

Regulatory Terms Glossary

AACN: American Association of Critical Care Nurses
AAHPM: American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine
ABN: Advance Beneficiary Notice
ACA: Affordable Care Act (also known as PPACA)
ADR: Additional Development Request
AHIP: America's Health Insurance Plans
AHRQ: Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality
ALJ: Administrative Law Judge
ALOS: Average Length of Service
ARRA: American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009
ASA: American Society on Aging
ASCO: American Society of Clinical Oncology
ASPE: Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation
BA: Business Associate
BBA: Balanced Budget Act of 1997
BBRA: Balanced Budget Refinement Act of 1999
BIPA: Benefits Improvement and Protection Act of 2000
BNAF: Budget Neutrality Adjustment Factor
CAH: Critical Access Hospital
CAHPS: Consumer Assessment of Health Plans Survey
CAPC: Center to Advance Palliative Care
CBSA: Core Based Statistical Area
CE: Covered Entity
CERT: Comprehensive Error Rate Testing
CFR: Code of Federal Regulations
CHAP: Community Health Accreditation Program
CHIP: Children's Health Insurance Program
ChIPPS: Children's International Project on Palliative/Hospice Services
CHC: Continuous Home Care
CMR: Comprehensive Medical Review
CMS: Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services
COB: Coordination of Benefits
COP: Conditions of Participation
CPR: Cardio-Pulmonary Resuscitation
CPT: Current Procedural Terminology
CR: Change Request
CSHCN: Children with Special Health Care Needs
CWF: Common Working File
CY: Calendar Year

DDE: Direct Data Entry
DEA: Drug Enforcement Agency
DRA: Deficit Reduction Act
DHHS: Department of Health and Human Services
DNR: Do-Not-Resuscitate
DUR: Drug Utilization Review
EDI: Electronic Data Interchange
EMR: Electronic Medical Record
EOB: Explanation of Benefits
FDA: Food and Drug Administration
FEHC: Family Evaluation of Hospice Care
FERA: Fraud Enforcement and Recovery Act
FFS: Fee for Service
FI: Fiscal Intermediary
FISS: Fiscal Intermediary Standard System
FL: Form Locator
FMR: Focused Medical Review
FY: Fiscal Year
GAO: U.S. General Accountability Office
GAR: Geographic Area Representative
GIP: General Inpatient
HAA: Hospice Association of America
HCFA: Health Care Financing Administration (now known as CMS)
HCFAC: Health Care Fraud and Abuse Control
HCFO: Changes in Health Care Financing and Organization (an RWJF project)
HCPCS: Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System
HCUP: Healthcare Cost and Utilization Project
HEAT: Health Care Fraud Prevention and Enforcement Action Team
HEDIS: Health Employers Data and Information Set (NCQA performance measures)
HHA: Home Health Agency
HHS: Home Health Service
HHS: US Department of Health and Human Services
HIPAA: Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act
HITECH: Health Information Technology for Economic and Clinical Health Act
HPNA: Hospice and Palliative Nurses Association
HRSA: Health Resources and Services Administration
ICD-9: International Codification of Diseases 9th version (coding schema for billing)
ICD-10: International Codification of Diseases 10th version
ICF: Intermediate Care Facility
ICF: International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health
ICF/MR: Intermediate Care Facility for the Mentally Retarded
IOM: Internet Only Manual (CMS)

JCAHO: Joint Commission on accreditation of Healthcare Organizations
LCD: Local Coverage Determination
LMRP: Local Medical Review Policy
LOS: Length of Stay
LTCF: Long Term Care Facility
LTCH: Long Term Care Hospital
MAC: Medicare Administrative Contractor
MDS-3: Minimum Data Set version 3 (a Medicare data set for nursing facilities)
MedPAC: Medicare Payment Advisory Commission
MIC: Medicaid Integrity Contractor
MLOS: Median Length of Service
MMA: Medicare Prescription Drug Improvement and Modernization Act
MR: Medical Review
MSA: Metropolitan Statistical Area
MSN: Medicare Summary Notice
MSP: Medicare Secondary Payer
NAHC: National Association for Home Care and Hospice
NACHRI: National Association of Children's Hospitals and Related Institutions
NCD: National Coverage Determination
NCHS: National Center for Health Statistics (a CDC division)
NCP: National Consensus Project
NCPDP: National Council for Prescription Programs
NCQA: National Committee for Quality Assurance
NCVHS: National Committee for Vital and Health Statistics
NDC: National Drug Code
NF: Nursing Facility
NHCPP: National Council of Hospice and Palliative Professionals
NHF: National Hospice Foundation
NHPCO: National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization
NOE: Notice of Election
NPI: National Provider Identifier
NQF: National Quality Forum
OASIS: Outcome and Assessment Information Set
OEI: Office of Evaluation and Inspections
OIG: Office of the Inspector General
OMB: Office of Management and Budget
ORT: Operation Restore Trust
PACE: Program of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly
PBM: Pharmacy Benefit Manager
PCA: Progressive Corrective Action
PECOS: Provider Enrollment Chain and Ownership System
PERM: Payment Error Rate Measurement

PHI: Protected Health Information
PIP: Periodic Interim Payment
PM: Program Memorandum
PM: Performance Measurement
PPACA: Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act of 2010 (also known as ACA)
PPS: Prospective Payment System
PRO: Peer Review Organization
PSC: Program Safeguard Contractor
QAPI: Quality Assessment Performance Improvement
QI: Quality Improvement
QIC: Qualified Independent Contractor
QIO: Quality Improvement Organizations (independent organizations at the state level that contract with CMS for quality improvement with Medicare providers)
QOL: Quality of Life
RAC: Recovery Audit Contractor
REMS: Risk Evaluation and Mitigation Strategy
RFP: Request for Proposal
RHHI: Regional Home Health Intermediary
ROI: Return on Investment
RHC: Routine Home Care
RHC: Rural Health Clinic
RO: CMS Regional Office
RTP: Return to Provider
RWJF: Robert Wood Johnson Foundation
RUG: Resource Utilization Group
SA: State survey agency
SCHIP: State Childrens Health Insurance Program
SNF: Skilled Nursing Facility
SOM: State Operation Manual
SUPPORT: The Study to Understand Prognosis and Preferences for Outcomes and Risks of Treatments
TEFRA: Tax Equity and Fiscal Responsibility Act
TITLE XIX: Medicaid
TITLE XVIII: Medicare
TMR: Targeted Medical Review
TR: Targeted Review
VAMC: Veteran's Administration Medical Center
WHO: World Health Organization
ZPIC: Zone Program Integrity Contractor