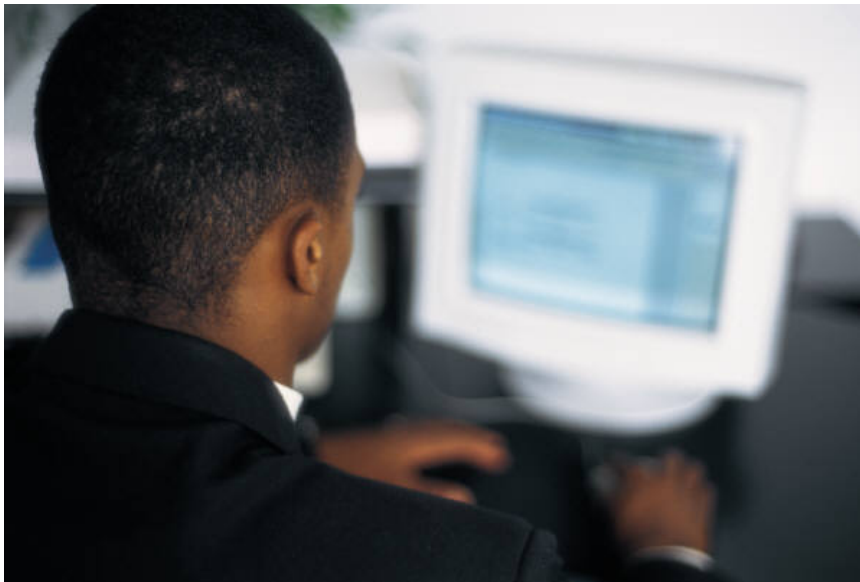


Electronic Remittance Advice



*NHIC, Corp
EDI Department*

What is Electronic Remittance Advice (ERA)?

Electronic Remittance Advice (ERA) is an electronic version of the Standard Paper Remittance (SPR). It allows the provider to receive all of the information contained on an SPR. ERAs are used for the automatic posting of claim payment information into your accounts receivable system if you have the required software. See “Enrollment Steps for Electronic Remittance” below for more information on automatic posting with ERAs.

Why should providers receive ERA?

ERA will save you time and money by eliminating the need for manual posting of Medicare payment information. Since the ERA is generated electronically, you may store all your ERA information on your computer eliminating the need for paper storage.

What is Medicare Remit Easy Print (MREP) Software?

If you do not have the ability to print your ERA files you may download free “Medicare Remit Easy Print” (MREP) software from the CMS website. The free MREP software allows the provider to print HIPAA compliant ERA files in the familiar and easy to read SPR format. Additionally, MREP has many capabilities that allow the provider to locate claim information quickly and easily and to print reports on denied, adjusted or deductible-applied claims. For more information on Easy Print or to download the free software, please go to <http://www.medicarenhic.com/edi/updates.shtml>.

Who can receive electronic remittance?

Any provider or supplier that has an active submitter number may receive ERAs. If you sent claims electronically and do not have your own submitter number and want to receive ERAs directly, you must complete the Separate Remittance Agreement form. Providers may allow a billing service or clearinghouse to receive the ERA files on their behalf by completing the Provider/Submitter Agreement form. Please make sure section 2 of The Provider/Submitter agreement is signed by the billing service or clearing house. Please visit our website at: http://www.medicarenhic.com/edi/resource_ctr.shtml to download the necessary forms.

Will I still receive a Medicare check?

You will continue to receive the paper Medicare check unless you complete the CMS -588 Electronic Funds Transfer form requesting payment electronically. Receiving a paper check does not affect ERAs, the Medicare check number appears on both the paper and the electronic versions of the remittance.

Production of the Standard Paper Remittance will be discontinued 45 days after you are enrolled in ERA. You may not receive both the ERA (electronic) and SPR (paper) remittances simultaneously after the initial time period.

Can I receive Medicare payments electronically?

Yes! Payments from Medicare may be automatically deposited into a providers designated bank account by enrolling in ***Electronic Funds Transfer*** (EFT). Enrollment is available to all providers who bill Medicare. CMS now requires all providers enrolling in Medicare for the first time or active Medicare providers updating their enrollment forms to include the CMS-588 EFT form with the CMS -855 Enrollment Application.

Among the benefits of selecting EFT is your Medicare payments are deposited into your account automatically, therefore you don't need to worry about lost or stolen checks. Enrolling in EFT is easy, you may download the Application by visiting **the CMS** website at:

<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/cmsforms/downloads/CMS588.pdf>

Does electronic payment affect remittance?

