

# New Medicare Card-It's a Process

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## March 28, 2018

The implementation of the new Medicare card is going to take time, and it will involve many steps to ensure once the final implementation of January 2020 is reached, all MACs, Medicare providers, and Medicare beneficiaries have the information necessary for successful implementation.

The official transition period for the new Medicare card is April 2018 through December 2019. As a Medicare provider, you can stay informed of current events by visiting the new Medicare card website. It is very important that providers know that they can use either the HICN or MBI during the transition period.

### **April 2018**

- ⇒ CMS will begin to mail the new cards, and mailing will be based on geographic location along with other factors.
- ⇒ HETS will read a message back to providers looking for eligibility that the beneficiary's new card has been mailed.
- ⇒ Use this job aid to determine the general wave time period. [New Medicare Card Mailing Strategy](#)

### **June 2018**

- ⇒ NGS providers will have access to an MBI look up tools [NGSConnex](#).
- ⇒ Medicare beneficiaries have access to an MBI look up tool through their MyMedicare.gov personal account.

### **October 2018**

- ⇒ The Medicare paper and electronic remittance advice will display both the HICN and the MBI when a valid HICN is submitted on a claim.

### **January 2020**

- ⇒ Final implementation date
  - The HICN will no longer be accepted on claims received on and after 1/1/2020.
  - The HICN cannot be used for eligibility inquiries either.