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MEMORANDUM

TO: RHCF and Community Services Members

FROM: Patrick Cucinelli, Senior Financial Policy Analyst

DATE: June 18, 2008

- SUBJECT: J13 Medicare Part B Transition
- **ROUTE TO:** Administrator, CFO

ABSTRACT: NGS offering teleconferences on Medicare Part B contractor transition.

Introduction

Nationally, providers continue to be impacted by the new Medicare Administrative Contractor (MAC) process. For New York, part of CMS Jurisdiction 13 (J13), National Government Services (NGS) is now in the process of consolidating all Medicare Part B services under their administration. This means that Queens providers who currently submit Part B claims to GHI and upstate providers who currently submit Part B claims to Upstate Medicare/HealthNow will have to transition over to NGS as the single MAC contractor for New York.

Providers should be regularly checking for updates on the transition by going to: <u>http://www.ngsmedicare.com/NGSMedicare/PartB/J13/J13PartB.aspx</u>. CMS Change Request 5843 (<u>http://www.cms.hhs.gov/Transmittals/downloads/R343OTN.pdf</u>) details the transition process. Providers should also be looking for detailed communications from NGS and their current Part B provider on steps to take with the transition.

NGS Teleconferences

According to NGS, approximately 50,000 Part B providers are going to be affected by the J13 transition. It is likely that there will be some glitches in the process. This makes it critical that providers are diligent in making sure to keep track of the process.

The Part B transition schedule is as follows:

PART B MAC Workload No.		Effective Date	Current Contractor No.
New York	13202	07/18/2008	00803 (NGS)
New York	13282	09/01/2008	00801 (HealthNow)
New York	13292	07/18/2008	14330 (GHI)

In addition to checking the Web and communications from the current carriers, NGS is offering a series of teleconferences on Tuesdays and Thursdays for the next few weeks. Providers impacted by this transition (i.e., providers currently submitting to Upstate Medicare/HealthNow or GHI) should participate in one of these calls.

Details on signing up for a teleconference can be found at: <u>http://www.ngsmedicare.com/NGSMedicare/PartB/J13/J13PartB.aspx</u>. Click on *Provider*

Outreach and Education and then click on the J13 Transition Teleconference listed on the calendar date on which you wish to participate.

Please contact me with any questions at pcucinelli@nyahsa.org or call 518-449-2707 ext. 145.

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