# Breaking the Medicare Code: Essential Tools for Risk Navigation

#### **SPEAKERS**

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# **Agenda**

- MSP Refresher
- MMSEA Section 111 Overview
- Updates Since October 2024
- Data Clean Up Strategies
- Enhanced Integration for MSP Services





# MSP Refresher



CONNECTING RISKS THAT MATTER



### Medicare Secondary Payer Refresher

Medicare is the national health insurance program administered by the federal government and providing coverage for:

- People over the age of 65
- Disabled people entitled to SSDI for more than 24 months
- People diagnosed with "End Stage Renal Disease" or "Lou Gehrig's Disease"

"PART"	SERVICE / ORGANIZATION
Part A	Federally paid medical care for inpatient, skilled nursing, hospice
Part B	Federally paid preventive care, outpatient, doc visits
Part C	Privately run Medicare HMO (plus added services)
Part D	Privately administered prescription drug benefit





### Medicare Secondary Payer Refresher

The Medicare Secondary Payer Statute ensures that Medicare is not responsible for paying first on a health care claim

- Allows parties to Coordinate Benefits
- Medicare can Recover from anyone
- Avoid Improperly Shifting the Burden to Medicare

Part of MSP	Brief Overview
Conditional Payments	Medicare payments are always "conditioned upon later reimbursement to the Trust Fund"
Section 111	CMS now knows about every open accepted case and every settlement with a Medicare Beneficiary
MSAs	Ensure funds are available to offset future medical expenses







CONNECTING RISKS THAT MATTER



- Discover Billions in Unresolved Conditional Payments
- Cease Making Payments Where a Primary Payer Exists
- Ensure Settlement Adequately
   Consider Medicare's Interests
- Generate Billions in Revenue for SCHIP Through Fines





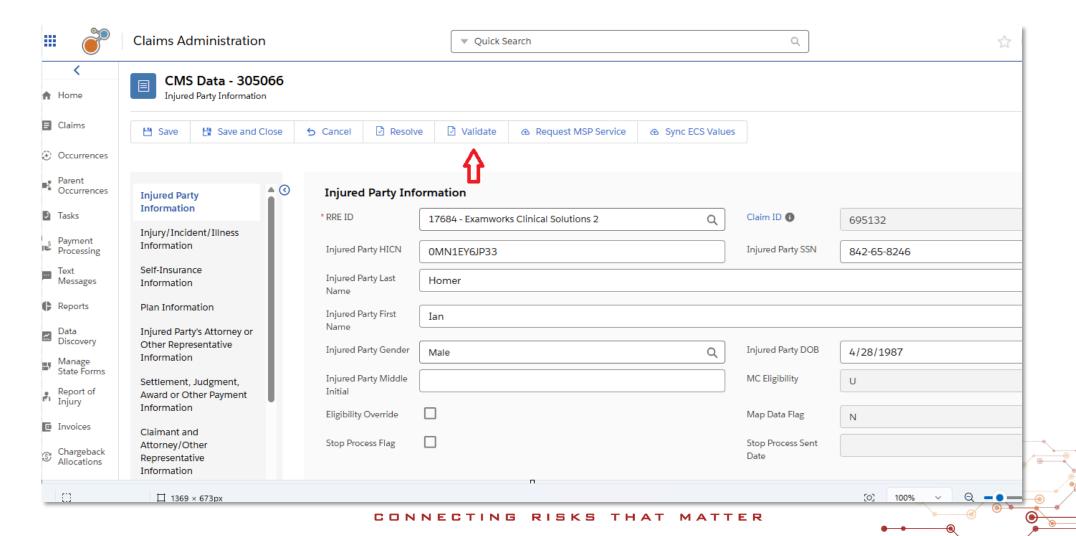
#### **RKCS** and **ECS** Data Exchange

- Eligibility File
  - Claim is in this file first, with "Big5 data"
- Claim File
  - Full Section 111 data is provided for Medicare eligible claims
- Depending on Riskonnect platform, files are exchanged biweekly or weekly and ECS returns file on biweekly or weekly basis





