

DSS-4357EL

WGIUPD

GENERAL INFORMATION SYSTEM

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DIVISION: Health & Long Term Care

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TO: Local District Commissioners, MA Directors, IM Directors, FS
Directors, Staff Development Coordinators

FROM: Martin J. Conroy, Acting Deputy Commissioner, Division of
Health and Long Term Care

SUBJECT: Medicare Part B Premium Change

EFFECTIVE DATE: Immediately

CONTACT PERSON: Dennis DiMuria, 1-800-343-8859, extension 3-5614

The purpose of this GIS is to inform districts that the Medicare Part B premium deduction is being decreased to \$42.50 monthly. Districts were previously notified in GIS message 95 MA049 to continue using \$46.10 as the premium deduction until further notice. The decision to retain the 1995 amount (\$46.10) was based on the understanding that the premium would be increased once the federal budget was enacted. However, the federal budget did not contain an increase in the Medicare Part B amount but instead set the Medicare Part B premium at \$42.50.

Effective immediately, Districts must begin using \$42.50 or other amounts as verified by the Social Security Administration when determining MA eligibility. This amount must be used for new applications, recertifications and at the next client contact. Districts may choose to rebudget cases sooner but must provide proper notice to clients of any changes which affect eligibility. Any budget where this new premium amount increases the excess income amount (including NAMI) must be effective no sooner than the first day of the month following the ten day notification period.

The Department will not be completing a Mass Rebudgeting to reflect the new Medicare Part B premium amount.