Routine Inquiries/Correspondence

These files accumulate as a result of a wide-range of correspondence, inquiries and complaints from beneficiaries, providers, etc., that are received by CMS headquarters, regional offices, and Medicare contractors. May include items received by mail (paper), fax, email, or via the CMS website's "Ask a Question" online portal. This schedule is submitted as media neutral. CMS components and/or regional offices may decide to keep the official recordkeeping copy within an electronic system (e.g., Medicare Administrative Issues Tracking and Reporting of Operations (MAISTRO). The disposition instructions below are for the recordkeeping copy, whether paper or electronic. These inquiries do not include any correspondence related to a claim file; to congressional offices; or on behalf of the White House, Administrator, or Secretary.

Where correspondence is required to document a specific claim, reconsideration, appeal, or similar case, destroy in accordance with the instructions for Medicare claims records (Disposition Authority: N1-440-04-3). When correspondence is in response to a Congressional inquiry or on behalf of the White House, Administrator or Secretary, follow the disposition instructions for correspondence (Disposition Authority: N1-440-07-1, Item 9).

1. Inquiries/Correspondence that may require additional research staff or time, Official Recordkeeping Copy, Response Required: TEMPORARY Destroy 5 years after the date of the response to the correspondence, or when no longer needed for Agency business, whichever is longer.

2. Inquiries/Correspondence Files that require little effort on the part of CMS staff for response; Official Recordkeeping Copy, Response Required. TEMPORARY. Destroy 2 years after the date of the response to the correspondence, or when no longer needed for Agency business, whichever is longer.

3. Inquiries/Correspondence Files, No Response Required: TEMPORARY. <u>Destroy 3 months</u> after the date of the incoming correspondence, or when no longer needed for Agency business, whichever is longer.

Superseded by job / item number:

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