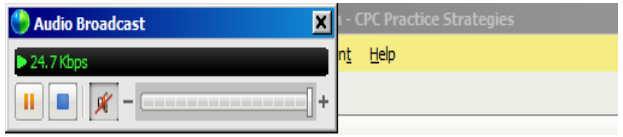
# Thank you for joining us!

- We will start at 2 p.m. EST.
- You will hear silence until the session begins.
- Handout: Available at CBR.CBRPEPPER.org.
- A recording of today's session will be posted at the above location within two weeks.

- Please listen in by either:
  - Using your computer speakers (recommended): You automatically join the audio broadcast when entering the meeting (remember to increase speaker volume; make sure you are not muted).




  - Dialing 1-240-454-0887 (passcode 733 828 218) (limited to 500 callers).

# CBR201905 Air Ambulance Transports

May 9, 2019, 2 p.m. EST

# About Today's Presentation

Phone lines will be muted the entire duration of the training

Submit questions pertinent to the webinar using the Q&A panel

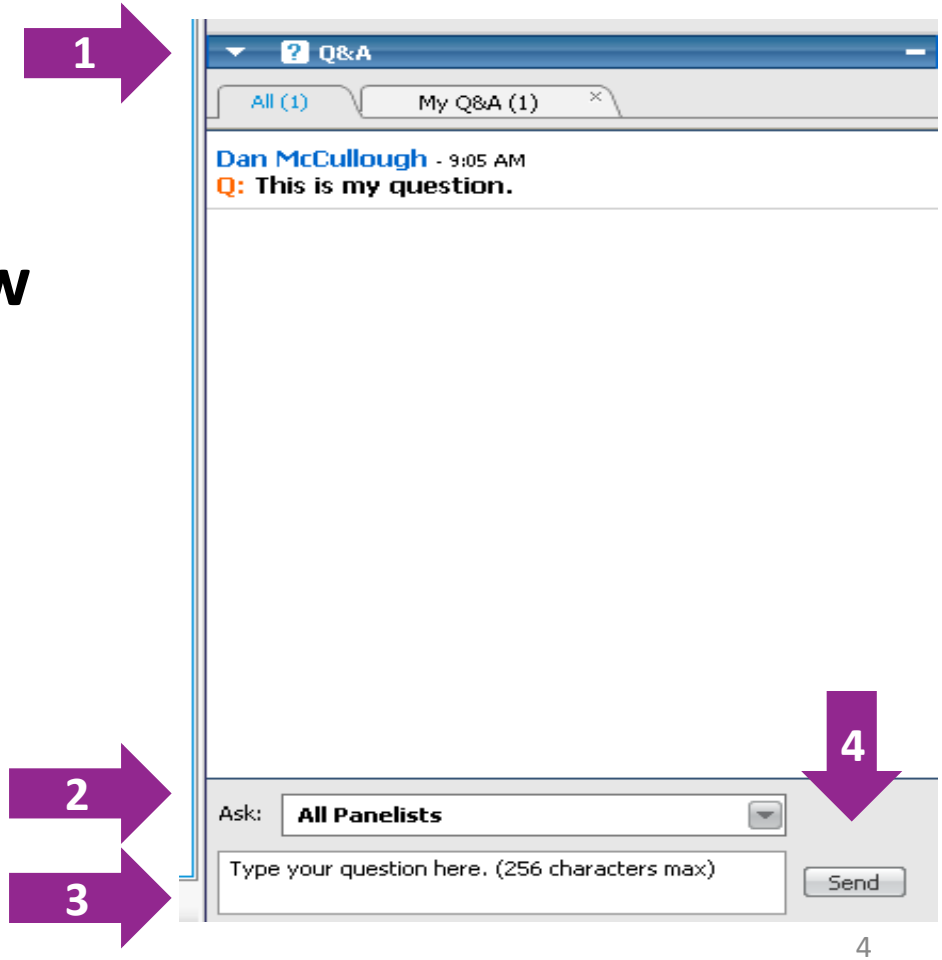
Questions will be answered verbally, as time allows, at the end of the session

A "Q&A" document will be developed and posted at [CBR.CBRPEPPER.org](CBR.CBRPEPPER.org)

