

CLIENT ALERTS

CMS Moratorium Ices Home Health Agencies and Ambulance Companies in HEAT Locations

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In another effort to combat fraud and abuse in federal healthcare programs, on January 30, 2014, the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services ("CMS"), issued a new temporary moratorium freezing enrollment of Home Health Agencies ("HHA") and Ambulance Suppliers in federal healthcare programs, including Medicare, Medicaid, and CHIP. CMS also extended previously issued restrictions. This action was taken pursuant to authority granted in the Affordable Care Act and its enabling regulations. Under the moratoria, new enrollment in federal healthcare programs for HHAs and Ambulance Suppliers are frozen temporarily in certain geographic areas that CMS determined, based on data analysis and consultation with federal law enforcement agencies (including the Department of Justice and the Office of Inspector General), pose a high risk of fraud, abuse, and waste. Southeast Michigan is included in the action affecting HHAs.

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