#### **Validation API Button – real time updates**





#### MONTHLY ELIGIBILITY CHECK

- Yes vs. Undetermined
- MAP Data Returned
- Recheck Active Claims Every Month for Updated MAP Data

#### **QUARTERLY CLAIM REPORTING**

- Workers' Comp & NoFault
  - Initial Report, followed by updates as claim progresses
- Liability Claims
  - Generally "one-and-done"





# Updates Since Last Year



CONNECTING RISKS THAT MATTER



# **Mandatory WCMSA Reporting**

- What claims must report WCMSA information to CMS?
- All workers compensation settlements involving a Medicare beneficiary that involve a total payment obligation to the claimant (TPOC)

- This includes TPOC settlements
  - That do not meet the CMS threshold to submit for review in the WCMSA process
  - That includes MSAs that are considered evidence-based / "non-submit" MSAs
  - That includes situations where no money was set aside for future medicals





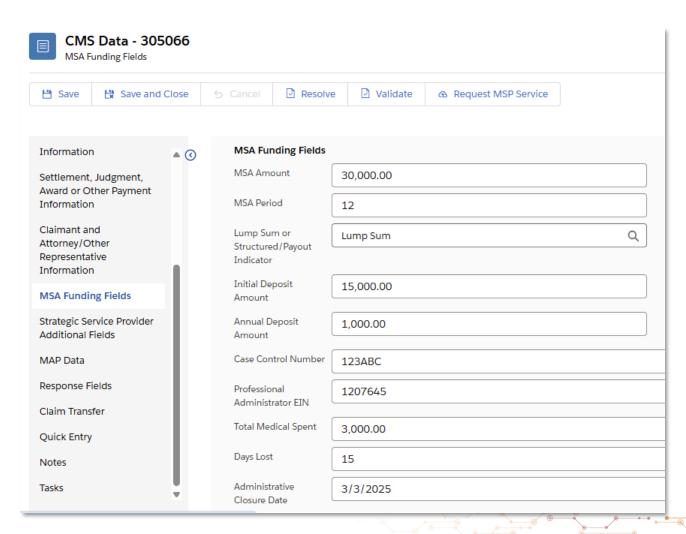
# **Mandatory WCMSA Reporting**

#### **Must Report**

- MSA total amount
- MSA period (number of years MSA expected to cover)
- Lump sum or structured payout indicator
- Initial deposit amount
- Anniversary (annual) deposit amount

#### **May Report**

- Case control number (WCRC case ID)
- Professional administrator EIN (if applicable)







#### **Zero Dollar MSAs**

- CMS UPDATED WCMSA REFERENCE GUIDE ON 1/17/2025.
- AS OF 7/17/2025 CMS WILL NO LONGER REVIEW \$0 MSA SUBMISSIONS

#### If CMS is discontinuing review of \$0 MSAs, is it still ok to do a \$0 MSA? YES!

CMS acknowledges that a WCMSA is not necessary in certain circumstances. CMS states that if one of the following conditions are true, Medicare's interests are already protected. These conditions are:

- The facts of the case demonstrate that the injured individual is only being compensated for past medical expenses (i.e., for services furnished prior to the settlement); and
- There is no evidence that the individual is attempting to maximize the other aspects of the settlement (e.g., the lost wages and disability portions of the settlement) to Medicare's detriment.





#### **Zero Dollar MSAs**

#### Appropriate Legal \$0 MSA situations:

- The claim is fully denied and no workers' compensation benefits were paid to, or on behalf of, the injured worker. If any benefits were paid on a denied claim, the insurer must be able to show any benefits paid were either:
- For investigational purposes only, and/or
- Permitted under a state statute that allows payments-without-prejudice.
- A workers' compensation court/board/commission finds, based on a ruling on the merits, the employer/insurer is not responsible for future medical benefits.

#### Appropriate Medical \$0 MSA:

 The injured worker's treating provider (cannot be a med-legal evaluator) has documented, to a reasonable degree, the injured worker will no longer require future medical treatment associated with the workers' compensation injury in question.