# To Ask a Question in Split Screen

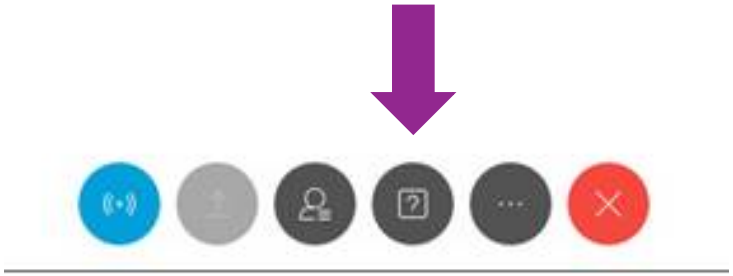
*Ask your question in Q&A as soon as you think of it.*

1. Go to the "**Q&A" window** located on the right side
2. In the "Ask" box, select "All Panelists"
3. Type in your question
4. Click the "**Send**" button



# To Ask a Question in Full Screen

1. Click on the “Q&A” button to bring up the Q&A window
2. Type in your question (as in the previous slide)
3. Click the **“Send”** button
4. Click “-” to close window to see full screen again



# Webinar Resources

Webinar Slides

Webinar Recording

Webinar Handout

Webinar Q&A will be posted at [CBR.CBRPEPPER.org](CBR.CBRPEPPER.org)

CBR Help Desk: [https://cbr.cbrpepper.org/Help-Contact-Us](https://cbr.cbrpepper.org/Help-Contact-Us)

# Webinar Objective

- Understand the purpose and use of Comparative Billing Reports (CBR)
- Comprehend the function of the Comparative Billing Report CBR201905, Air Ambulance Transports
- Gather resources for further questions and inquiries

# Webinar Agenda

- What is a CBR?
- CBR201905
- Review a sample CBR
- How to access your CBR
- Helpful resources
- Questions

# What is a CBR?

- CBR, as defined by CMS
- History of the National CBR program
- Purpose of CBRs
- Why does CMS issue CBRs?
- CBR formatting

# The CMS Definition of a CBR

- CBRs are free, comparative data reports
- CMS defines a CBR as an educational resource and a tool for possible improvement

# History of the National CBR Program

The national CBR program is separate and not related to comparative billing reports that are produced by Medicare Administrative Contractors (MACs) in support of their individual provider education activities.

**2010**

- CMS implemented a national program to produce and disseminate CBRs to physicians, suppliers, pharmacies, and other health care providers

**2018**

- CMS combines the CBR and the Program for Evaluating Payment Pattern Electronic Reports (PEPPER) programs into one contract

**2019**

- RELI Group and its partners—TMF and CGS—begin producing CBRs and PEPPERs

# Why Does CMS Issue CBRs?

*CBRs provide value to both CMS and Providers*

## Value to CMS

- Support the integrity of claims submission and coding guidelines
- Summarize claims data, according to specific coding areas
- Provide an educational resource and tool for possible improvement by providing coding guidelines and comparing claims submission data to peers, nationally and statewide

## Value to Providers

- A CBR reflects providers' billing patterns as compared to peers providing care in the same specialty, on a statewide and nationwide basis
- Provide specific coding guidelines and billing information
- CBRs are available for providers whose billing patterns differ from those of their peers

# CBR Formatting

1. **Introduction**
   - Explanation of billing area and description of findings of the CBR
2. **Coverage and Documentation Overview**
   - Identification of claims data and CPT code information
3. **Basic Coding Guidelines**
   - Itemization of CPT codes and details of billing processes
4. **Metrics**
   - Explanation of the data and analysis used for the CBR
   - Detailed list of CPT codes and the effect that the billing guidelines have on the CBR results
5. **Methods and Results**
   - Overall analysis results and individualized results comparing CBR recipient to other providers
6. **References and Resources**
   - Resources used for the CBR

# Air Ambulance Transports

- Transports are based upon mode of transport
  - Fixed wing
  - Rotary wing
- Mileage per transport is reported in addition to the mode of transport

# CBR201905 CBR Focus

- Providers who submitted Medicare Part B claims for Air Ambulance Transport
  - A0430: Fixed wing air transport
  - A0431: Rotary wing air transport
  - A0435: Fixed wing air mileage
  - A0436: Rotary wing air mileage
- Air Ambulance services are paid only for services to a hospital

