Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, HHS

§ 411.4 Services for which neither the beneficiary nor any other person is legally obligated to pay.

(a) General rule. Except as provided in § 411.8(b) (for services paid by a governmental entity), Medicare does not pay for a service if—

(1) The beneficiary has no legal obligation to pay for the service; and

(2) No other person or organization (such as a prepayment plan of which the beneficiary is a member) has a legal obligation to provide or pay for that service.

(b) Special conditions for services furnished to individuals in custody of penal authorities. Individuals who are in custody include, but are not limited to, individuals who are under arrest, incarcerated, imprisoned, escaped from confinement, under supervised release, on medical furlough, required to reside in mental health facilities, required to reside in halfway houses, required to live under home detention, or confined completely or partially in any way under a penal statute or rule. Payment may be made for services furnished to individuals or groups of individuals who are in the custody of police or other penal authorities or in the custody of a government agency under a penal statute only if the following conditions are met:

(1) State or local law requires those individuals or groups of individuals to repay the cost of medical services they receive while in custody.

(2) The State or local government entity enforces the requirement to pay by billing all such individuals, whether or not covered by Medicare or any other health insurance, and by pursuing collection of the amounts they owe in the same way and with the same vigor that it pursues the collection of other debts.


§ 411.6 Services furnished by a Federal provider of services or other Federal agency.

(a) Basic rule. Except as provided in paragraph (b) of this section, Medicare does not pay for services furnished by a Federal provider of services or other Federal agency.

(b) Exceptions. Payment may be made—

(1) For emergency hospital services, if the conditions of §424.103 of this chapter are met;

(2) For services furnished by a participating Federal provider which CMS has determined is providing services to the public generally as a community institution or agency;

(3) For services furnished by participating hospitals and SNFs of the Indian Health Service; and

(4) For services furnished under arrangements (as defined in §409.3 of this chapter) made by a participating hospital.

§ 411.7 Services that must be furnished at public expense under a Federal law or Federal Government contract.

(a) Basic rule. Except as provided in paragraph (b) of this section, payment may not be made for services that any provider or supplier is obligated to furnish at public expense, in accordance with a law of, or a contract with, the United States.

(b) Exception. Payment may be made for services that a hospital or SNF of the Indian Health Service is obligated to furnish at public expense.

§ 411.8 Services paid for by a Government entity.

(a) Basic rule. Except as provided in paragraph (b) of this section, Medicare does not pay for services that are paid for directly or indirectly by a government entity.

(b) Exceptions. Payment may be made for the following:

(1) Services furnished under a health insurance plan established for employees of the government entity.

(2) Services furnished under a title of the Social Security Act other than title XVIII.