

CMS Delays Claim Payment Until June 17th, Hoping for Congress Movement to Further Delay or Repeal (?) the SGR Formula



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UPDATE: On June 24, 2010 the House and Senate passed legislation to further delay the Medicare cuts until November 30, 2010. **More here.**

Excerpt From Today's CMS Announcement (with my bolding):

*The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) is **hopeful** that Congressional action will be taken within the next several days to avert the negative update.*

*Given the possibility of Congressional action in the very near future, CMS is now directing its contractors to continue holding June 1 and later claims through **Thursday, June 17**, lifting the hold on Friday, June 18.*

This action will facilitate accurate claims processing at the outset and minimize the need for claims reprocessing if Congressional action changes the negative update. It also should minimize the provider and beneficiary burdens and costs associated with reprocessing claims.

We understand that the delayed processing of Medicare claims may present cash flow problems for some Medicare providers. However, we expect that the delay, if any, beyond the normal processing period will be only a few days. Be on the alert for more information regarding the 2010 Medicare Physician Fee Schedule Update.