# CBR201905 CBR Provider Focus

- The CBR team identified providers who submitted Air Ambulance Transport services
- Claims were submitted during the time period Dec. 1, 2017 and Nov. 30, 2018

# Air Ambulance Transports

- Studies conducted by CMS found a large amount of reimbursement dedicated to this relatively small area of service

- Four other reports involving individual hospitals also concluded that there was value in identifying possible improper payments for Air Ambulance Transport services

# CBR201905

Summarizes statistics for services with dates of service from Dec. 1, 2017 through Nov. 30, 2018

7 providers, nationwide, with a combined amount of $552 million for 77,000 beneficiaries

# CBR201905 Analysis and Focus

- Analysis of rendering providers who submitted HCPCS® codes A0430, A0431, A0435, and A0436 on Medicare Part B claims extracted from the Integrated Data Repository, based on the latest version of claims as of March 29, 2019

# Why did I receive a CBR?

- A CBR is presented because your billing patterns differ from your peers' patterns
  - Receiving a CBR is not an indication of or precursor to an audit

# Peer Comparison Outcome

- **Significantly Higher** — Provider's value is above the 90th percentile from the region or national mean

# About the 90th Percentile

- Providers receiving a CBR have an outcome of "Significantly Higher" in any of the metrics.
- "Significantly Higher" means that a provider's value is above the 90th percentile from the peer region or national mean.

# Why Did I Receive a CBR?

***The criteria for receiving a CBR is that the provider:***

- Are significantly higher compared to national percentages in any of the three metrics (greater than the 90th percentile)

Has at least ten claim lines (transports) submitted for A0430, A0431

Has total allowed charges of $5,000 or more for claims submitted for A0430, A0435, A0431, A0436

# Review of Sample 0201905 CBR

- Metrics
- Findings
- Methods and Results
- Provider Findings

# Metrics of Sample CBR

This report is an analysis of the following metrics:

1. Average number of miles per transport
2. Average allowed amount per transport
3. Average allowed amount per unit

# Calculation of Metric 1

- Average Number of Air Ambulance Miles per Transport for Fixed Wing transports.
- The calculation for Fixed Wing transport:

$$\frac{\text{Sum of Units for A0435}}{\text{Count of claim lines for A0430}}$$

# Calculation of Metric 1, cont'd

- Average Number of Air Ambulance Miles per Transport for Rotary Wing transports.
- The calculation for Rotary Wing transport:

$$\frac{\text{Sum of Units for A0436}}{\text{Count of claim lines for A0431}}$$

# Calculation of Metric 2

- Average allowed amount per transport for Fixed Wing transport.
- The calculation for Fixed Wing transports:

$$\frac{\text{Sum of Allowed Amount for A0430}}{\text{Count of Lines for A0430}}$$

# Calculation of Metric 2, cont'd

- Average allowed amount per transport for Rotary Wing transport.
- Calculation for Rotary Wing transports:

$$\frac{\text{Sum of Allowed Amount for A0431}}{\text{Count of Lines for A0431}}$$

# Calculation of Metric 3

- Average allowed amount per mile for Fixed Wing transport.
- The calculation for Fixed Wing Transport:

