

Report on Medicare Compliance Volume 28, Number 22. June 17, 2019 OMHA Expands Eligibility for Mediation of Medicare Appeals

By Nina Youngstrom

The Office of Medicare Hearings and Appeals (OMHA) said June 7 that it has opened up settlement conference facilitation (SCF) to more appeals of Medicare claim denials. SCF, which is a dispute resolution process, is available to all Part A and B providers (and suppliers) for appeals that have been filed as late as March 31, 2019. OMHA's newest addition, SCF Express, will accept higher-dollar appeals, and there doesn't seem to be a cap on extrapolated overpayments that could be included.

"All the recent appeals that would have been filed are now eligible," says attorney Andrew Wachler, with Wachler & Associates in Royal Oak, Michigan. "That's significant." It makes sense that OMHA expanded eligibility, because SCF is a tool to reduce the Medicare appeals backlog, which is the point of the process.

This document is only available to subscribers. Please log in or purchase access.

[Purchase Login](#)