

## **RE: Medicare Beneficiary Identifier (MBI)**

**12/17/2019**

Dear Provider,

As you are likely aware, Medicare has eliminated the use of Social Security Numbers (SSN) as identification numbers for patients and has issued new Medicare cards with a Medicare Beneficiary Identifier (MBI). This identification number will help protect your patients' identities.

Please continue to use your patients' HPSM-issued ID numbers on all claims for the most efficient processing and payment.

It is important to note that the MBI is confidential like a Social Security Number, and it is protected as personally identifiable information. HPSM cannot give out this number to providers over the phone. You will need to obtain an MBI directly from the patient/member.

For more information on how to obtain a patient's MBI, please visit the following link to access the details on the CMS website.

<https://www.cms.gov/Outreach-and-Education/Medicare-Learning-Network-MLN/MLNMattersArticles/Downloads/SE18006.pdf>

Thank you very much for your cooperation.

Best Regards,

Health Plan of San Mateo

If you have any questions about this information, please contact the HPSM Claims Department at (650) 616-2056 or [ClaimsInquiries@hpsm.org](mailto:ClaimsInquiries@hpsm.org).