



ALABAMA QUALITY ASSURANCE FOUNDATION
Medical Quality Assurance

One Perimeter Park South, Suite 200
Birmingham, Alabama 35243-2354
Telephone (205) 970-1600

NorthToll Free 1-800-760-4550
Administration FAX (205) 970-1616
Medical Administration FAX (205) 970-1624

GENERAL MEMORANDUM 99/02 –12
For Immediate Distribution

TO: Alabama Hospitals:
Administrator
Chief of Staff
Utilization Review/Quality Assurance Department
Information Management (Medical Records) Department
PPS Contact
PEPP Contact
Business Office

FROM: H. Terrell Lindsey
President and Chief Executive Officer

DATE: March 16, 2001

**SUBJECT: Guidelines for issuing Medicare HOSPITAL ISSUED NOTICES OF
NONCOVERAGE (HINNs) and MEDICARE + CHOICE ORGANIZATION
NOTICES OF DISCHARGE and MEDICARE APPEAL RIGHTS (NODMARs)**

This General Memorandum and enclosed "Booklet" provides revised and updated information from the Health Care Financing Administration (HCFA) on issuing HINNs and NODNARs to Medicare beneficiaries. As a reminder, HINNs can be issued to Medicare beneficiaries in a fee-for-service inpatient "setting," and NODMARs can be issued to beneficiaries covered by a Medicare managed care plan. This communication replaces any previous instructions and/or guidelines on issuing HINNs and NODMARs.

The enclosed booklet is current as of February 2001, and includes instructions for issuance and sample letters which may be used when issuing HINNs and NODMARs. It also contains billing instructions for the admission of Medicare patients receiving HINNs and/or NODMARs, along with samples of monthly logs with instructions for submission of the logs to AQAF.

Our contract with HCFA requires concurrent and retrospective review of certain notices issued to Medicare beneficiaries. Please continue to submit copies of notices to AQAF upon issuance, and also continue to submit copies of logs of issued notices on a monthly basis. (See page 69 of the booklet)

Your questions concerning issuing HINNs and/or NODMARs may be directed to Linda Powell, R.N. on extension 3509, or Laura Rutledge, R.N. on extension 3429.

enclosure

cc: AQAF Board of Directors
F.Richards, MD, FMQAI
LaNona Robinson, FMQAI
Sandy McMillan, PO/DHHS
C.Kuhlman, MASA
M.Horsley, AlaHA—Montgomery
Frazer Rolen, AlaHA-Birmingham
L.Northcutt, BCBS
Marijean Schindler, MoO