

## APRIL SHOWERS BRING...NEW MEDICARE CARDS

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CMS is required to remove Social Security numbers from all Medicare cards by April of 2019. Therefore, beginning in April of this year, Delaware, the District of Columbia, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia and West Virginia will be the first states to receive the new Medicare cards and numbers.

The second wave of states includes Alaska, American Samoa, California, Guam, Hawaii, Oregon and the Northern Marianna Islands. These cards will be mailed between April and June of 2018.

The third wave will include Arkansas, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Nebraska, North Dakota, Oklahoma, South Dakota and Wisconsin. That will occur after June 2018.

All of the rest of the states will be covered after June 2018. The last states to receive a card will be Kentucky, Louisiana, Michigan, Mississippi, Missouri, Ohio, Puerto Rico, Tennessee and the Virgin Islands.

In summary, this will be a transition year. We do not yet know what the COB&R and CRC will require as these new numbers are distributed. Hopefully, if we have already established a claim with the CRC or COB&R, we will not have to obtain the new numbers to continue processing our requests for conditional payments.

Contact Jim or Ross if you have any questions about this development. ||



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