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# FLORIDA MEDICAID
*A Division of the Agency for Health Care Administration*

## Florida Medicaid Health Care Alert
## October 1, 2019

### Provider Type(s): All

### Reminder:  834 Benefit Enrollment and Maintenance Companion Guide Changes

The Agency for Health Care Administration (Agency) updated the 834 Companion Guide as part of the implementation of the New Medicare Card Project (NMCP).   The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services removed the Social Security Number (SSN) based Health Insurance Claim Numbers (HICNs) from Medicare Cards and mandated the use of Medicare Beneficiary Identifiers (MBIs) for Medicare and Medicaid transactions like billing, eligibility status, and claim status. CMS has provided guidance to obtain the MBI, this information can be obtained at the following location: https://www.cms.gov/Outreach-and-Education/Medicare-Learning-Network-MLN/MLNMattersArticles/Downloads/SE18006.pdf.

The changes relating to the information provided in the 834 Benefit Enrollment and Maintenance Companion Guide are:

- Beginning October 1, 2018 and continuing through December 31, 2019: The 2000 Loop Subscriber Identifier, REF02, will contain the Medicare Beneficiary Identifier, (MBI), if the MBI is known to Florida Medicaid; otherwise, the REF02 will contain a Health Insurance Claim Number, (HICN).

- **Starting January 1, 2020:** The REF02 will contain a MBI; otherwise, the REF02 will be blank if an MBI is not known to Florida Medicaid.

*Note: F6 will remain as the Reference ID Qualifier for both HICN and MBI.*

For Additional information, visit the Companion Guides page on the public Web Portal.

Providers may contact the EDI Helpdesk at 1-866-586-0961 for any NMCP-related inquiries and contact the Provider Services Contact Center at 1-800-289-7799, option 7, to request to speak to a field services representative.

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