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Medicare Beneficiary Updates for 2010

ABSTRACT: COLA, Medicare premium, and co-insurance amounts for next year.

The Social Security Administration has announced a cost-of-living-adjustment (COLA), used to determine annual updates in social security benefits, of zero for 2010. COLA adjustments are determined by the rate of increase in the consumer price index-wages in the 3rd quarter of the previous year. Since the CPI-W was actually negative for Q3 2009, there will be no change in social security and SSI benefit levels for next year. For more information, please refer to the SSA Web site (www.ssa.gov.)

The <u>Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS)</u> has issued the Medicare premiums and co-insurance rates for 2010. For Part B beneficiaries with income less than \$85,000 (single) per year the premium will remain unchanged at \$96.40. The SNF Part A co-insurance will increase to \$137.50 per day. For more details, please refer to: <u>CMS Announces Medicare Premiums, Deductibles for 2010</u>.