No, each EFT transaction is assigned a unique identifying number which functions in the same way as the Medicare check number. The identifying number appears on the remittance notice (paper or electronic) in the same field/location as the Medicare check number.

Where will I find electronic remittance and when is it available?

When you complete the ERA Enrollment form you have the option to setup to receive your ERA on a daily or weekly basis. Once your ERA is generated, you will retrieve it from your mailbox on the Carrier Bulletin Board System (CABBS). Remember, you will need to connect to the CABBS via a modem and must have communications software in order to download the ERA files.

If I transmit a claim today, will I have my remittance in 14 days?

Not necessarily, remittance is produced as the claims complete the adjudication process (pay or deny). As a result of that process the order of remittance notices may not necessarily follow the sequence in which the claims were transmitted.

Enrollment Steps for Electronic Remittance:

Step 1 - Contact your software vendor.

Ask your vendor if electronic remittance capability is available for your practice management system. ***Programming is required*** in order to extract the information from the electronic remittance file and automatically post this information to the patient accounts.

If your vendor needs format specifications, they are available in the Vendor Spotlight section of our Web site at:

http://www.medicarenhic.com/edi/ven_spotlight.shtml

For support questions, vendors may call:

Massachusetts, Maine, New Hampshire, or Vermont (781) 749-7745
Southern/Northern California NHIC office (213) 593-6950 or (530) 896-7024

Step 2 - Complete the *Electronic Remittance Advice (ERA) Enrollment Form* in the EDI Enrollment Packet if you wish to receive ERA directly.

Providers who wish to allow a billing service or clearinghouse to receive their ERA must complete the *Provider/Submitter Agreement* section 1 and have section 2 signed by the billing service or clearinghouse. Please follow this link to the Enrollment section of the EDI Resource Center for any of the necessary forms
http://www.medicarenhic.com/edi/resource_ctr.shtml.

Please call your local EDI Technical Support Line if you require more information.

Version	Date	Reviewed By	Approved By	Summary
1.0	3/16/2005	Vickey Welter	Kenneth Leary	Initial Document
2.0	7/11/2005	Vickey Welter	Kenneth Leary	Revision needed to re-position header (move to on top of CMS logo) ; added web site address to header
3.0	10/18/2005	Vickey Welter	Kenneth Leary	Revision needed to move header information to footer as this is a customer facing document.
4.0	10/27/05	Vickey Welter	Kenneth Leary	Revision needed to add Easy Print Software information
5.0	6/23/2006	Sergio Escobedo	Denise Noland	Changed font color for Header & Footer to black
6.0	10/3/2006	Sergio Escobedo	Denise Noland	Name change to NHIC Corp.
7.0	11/22/2006	Sergio Escobedo	Denise Noland	Phone # update for CA
8.0	4/4/2007	Sergio Escobedo	Melinda Semerena	Annual Review – Updated EFT download instructions
9.0	4/12/2007	Sergio Escobedo	Melinda Semerena	Changed verbiage throughout the document
10.0	4/20/2007	Sergio Escobedo	Melinda Semerena	Changed verbiage throughout the document

Join Our Electronic Mailing List for Medicare Part B

You will find the NHIC electronic updates the best way to keep informed of all Medicare changes and recently published editions of the *Medicare B Resource*.

The completed form may be mailed to: NHIC, Corp., Website Coordinator, P.O. Box 54905, Los Angeles, CA 90054-0905 or returned with your EDI enrollment forms.

Email Address*			
Provider Name *		State*	
Contact Phone Number*		Zip Code*	
County*			

*All Required Fields

NHIC does not disclose, give, sell, or transfer any personal information to third parties. See the complete [Privacy Policy](http://www.medicarenhic.com/w3c/policy.html) for more details. (<http://www.medicarenhic.com/w3c/policy.html>)

MAILING LISTS: SELECT ALL AREAS OF INTEREST	SELECT THE APPROPRIATE PROVIDER TYPE:
<p>General Mailings</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> General NHIC Website Updates (weekly website updates)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) Updates</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Seminar, Webinar, ACT (Ask the Contractor Teleconference) Notices</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Beneficiary Updates</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Medicare Easy Remit Print (MREP) Software</p> <p>Local Updates</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> California Updates</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> California Local Coverage Determinations (LCDs)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> New England Updates</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> New England Local Coverage Determinations (LCDs)</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Ambulance Service</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Ambulatory Surgical Center (ASC)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Clinical Laboratory</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> End Stage Renal Disease (ESRD)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Hospital</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Physician</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Practice Administration</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Rural Health</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Specialty or Other _____</p>
	<p>CHECK ONE IF APPLICABLE:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Billing Staff</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Billing Service</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Clearinghouse</p>