Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, HHS

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(b) Records pertaining to individuals. CMS maintains some records pertaining to individuals. Disclosure of such records is generally prohibited by section 1106 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1306), except as prescribed in § 401.105 (See also § 401.126(b)). Requests for records pertaining to individuals may be addressed to:

Director, Office of Research, Demonstrations and Statistics, CMS, Baltimore, Maryland 21235, when information is sought from the record of a person who has participated in a research survey conducted by or for CMS, Office of Research, Demonstrations and Statistics; or whose records have been included by statistical sampling techniques in research and statistical studies authorized by the Social Security Act in the field of health care financing.

(c) Requests for materials listed in § 401.130 or § 401.132 or indexed in the CMS Rulings. A request to inspect and copy materials listed in § 401.130 or § 401.132 or indexed in CMS Rulings may be made to any district or branch office of the Social Security Administration. If the specific material requested is not available in the office receiving the request, the material will be obtained and made available promptly.

§ 401.130 Materials available at social security district offices and branch offices.

(a) Materials available for inspection. The following are available or will be made available for inspection at the social security district offices and branch offices:

(1) Compilation of the Social Security Laws.
(2) The Public Information Regulation of the Department of Health and Human Services (45 CFR part 5).
(3) Medicare Program regulations issued by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services. 42 CFR chapter IV.
(4) CMS Rulings.

(b) Materials available for inspection and copying. The following materials are available or will be made available for inspection and copying at the social security district offices and branch offices:

(1) Claims Manual of the Social Security Administration.
(2) Department Staff Manual on Organization, Department of Health and Human Services, Part F, CMS.
(3) Parts 2 and 3 of the Part A Intermediary Manual (Provider Services under Medicare CMS Pub. 13-2 and 13-3).
(4) Parts 2 and 3 of the Part B Intermediary Manual (Physician and Supplier Services).
(5) Intermediary Letters Related to Parts 2 and 3 of the Part A and Part B Intermediary Manuals.
(6) State Buy-In Handbook (State Enrollment of Eligible Individuals under the Supplementary Medical Insurance Program) and Letters.
(7) Group Practice Prepayment Plan Manual (HIM–8) and Letters.
(9) CMS Letters to State Agencies on Medicare.
(10) Skilled Nursing Facility Manual (CMS Pub. 12).
(11) Hearing Officers Handbook (Supplementary Medical Insurance Program—HIM–21).
(12) Hospital Manual (HIM–10).
(16) Audit Program Manuals for Hospital (HIM–16), Home Health Agency (HIM–17), and Extended Care Facilities (HIM–18).
(17) Statements of deficiencies based upon survey reports of health care institutions or facilities prepared after January 31, 1973, by a State agency, and such reports (including pertinent written statements furnished by such institution or facility on such statements of deficiencies), as set forth in § 401.133(a). Except as otherwise provided for at §§ 401.133 and 488.325 of this chapter for SNFs, such statements of deficiencies, reports, and pertinent written statements shall be available
or made available only at the social security district office and regional office servicing the area in which the institution or facility is located, except that such statements of deficiencies and pertinent written statements shall also be available at the local public assistance offices servicing such area.

(18) Indexes to the materials listed in paragraph (a) of this section and in this paragraph (b) and an index to the Bureau of Hearings and Appeals Handbook.


§ 401.132 Materials in field offices of the Office of Hearings and Appeals, SSA.

(a) Materials available for inspection. The following materials are available for inspection in the field offices of the Office of Hearings and Appeals, SSA.

(1) Title 45 of the Code of Federal Regulations (including the public information regulation of the Department of Health and Human Services).

(2) Regulations of the Social Security Administration and CMS.

(3) Title 5, United States Code.

(4) Compilation of the Social Security Laws.

(b) Handbook available for inspection and copying. The Office of Hearings and Appeals Handbook is available for inspection and copying in the field offices of the Office of Hearings and Appeals.

§ 401.133 Availability of official reports on providers and suppliers of services, State agencies, intermediaries, and carriers under Medicare.

Except as otherwise provided for in § 488.325 of this chapter for SNFs, the following must be made available to the public under the conditions specified:

(a) Statements of deficiencies and survey reports on providers of services prepared by State agencies. (1) Statements of deficiencies based upon official survey reports prepared after January 31, 1973, by a State agency pursuant to its agreement entered into under section 1861 of the Social Security Act and furnished to CMS, which relate to a State agency’s findings on the compliance of a health care institution or facility with the applicable provisions in section 1861 of the Act and with the regulations, promulgated pursuant to those provisions, dealing with health and safety of patients in those institutions and facilities; and (2) State agency survey reports. The statement of deficiencies or report and any pertinent written statements furnished by the institution or facility on the statement of deficiencies shall be disclosed within 90 days following the completion of the survey by the State agency, but not to exceed 30 days following the receipt of the report by CMS. (See § 401.130(b)(17)) for places where statements of deficiencies, reports, and pertinent written statements will be available.)

(b) CMS reports on providers of services. Upon request in writing, official reports and other formal evaluations (including followup reviews), excluding references to internal tolerance rules and practices contained therein, internal working papers or other informal memoranda, prepared and completed after January 31, 1973, which relate to the performance of providers of services under Medicare: Provided, That no information identifying individual patients, physicians, or other practitioners, or other individuals shall be disclosed under this paragraph. Those reports and other evaluations shall be disclosed within 30 days following the final preparation thereof by CMS during which time the providers of services shall be afforded a reasonable opportunity to offer comments, and there shall be disclosed with those reports and evaluations any pertinent written statements furnished CMS by those providers on those reports and evaluations.

(c) Contractor performance review reports. Upon request in writing, official contractor performance review reports and other formal evaluations (including followup reviews), excluding references to internal tolerance rules and practices contained therein, internal working papers or other informal memoranda, prepared and completed after January 31, 1973, which relate to the evaluation of the performance of (1) intermediaries and carriers under their agreements entered into pursuant