

**From:** HPMS

**Sent:** Monday, October 03, 2016 4:50:07 PM (UTC-05:00) Eastern Time (US & Canada)

**To:**

**Subject:** Imaging Dementia—Evidence for Amyloid Scanning Clinical Trial Coverage Clarification

This email provides information about the clinical trial, Imaging Dementia-Evidence for Amyloid Scanning (IDEAS), and reminds Medicare Advantage Organizations (MAOs) of their responsibility to cover national coverage determinations approved under coverage of evidence (NCDs with CED) as specified in section 10.7.3 of Chapter 4 of the Medicare Managed Care Manual.

The IDEAS clinical trial is an NCD with CED that will determine the clinical usefulness on patient outcomes of a brain positron emission tomography (PET) scan that detects amyloid plaques, a core feature of Alzheimer's disease. CMS has learned that some MAOs are denying claims for IDEAS as they do not believe they are responsible for covering this trial. As with all NCDs with CED, IDEAS must be covered by MAOs if a patient is enrolled in a Medicare-approved clinical study and the criteria of the NCD with CED are met.

As with coverage of any Medicare benefit, coverage of IDEAS must be medically reasonable and necessary and MAOs may require preauthorization. Enrollee cost-sharing for IDEAS must be at the in-network rate for similar services.

We are including information on this clinical trial as a link at the end of this email.

If you have any questions about this email please contact your Regional Office Account Manager.

<https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Coverage/Coverage-with-Evidence-Development/Amyloid-PET.html>