

For good cause shown by the beneficiary, the 6-month period may be extended.

(b) *Amount of indemnification.*¹ The amount of indemnification is the total that the beneficiary paid the provider, practitioner, or supplier.

(c) *Effect of indemnification.* The amount of indemnification is considered an overpayment to the provider, practitioner, or supplier, and as such is recoverable under this part or in accordance with other applicable provisions of law.

§ 411.404 Criteria for determining that a beneficiary knew that services were excluded from coverage as custodial care or as not reasonable and necessary.

(a) *Basic rule.* A beneficiary who receives services that constitute custodial care under § 411.15(g) or that are not reasonable and necessary under § 411.15(k), is considered to have known that the services were not covered if the criteria of paragraphs (b) and (c) of this section are met.

(b) *Written notice.* Written notice has been given to the beneficiary, or to someone acting on his or her behalf, that the services were not covered because they did not meet Medicare coverage guidelines. A notice concerning similar or reasonably comparable services furnished on a previous occasion also meets this criterion. For example, program payment may not be made for the treatment of obesity, no matter what form the treatment may take. After the beneficiary who is treated for obesity with dietary control is informed in writing that Medicare will not pay for treatment of obesity, he or she will be presumed to know that there will be no Medicare payment for any form of subsequent treatment of this condition, including use of a combination of exercise, machine treatment, diet, and medication.

(c) *Source of notice.* The notice was given by one of the following:

(1) The PRO, intermediary, or carrier.

¹For services furnished before 1988, the indemnification amount was reduced by any deductible or coinsurance amounts that would have been applied if the services had been covered.

(2) The group or committee responsible for utilization review for the provider that furnished the services.

(3) The provider, practitioner, or supplier that furnished the service.

§ 411.406 Criteria for determining that a provider, practitioner, or supplier knew that services were excluded from coverage as custodial care or as not reasonable and necessary.

(a) *Basic rule.* A provider, practitioner, or supplier that furnished services which constitute custodial care under § 411.15(g) or that are not reasonable and necessary under § 411.15(k) is considered to have known that the services were not covered if any one of the conditions specified in paragraphs (b) through (e) of this section is met.

(b) *Notice from the PRO, intermediary or carrier.* The PRO, intermediary, or carrier had informed the provider, practitioner, or supplier that the services furnished were not covered, or that similar or reasonably comparable services were not covered.

(c) *Notice from the utilization review committee or the beneficiary's attending physician.* The utilization review group or committee for the provider or the beneficiary's attending physician had informed the provider that these services were not covered.

(d) *Notice from the provider, practitioner, or supplier to the beneficiary.* Before the services were furnished, the provider, practitioner or supplier informed the beneficiary that—

(1) The services were not covered; or

(2) The beneficiary no longer needed covered services.

(e) *Knowledge based on experience, actual notice, or constructive notice.* It is clear that the provider, practitioner, or supplier could have been expected to have known that the services were excluded from coverage on the basis of the following:

(1) Its receipt of HCFA notices, including manual issuances, bulletins, or other written guides or directives from intermediaries, carriers, or PROs, including notification of PRO screening criteria specific to the condition of the beneficiary for whom the furnished services are at issue and of medical procedures subject to preadmission review by a PRO.