



MEMORANDUM

TO: Scott & White Health Plan Participating Providers

FROM: Scott & White Health Plan (SWHP)

SUBJECT: Medicare Outpatient Observation Notice (CMS-10611)

DATE: June 23, 2017

Dear Participating Providers:

On August 6, 2015, Congress enacted the Notice of Observation Treatment and Implication for Care Eligibility (NOTICE) Act, which requires all hospitals and critical access hospitals (CAHs) to provide written notification and an oral explanation of such notification to individuals receiving observation services as outpatients for more than 24 hours. The purpose of this memorandum is to announce the availability of the OMB-approved standardized Medicare Outpatient Observation Notice (MOON) form (CMS-10611).

The MOON was developed to inform all Medicare beneficiaries when they are an outpatient receiving observation services, and are not an inpatient of the hospital or CAH. In accordance with the statute, the notice must include the reasons the individual is an outpatient receiving observation services and the implications of receiving outpatient services, such as required Medicare cost-sharing and post-hospitalization eligibility for Medicare coverage of skilled nursing facility services. Hospitals and CAHs must deliver the notice no later than 36 hours after observation services are initiated or sooner if the individual is transferred, discharged, or admitted.

Frequently asked questions ("MOON FAQs") and other helpful documents are available on the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services website below.

<https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Medicare-General-Information/BNI/index.html>