# Data Clean-Up Strategies



CONNECTING RISKS THAT MATTER



### **Section 111 Clean-Up Strategies**

Make use of the "5 / \$25k" Rule to clean-out old claims

- No treatment in 5 years?
- Less than \$25,000 in medicals spent?
- Not an exposure / ingestion / implant claim?

#### If yes to all three questions, then populate:

- ORM Termination Date as 5 years from last treatment, and be done with them
- (repeat every 6-12 months)





# **Section 111 Clean-Up Strategies**

- Ensure claims are successfully reported to CMS monitor claims that have an error status preventing transmission to CMS. Make corrections as needed.
- Update Section 111 reporting as needed.
- Champion or SME lead on Section 111 oversight in-house
- Age 65+, but not Medicare eligible. Was all information entered correctly? Could be incorrect DOB or SSN.

- Safe Harbors:
  - Technical or system issue outside the control of the RRE, or the result of an error by CMS or its contractors
  - The "2 and 1 Rule" (2 attempts via mail or email; 3rd attempt via other reasonable method)



# Section 111 Clean-Up Strategies – Stop Processing



- Stop Processing Flag
- Stops all data exchanges between:
  - ECS CMS
  - ECS Client
    - No longer included in status file
    - No longer included in MIR Reports

Request a copy of ExamWorks Stop Process guide for more information of when it is appropriate to Stop Process on a Claim.

\*Note: Misuse of the Stop Processing flag may lead to improper claim processing that can result in fines levied by CMS.





# Section 111 Clean-Up Strategies-Stop Query Process

#### **WC or No-Fault Claim**

- When responsibility to pay for related ongoing medical care is permanently ended, where there will be no further payment or settlement, and the claimant is not yet identified as a Medicare beneficiary.
- Denied Workers Compensation or No Fault Claims that meet the following criteria
  - Claim is denied and ORM indicator is "NO";
  - No settlement has been reached; and
  - Claim status is closed
- When the Injured Party is Medicare eligible, the claim is closed / resolved, and you have received a 03 or 51 Disposition codes on the Quarterly Claim Response File for two consecutive quarters.

#### Liability

- Liability Claims regardless of whether the injured party is a Medicare beneficiary, and
  - Claims status is closed (for any reason)
  - Claim will not re-open
  - No settlement or other payment has been made, nor is it anticipated that any settlement or payment will be made
- Liability Claims where there has been one query that has already occurred following a settlement, judgment, award, or payment that completely resolves the claim

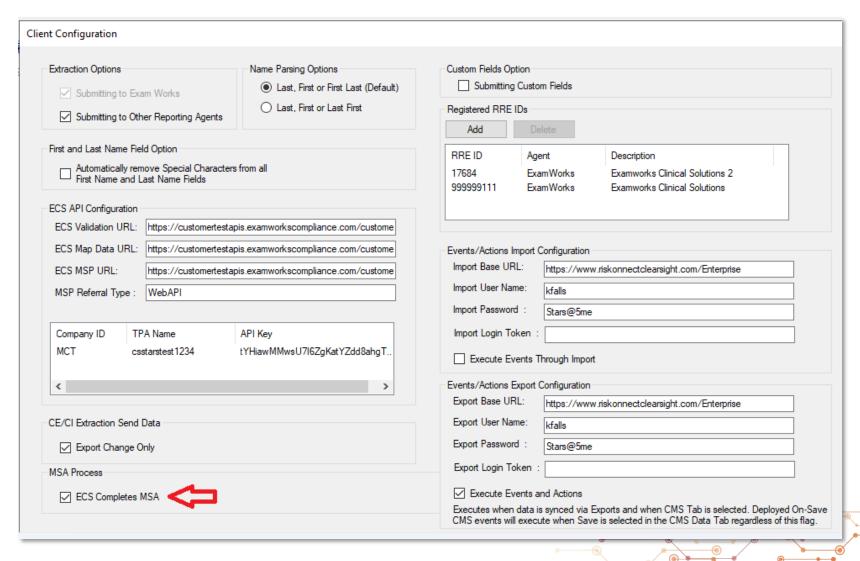
Request a copy of Query Process FAQ's for examples and more descriptive information.





