

## IMPORTANT ALLIANCE PROVIDER UPDATE

Date: July 1, 2010  
To: Alliance Providers and Medical Groups  
From: Alliance Provider Services Department  
Phone: (510) 747-4510, Fax: (510) 747-4508  
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RE: **Effective June 28, 2010: The Alliance To Suspend Some Claims Payments for Claims with Dates of Service On or After June 1, 2010**

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### Medicare Claims Announcement

#### **Effective June 28, 2010: The Alliance Suspends Some Claims Payments for Claims with Dates of Service On or After June 1, 2010**

On June 25, 2010, President Obama signed into law the "Preservation of Access to Care for Medicare Beneficiaries and Pension Relief Act of 2010." This law establishes a 2.2 percent increase to the Medicare Physician Fee Schedule (MPFS) payment rates retroactive from June 1, 2010, through November 30, 2010. In addition to affecting reimbursement to physicians, the Medicare Physician Fee Schedule is used to build portions of the fee schedule rate files that are used to reimburse the Medicare Outpatient Prospective Payment System (OPPS), Ambulatory Surgical Center (ASC), Skilled Nursing Facility (SNF) and End Stage Renal Disease (ESRD) prospective payment systems. Therefore, all Medicare fiscal intermediaries have stopped paying claims until such time as the new physician fee schedule is made available. At this time, no update to the physician fee schedule has been released by Medicare.

As a result, the Alliance is suspending payment on all claims with dates of service on or after June 1, 2010, that utilize the MPFS until the new fee schedule is available. Claims submitted by providers reimbursed using the Medicare fee schedule will be affected.

The Alliance expects to be able to release payment for the affected claims within 10 business days of Medicare's release of the MPFS.

If you have any questions or concerns about this matter, please contact Alliance Provider Services at 510-747-4510 or [providerservices@alamedaalliance.org](mailto:providerservices@alamedaalliance.org).

