

## MEMORANDUM

**To:** Managed Long Term Care Plans

**From:** Bureau of Managed Long Term Care

**Date:** March 2, 2018

**Subject:** Medicare Identification Changes to the Managed Care Roster

The Medicare Access and CHIP Reauthorization Act (MACRA) of 2015 mandates the removal of the Social Security Number (SSN) from Medicare cards by April 2019. A new Medicare Beneficiary Identifier (MBI) will replace the SSN-based Health Insurance Claim Number (HICN) on the new Medicare cards for Medicare transactions like billing, eligibility status, and claim status.

Beginning in April 2018, CMS will complete its system and process updates to be able to transmit the MBI. There will be a transitional period where the MBI is not available and the HICN will continue to be utilized. The transition period will run from April 2018 through December 31, 2019.

Managed Long Term Care (MLTC) Plans could begin receiving the MBIs on the **Managed Care Primary and Secondary Rosters** during the transition period.

Medicare Identification Roster Changes:

- The MBI will occupy the same field as the HICN on the existing roster.
- The MBI will contain 11 alpha and numeric characters. CMS Example: 1EG4-TE5-MK73
- The current HICN field length is 12 bytes, the MBI will appear in that field as "MBI + Space".
- No changes are expected to be made to the roster layout.
- After December 31, 2019, HICN will no longer be sent on rosters. If an individual has Medicare and does not have a MBI, a message will display "Pending MBI".

Test roster files are available for MLTCP to utilize for confirm that the plan's ability to accept the roster files with the MBI information. MLTCP plans should contact [doh.sm.MLTC.System.Issues@health.ny.gov](mailto:doh.sm.MLTC.System.Issues@health.ny.gov) to request the test file for their plan.

More information about the CMS Initiative can be found at:

<https://www.cms.gov/medicare/new-medicare-card/nmc-home.html>