When do I need to start using the new Advance Beneficiary Notice of Noncoverage (ABN) form?

Due to COVID-19 concerns, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) has expanded the deadline for use of the renewed ABM, form CMS-R-131. The renewed ABN will be mandatory for use on January 1, 2021. While dental practices may implement the renewed ABN form prior to the mandatory deadline.

Healthcare providers issue the ABN form to patients on Medicare in situations where Medicare payment is expected to be denied. According to CMS, the ABN “is issued in order to transfer potential financial liability to the Medicare beneficiary in certain instances.”

For more information, see:

- CMS, Beneficiary Notices Initiative (BNI)
- Medicare Processing Manual, 100-4, chapter 30
- ABN Form Instructions (PDF)
- ABN Forms English and Spanish (Incl Large Print) (ZIP)

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