

April 10, 2017

Dear Colleague,

As winter has turned to spring in most of the country, we are pleased to bring you another update regarding some important changes that The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) has introduced regarding the Short Stay Review Program. As you are aware, CMS assigned the Short Stay Review Program to the Beneficiary and Family Centered Care Quality Improvement Organizations (BFCC-QIOs) in late 2015.

On March 7, 2017, CMS released Health Care Quality Improvement System (HCQIS) Memorandum 17-040-CO regarding changes to the sampling procedures for Short Stay Review. Below, please find a brief summary outline of the changes. Please note that this document is not comprehensive.

### **Sampling Methodology Changes**

- **Small versus Large Hospital designations eliminated**
  - Hospitals with high or increasing numbers of short stays to be sampled
  - Targeted, data-driven approach to sampling and reviews
  - The top 175 hospitals with increasing short stays in each BFCC-QIO Area will be sampled for 25 claims
  - Hospitals that had previously been identified as a “Major Concern” under the prior round of reviews will be sampled for 10 claims
- **Effective April 1, 2017**

If you have specific questions about the Short Stay Review Program, please call Livanta’s Short Stay Review HelpLine at the phone numbers listed below.

- Northeastern United States, Puerto Rico and US Virgin Islands (Area 1)  
1-866-602-1510 (Monday through Friday, 9 to 5)
- Western United States, Hawaii, Alaska and Pacific Territories (Area 5)  
1-866-603-0970 (Monday through Friday, 9 to 5)

Livanta would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued partnership in this important work. As a reminder, if you would like to update your Memorandum of Agreement with Livanta, please visit the provider pages on Livanta’s website: [www.livantaqio.com](http://www.livantaqio.com).

Best Regards,

Jennifer Bitterman  
Director, Communications  
Livanta LLC

This material was prepared by Livanta LLC, the Medicare Quality Improvement Organization for BFCC Areas 1 and 5, contract with the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), an agency of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. The contents presented do not necessarily reflect CMS policy. 11-SOW-MD-2017-QIOBFCC-PROV3

