

New ACO Beneficiary Notification Requirement

Accountable Care Organizations (ACO) participating in the Medicare Shared Savings Program (MSSP) are required to send a new standardized beneficiary information notice to each attributed Medicare Beneficiary prior to or at the first primary care visit of performance year 2020 and annually moving forward. CMS allows the ACO to furnish a standardized notice to such beneficiaries electronically, by regular mail, or at a subsequent primary care visit.

The purpose of this notification is to encourage attributed beneficiaries to obtain medically necessary primary care services annually. The Scripps ACO will begin the notification process by January 2020 by utilizing the MyScripps patient portal or by email. If the patient does not have either, then the patient will be notified by regular mail.

What is an attributed beneficiary? A Medicare Fee-for-service patient who has been attributed to a given ACO by CMS due to the amount of primary care services received from a provider in the ACO.

What do I need to do as a provider? The ACO will be responsible for sending each patient notification. However, it is important providers and office staff are aware of this notice and its content. In addition, please send patients with questions to the number created specifically for this notification: **858-678-7220**.

What is the Scripps ACO doing? The ACO has taken the responsibility of notifying all beneficiaries on your behalf and will provide patients with a simple explanation of the notice. **The ACO has set up a hotline specific to the beneficiary notice for patients. Please refer patients to this number if they contact your office with questions: 858-678-7220.** Messages will be returned within 24 hours.

What does the Beneficiary Notification say? Please click on the link below to view the letter that your patient will be receiving: <https://www.scripps.org/sparkle-assets/documents/scripps-aco-beneficiary-notice.pdf>

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