

March 13, 2026

## RELEASE OF THE UPDATED MEDICARE OUTPATIENT OBSERVATION NOTICE (MOON)

### SUMMARY OF NOTIFICATION

The Office of Management and Budget approved the updated Medicare Outpatient Observation Notice (MOON) for 3 years. CMS improved the notice's readability and design. The new version is posted in English and Spanish on CMS' [BNI webpage](#).

### KEY DETAILS

**The updated MOON is effective now and expires February 28, 2029.**

***Providers who have existing stock of the expired MOON may continue to use the expired version until April 20, 2026, but must transition to the updated form no later than that date.***

Providers are required to deliver a MOON to Medicare beneficiaries (including health plan enrollees) informing them that they are outpatients receiving observation services and are not inpatients of a hospital or critical access hospital (CAH).

For additional instructions, see Section 400, of Chapter 30 of the CMS Claims Processing Manual, available at: [/Regulations-and-Guidance/Guidance/Manuals/Downloads/clm104c30.pdf \(PDF\)](#)

Questions regarding any of the Original Medicare (also called Fee for Service) BNI notices, the Medicare Advantage notices, and the MOON can be submitted at: <https://appeals.lmi.org>

### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Please review the updated documents below for your reference.

- [MOON\\_2026\\_Large Print Version](#)
- [MOON\\_2026\\_Spanish](#)
- [MOON\\_2026\\_v508 \(Word\)](#)
- [MOON\\_2026\\_v508 \(PDF\)](#)
- [MOON\\_Instructions\\_2026](#)