.101 and 42 C.F.R. Part 411.170, and the employer is not part of a multi-employer/multiple employer GHP, then the covered individuals

under that plan do not have to be reported under Section 111 unless a covered individual is receiving dialysis or has permanent kidney failure (ESRD). However, records for all Active Covered Individuals in these plans may be submitted

with the proper value in the Employer Size (Field 16). If the record is reported and the BCRC determines that MSP does not exist, then an SPES error code will be returned on the response file. Employer's with less than 20 full and/or part-time employees is NOT a basis for excluding such employees from the Section 111 GHP reporting process if the employer is part of a multi-employer/multiple employer GHP.

Following are examples to enhance your understanding of Active Covered Individuals.





A subscriber, age 44, is an employee of a company with any number of employees. His son, age 10, is also covered by the plan. His son is known to have ESRD and be entitled to Medicare.

In this case, the son is an Active Covered Individual, but the subscriber is not. GHP coverage information for the son should be submitted on the MSP Input File. Since the son is under 45, his Medicare ID must be included.





A subscriber is a retiree and she and her spouse are covered by the GHP through her retirement plan. Neither is known to have ESRD. Neither is considered an Active Covered Individual since the subscriber is not currently employed.

No information should be sent on these individuals on the MSP Input File.





A subscriber is an employee of a company that has had more than 19 employees for the last several years and he and his spouse are both 67. His spouse is not covered by the GHP.

Only the subscriber is an Active Covered Individual since his spouse is not covered by the plan. Only information on the subscriber should be sent on the MSP Input File.





A subscriber, age 66, is an employee of a company that has had less than 20 employees for the last several years. The subscriber is not known to have ESRD and not known to be a Medicare beneficiary.

The employer is NOT part of a multi-employer/multiple employer GHP. Since the employer has less than 20 employees and is not part of a multi-employer GHP, this individual does not have to be reported on the MSP Input File even though the subscriber fits the definition of an Active Covered Individual. Alternatively, a record for the subscriber could be submitted, but the BCRC will determine that the coverage is not primary to Medicare due to the employer's size.





When using the Active Covered Individual Definition Method, RREs will first identify those GHP covered individuals who meet the requirements of the Active Covered Individual definition.

The RRE will then create/submit the MSP Input File with records for those Active Covered Individuals. The BCRC will process the MSP Input File. Based on coverage enrollment information received from the RRE, the BCRC will identify those Active Covered Individuals who are Medicare beneficiaries for whom Medicare assumes secondary payment responsibility and return the MSP Response File to the RRE.

The RRE will process the MSP Response File and prepare for their next quarterly submission.

## Slide 16 of 22 - Finder File – Data Flow



#### **Slide notes**

To begin, RREs will create and submit query records. At a minimum, the initial query file must include all GHP covered individuals who fit the definition of an Active Covered Individual, but the RRE may submit every covered individual to verify Medicare entitlement. Based on the information submitted, the BCRC will process the query file, identifying which of the queried individuals are/are not Medicare beneficiaries, and return the response file.

The RRE will then create and submit the MSP Input File for those individuals identified as Medicare beneficiaries who are also Active Covered Individuals. After that, the RRE will get ready for their next quarterly submission by submitting a new query file.

#### Slide 17 of 22 - Finder File – Query Submission



#### **Slide notes**

For Basic Option RREs, query records will be submitted to the BCRC via the Query Only Input File. For Expanded Reporting Option RREs, query records may be submitted to the BCRC via the Query Only Input File or the Non-MSP Input File.

Although the Non-MSP Input File is used to report information for Inactive Covered Individuals, Expanded Reporting Option RREs may use this file to submit N records to query on their Active Covered Individuals.

A Non-MSP Input File cannot be submitted with only N records. Query files will only be accepted once per calendar quarter. All other requirements for the MSP Input File must be adhered to, including reporting applicable individuals with new or changed coverage with each quarterly submission. Note: When submitting query records, you must provide accurate information for the data elements the BCRC uses as matching criteria to determine whether or not an individual is a Medicare beneficiary (i.e., Medicare ID or Social Security Number, name, date of birth, and gender).

#### Slide 18 of 22 - Finder File – Subsequent Query Files



#### **Slide notes**

RREs will get ready for their next quarterly MSP Input File submission by submitting a new query file. The query file must be submitted in a timely fashion such that the RRE will meet the requirements for quarterly file submission of their MSP Input File during their assigned file submission timeframe. At a minimum, the new query file must include all individuals that fit the definition of an Active Covered Individual who have not previously been identified as Medicare beneficiaries. The new query file will contain records for new Active Covered Individuals who were not previously submitted on the MSP Input File (e.g., newly added GHP covered individuals and GHP covered individuals who now fit the definition of an Active Covered Individual). It will also contain records that were previously submitted on the MSP Input File but were not matched to a Medicare beneficiary. When a record is not matched to a Medicare beneficiary, you will receive a Disposition Code of 51 on your response file. You should continue to include these individuals on the query file to see if their entitlement status has changed (i.e., they subsequently become entitled to Medicare).

Your new MSP Input File will be based on the results of the latest query response file as well as the results of last quarter's MSP Response File.

## Slide 19 of 22 - Finder File - Quarterly Update MSP Input File



#### **Slide notes**

Regardless of the approach you use to submit your MSP Input File, you must send an update MSP Input File to reflect any changes from the last submission, each subsequent quarter after your initial MSP Input File submission.

The update MSP Input File will contain add transactions for: New Active Covered Individuals (i.e., individuals who now, due to age or active employee status, meet the criteria for inclusion); and previously reported Active Covered Individuals

for whom the RRE has not yet received confirmation of Medicare entitlement via the previous response files from the BCRC. The update MSP Input File will include update transactions for previously submitted and accepted records where there are changes in status as an active employee and changes in GHP coverage for covered individuals who were previously submitted and accepted. It will also include delete transactions for individuals who were erroneously included on earlier files.

As a reminder, the MSP Input File should always exclude retirees, Inactive Covered Individuals, or any other exclusions that are listed on the "MSP Input File Exclusions" slide in this course.

## Slide 20 of 22 - Course Summary



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This course reviewed what must be reported on the MSP Input File, including the two reporting options and reporting exclusions. It reviewed the definition of an Active Covered Individual including current employment status and employer size. It gave examples of Active Covered Individuals and reviewed the data flow when using the Active Covered Individual option. This course also described the Finder File Method, its data flow, and the query submission process. The course concluded with a discussion of the quarterly update MSP Input File.

## Slide 21 of 22 - Conclusion



#### Slide notes

You have completed the MSP Input File Reporting Methods course. Information in this course can be referenced by using the GHP User Guide's table of contents and any subsequent alerts.

These documents are available for download at the following link: <u>http://go.cms.gov/mirghp</u>.

#### Slide 22 of 22 - Survey



#### Slide notes

If you have any questions or feedback on this material, please go the following URL: <u>https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/GHPTraining</u>.