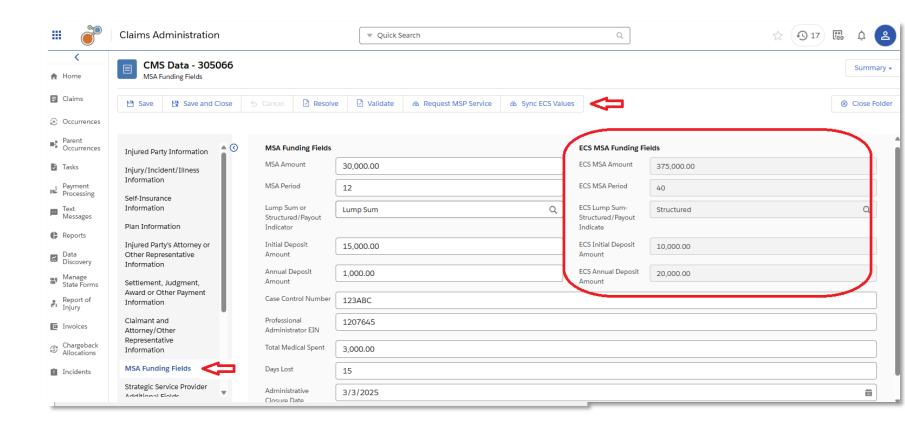


- Additional functionality when Examworks manages the MSA
- Activate via CMS
   Admin in ClearSight





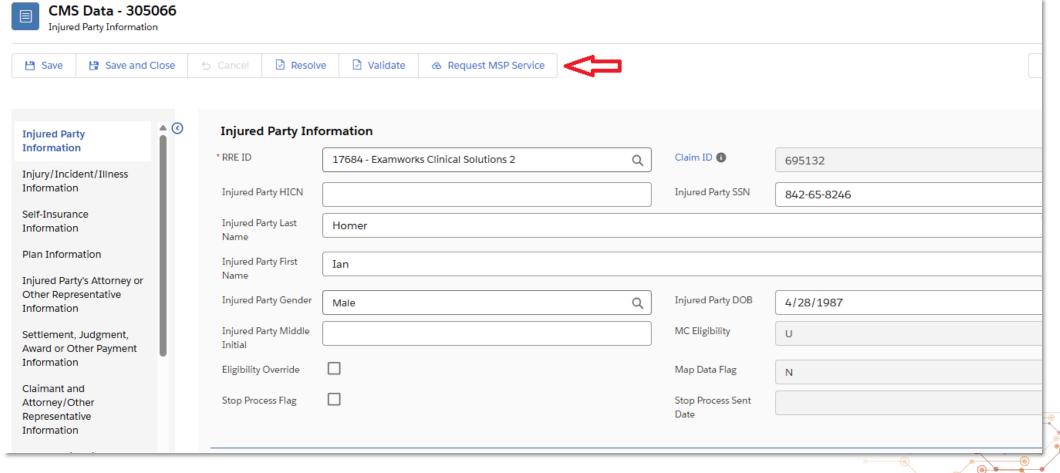
- 5 MSA fields are returned by Examworks in the semi-weekly Claims Status File
- Visible in the MSA Fields tab
- Ability to override the client's MSA Fields with Examworks values via the "Sync ECS Values" button





