

MSSP SNF 3-Day Rule Waiver Program

Program

The SNF 3-Day Rule Waiver allows for eligible Medicare Shared Savings Program (MSSP) beneficiaries to be admitted to a skilled nursing facility (SNF) for extended-care skilled nursing or skilled rehabilitative services without the need for a 3-day inpatient hospital stay preceding the admission.

This SNF 3-day rule waiver was enacted to give ACOs in specific performance-based risk tracks increased opportunities to positively impact quality outcomes and overall cost of care.

Waiver Highlights

- Does not change or expand Medicare SNF benefits for beneficiaries
- Does not change freedom of choice rights for beneficiary
- Patients cannot be held financially liable for claims rejected by CMS for lack of a qualifying 3-day hospital stay
- 90-day grace period permits payment for SNF services provided without a qualifying 3-day inpatient hospital stay to certain beneficiaries who were initially included on the ACO's prospective assignment list but who were subsequently excluded from a quarterly exclusion report during the performance year if such services would otherwise be covered under the SNF 3-Day Rule Waiver.

Eligibility Criteria

- Must be an assigned beneficiary of the ACO under the MSSP program
- Cannot be a resident of a SNF or other long-term care setting (assisted living is not considered a long-term care setting for the waiver)
- Must be medically stable
- Cannot require inpatient or further inpatient hospital evaluation or treatment
- Must have certain and confirmed diagnoses
- Have an identified skilled nursing or rehabilitation need that cannot be delivered in an outpatient setting
- Have been evaluated and approved for SNF admission within 3 days prior to the SNF admission by an ACO provider

Conditions or skilled services, with a confirmed diagnosis, that may be appropriate for SNF admission (not an all-inclusive list):

- Management of acute and chronic conditions: ex. CHF, COPD, DM
- Need for daily skilled nursing services: IV Therapy, Wound Care
- Continuous observation or patient condition
- Rehabilitative therapies- Occupational, Physical, Speech-language pathology

Resources

Contact: BSMH-postacuteservices@BSMHealth.org

SNF 3-Day Waiver Toolkit: CMS Optional SNF 3DW Notice, 3 Day Waiver SNF Affiliate Lists (ambulatory care and acute care), SNF 3-Day Waiver One-Pager

ALL PROVIDERS:

Consult with Inpatient Case Management or your Ambulatory Care Manager to initiate the 3 day waiver workflows

ACO PHYSICIANS:

Approve MSSP beneficiary admission to SNF within 3 days prior to SNF admission. Must document in the 3-Day Waiver Checklist if overseeing documentation for another provider



INPATIENT/AMBULATORY CARE MANAGERS:

Review chart and initiate verification process via email

BSMH-postacuteservices@BSMHealth.org