

# Understanding the Remittance Advice: A Guide for Medicare Providers, Physicians, Suppliers, and Billers

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The Medicare Learning Network® (MLN) is currently updating and revising our Remittance Advice educational resources.

The MLN is now offers Web-Based Training (WBT) to educate professional providers and suppliers, as well as their billing, staff with general RA information. This provides learners:

- Instructions to help you interpret the RA received from Medicare and reconcile it against submitted claims;
- Guidance on how to read Electronic Remittance Advices (ERAs) and Standard Paper Remittance Advices (SPRs), and
- Information on balancing an RA and software that Medicare provides free to providers for viewing ERAs.

In the coming weeks, the MLN will also be providing a comparable training geared specifically for institutional providers.

All MLN products and trainings are offered free of charge. To enroll in this or any other MLN training, go to <http://www.cms.gov/MLNProducts> on the MLN website and select “Web-Based Training Modules” under the section entitled “Related Links Inside CMS.”

We welcome your feedback on this or any other MLN product. Please send related comments or questions to [MLN@cms.hhs.gov](mailto:MLN@cms.hhs.gov) .

## WEB PAGE REFERENCES

This reference was prepared as a service to the public and is not intended to grant rights or impose obligations. This fact sheet may contain references or links to statutes, regulations, or other policy materials. The information provided is only intended to be a general summary. It is not intended to take the place of either the written law or regulations. We encourage readers to review the specific statutes, regulations, and other interpretive materials for a full and accurate statement of their contents.

Resource	Web site
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services	<a href="http://www.cms.gov">http://www.cms.gov</a>

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Resource	Web site
(CMS) Home Page	
CMS Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA) Transactions & Code Sets Standards	<a href="http://www.cms.gov/TransactionCodeSetsStands">http://www.cms.gov/TransactionCodeSetsStands</a>
CMS Medicare Claims Processing Manual	<a href="http://www.cms.gov/Manuals/IOM/list.asp">http://www.cms.gov/Manuals/IOM/list.asp</a>
CMS Medicare Contracting Reform (MCR)	<a href="http://www.cms.gov/MedicareContractingReform">http://www.cms.gov/MedicareContractingReform</a>
CMS Medicare Coordination of Benefits (COB) General Information	<a href="http://www.cms.gov/COBGeneralInformation">http://www.cms.gov/COBGeneralInformation</a>
CMS Medicare Durable Medical Equipment (DME) Center	<a href="http://www.cms.gov/center/dme.asp">http://www.cms.gov/center/dme.asp</a>
CMS Medicare Electronic Billing & EDI Transactions	<a href="http://www.cms.gov/ElectronicBillingEDITrans">http://www.cms.gov/ElectronicBillingEDITrans</a>
CMS Medicare Fee-for-Service Provider Resource Center	<a href="http://www.cms.gov/center/provider.asp">http://www.cms.gov/center/provider.asp</a>
CMS Medicare HCPCS General Information & Code Sets	<a href="http://www.cms.gov/MedHCPCSGenInfo">http://www.cms.gov/MedHCPCSGenInfo</a> <a href="http://www.cms.gov/HCPCSReleaseCodeSets">http://www.cms.gov/HCPCSReleaseCodeSets</a>
CMS Medicare Learning Network	<a href="http://www.cms.gov/MLNGenInfo">http://www.cms.gov/MLNGenInfo</a>
CMS Medicare Physician Fee Schedule Look-up	<a href="http://www.cms.gov/apps/pfslookup">http://www.cms.gov/apps/pfslookup</a>
CMS Medicare Remit Easy Print Software	<a href="http://www.cms.gov/AccessstoDataApplication/02_MedicareRemitEasyPrint.asp">http://www.cms.gov/AccessstoDataApplication/02_MedicareRemitEasyPrint.asp</a>
CMS National Provider Identifier	<a href="http://www.cms.gov/NationalProvIdentStand">http://www.cms.gov/NationalProvIdentStand</a>

Resource	Web site
(NPI) Standard	
CMS Paper Forms & Billing Instructions	<a href="http://www.cms.gov/CMSForms">http://www.cms.gov/CMSForms</a> <a href="http://www.cms.gov/ElectronicBillingEDITrans/15_1450.asp">http://www.cms.gov/ElectronicBillingEDITrans/15_1450.asp</a> <a href="http://www.cms.gov/ElectronicBillingEDITrans/16_1500.asp">http://www.cms.gov/ElectronicBillingEDITrans/16_1500.asp</a>
CMS Physician Fee Schedule	<a href="http://www.cms.gov/PhysicianFeeSched">http://www.cms.gov/PhysicianFeeSched</a>
CMS Place of Service Codes	<a href="http://www.cms.gov/PlaceofServiceCodes">http://www.cms.gov/PlaceofServiceCodes</a>
Accredited Standards Committee (ASC) X12 Implementation Guide Interpretation Website	<a href="http://www.x12.org">http://www.x12.org</a>
Washington Publishing Company Code Lists	<a href="http://www.wpc-edi.com/codes">http://www.wpc-edi.com/codes</a>
Washington Publishing Company HIPAA Implementation Guides	<a href="http://www.wpc-edi.com/HIPAA">http://www.wpc-edi.com/HIPAA</a>