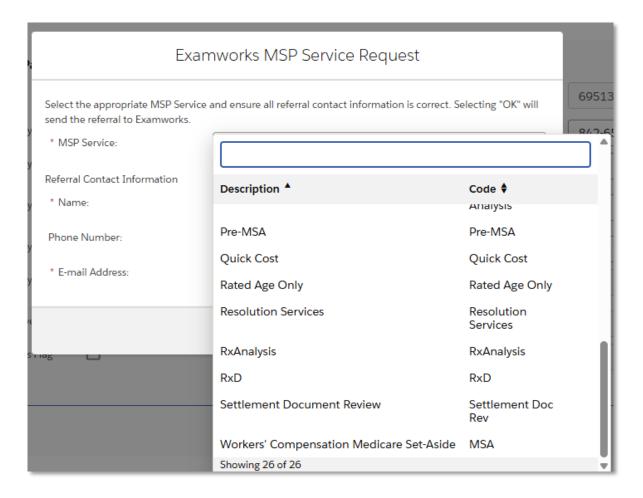


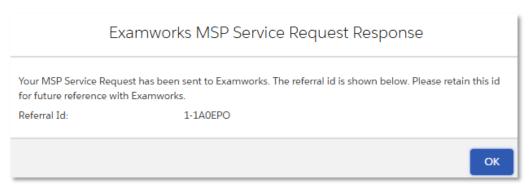
Referrals via the "Request MSP Services" button





Referrals via the "Request MSP Services" button

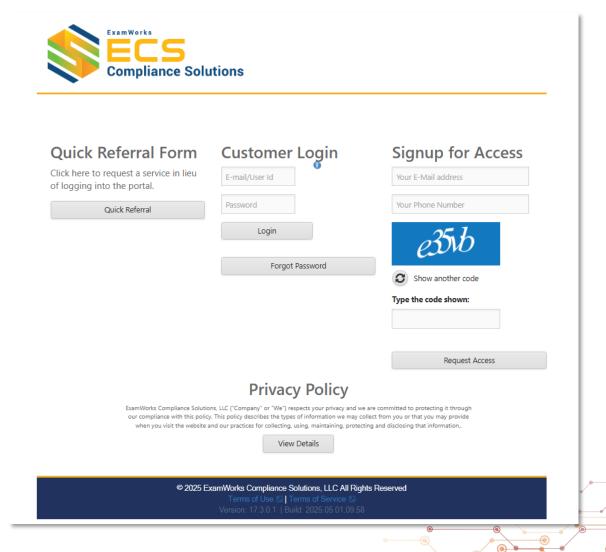








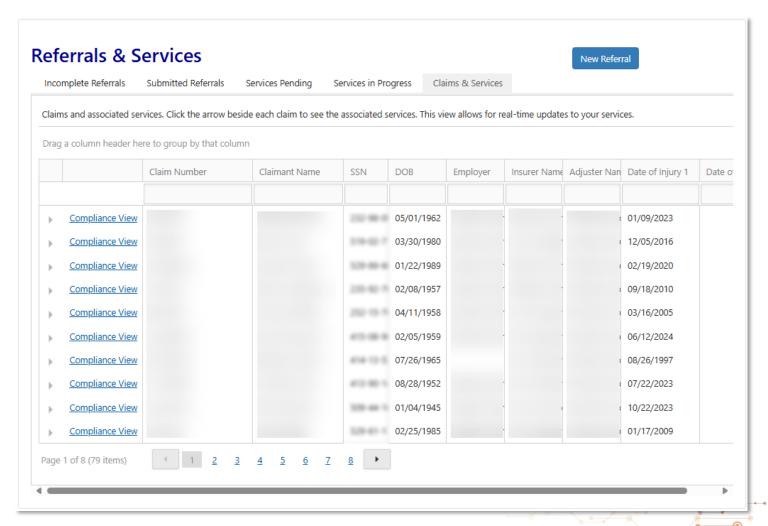
- ECS Portal provides:
  - Realtime updates
  - Full Compliance Review
  - Download Reports



