April 16, 2018

Re: New Medicare Cards Transition Began April 1, 2018

Dear County Directors of Social Services:

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) will begin mailing new Medicare cards April 2018, with the new Medicare Beneficiary Identifier (MBI), which replaces the Social Security-based Health Insurance Claim Number (HICN) currently used on the Medicare card.

Please ensure that all county staff are aware that North Carolina Medicare beneficiaries will receive a new Medicare card with the assigned MBI number beginning in April 2018. The MBI on the new card is effective immediately, unless the patient is new to Medicare, in which case refer to the “coverage starts” date on the card. County staff should start using the MBI numbers as soon as they are received in the agency. MBI’s will be 11 characters long, and will consist of a combination of letters and numbers.

Further updates will be provided regarding this change, including changes to NCFAST and other supporting automation systems. A NCFAST Job Aid will be forthcoming with instructions on how to enter MBI numbers into NCFAST. Please see the attached document which shows the old Medicare card and the new Medicare card with the MBI. You can also find additional details in the Dear County Directors Letter: New Medicare Cards, formally Social Security Number Removal Initiative (SSNRI) dated November 3, 2017.

If you have any questions regarding this information, please contact the Operational Support Team Representative.

Sincerely,

Dave Richard
Deputy Secretary for Medical Assistance
Current Medicare Card

NAME OF BENEFICIARY
JANE DOE

MEDICARE CLAIM NUMBER
000-00-0000-A

SEX
FEMALE

IS ENTITLED TO
HOSPITAL (PART A) 07-01-1986
MEDICAL (PART B) 07-01-1986

SIGN HERE
Jane Doe

New Medicare Card

NAME/NOMBRE
JOHN L SMITH

MEDICARE NUMBER/NUMERO DE MEDICARE
1EG4-TE5-MK72

ENTITLED TO/CUANDO DERECHO A
PART A 03-03-2016
PART B 03-03-2016