# **Enhanced Integration for MSP Services: ECS Portal**

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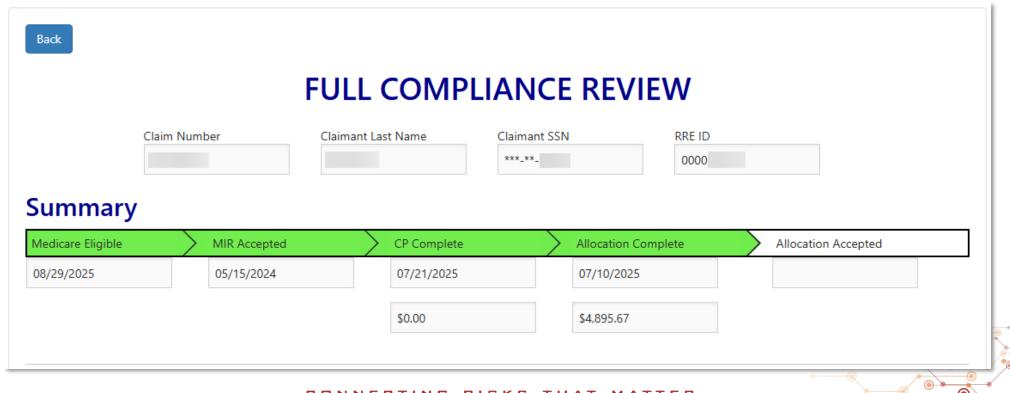
See prior referrals







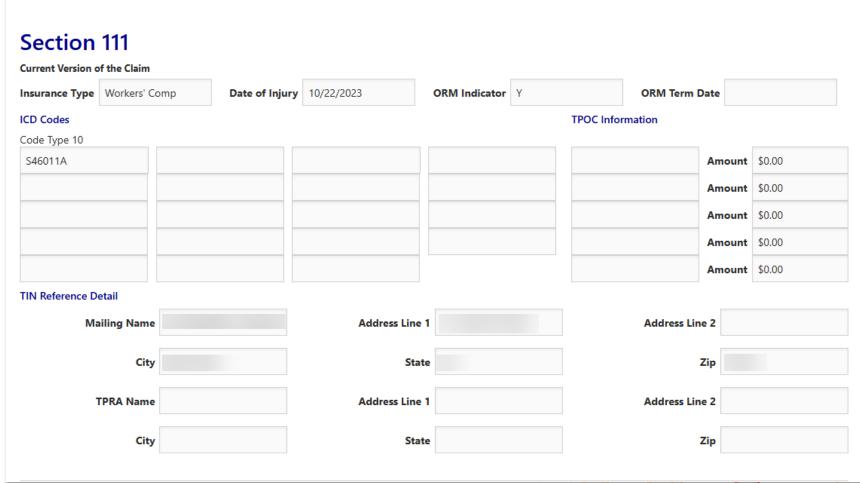
- Full Compliance Review shows key Section 111 and MSP milestones
- Summary:



# **Enhanced Integration for MSP Services: ECS Portal**



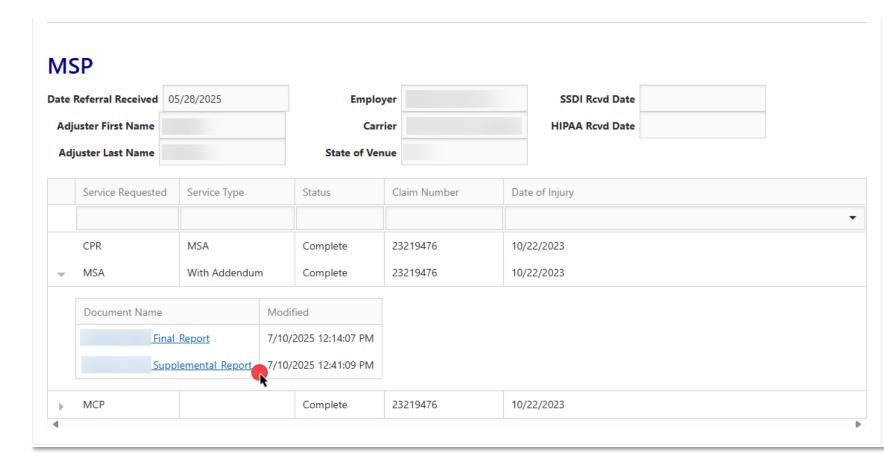
Key Section111 data



# **Enhanced Integration for MSP Services: ECS Portal**



 Key MSP data & download reports







# Questions?

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# MATRIX

# Thank You!



# Connect with us.





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