$$\frac{\text{Allowed amount for A0435}}{\text{Sum of Units for A0435}}$$

# Calculation of Metric 3, cont'd

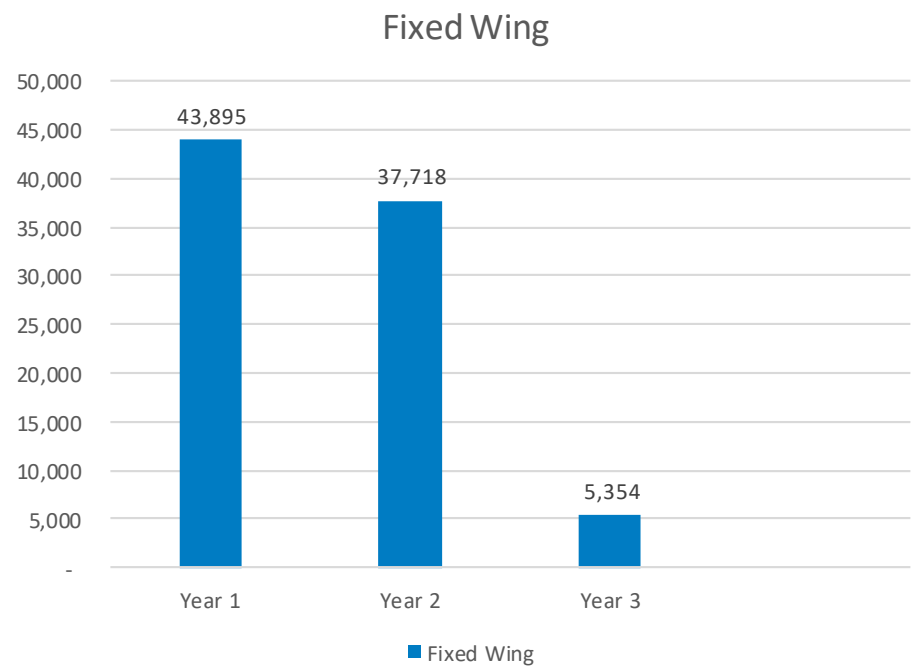
- Average allowed amount per mile for Rotary Wing transport.
- The calculation for Rotary Wing Transport:

$$\frac{\text{Allowed amount for A0436}}{\text{Sum of Units for A0436}}$$

# Provider Trends

- **Trend Over Time Analysis of Total Number of Miles with HCPCS codes A0435**

**Figure 1:**

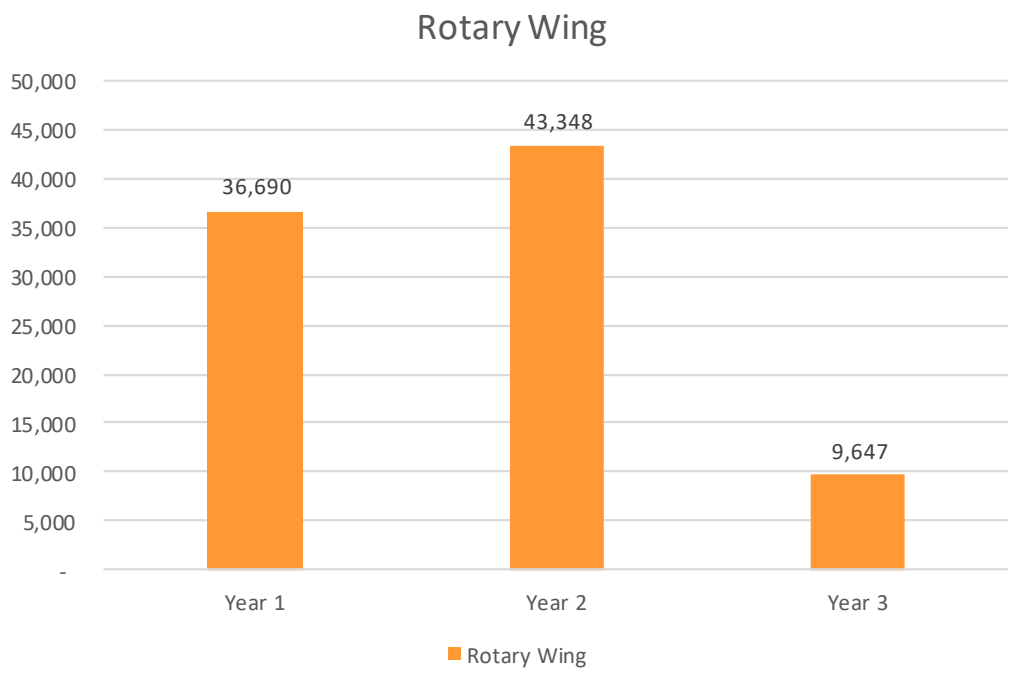



- Year 1 represents claims between Dec. 1, 2015-Nov. 30, 2016
- Year 2 represents claims between Dec. 1, 2016-Nov. 30, 2017
- Year 3 represents claims between Dec. 1, 2017-Nov. 30, 2018

# Provider Trends

- **Trend Over Time Analysis of Total Number of Miles with HCPCS codes A0436**

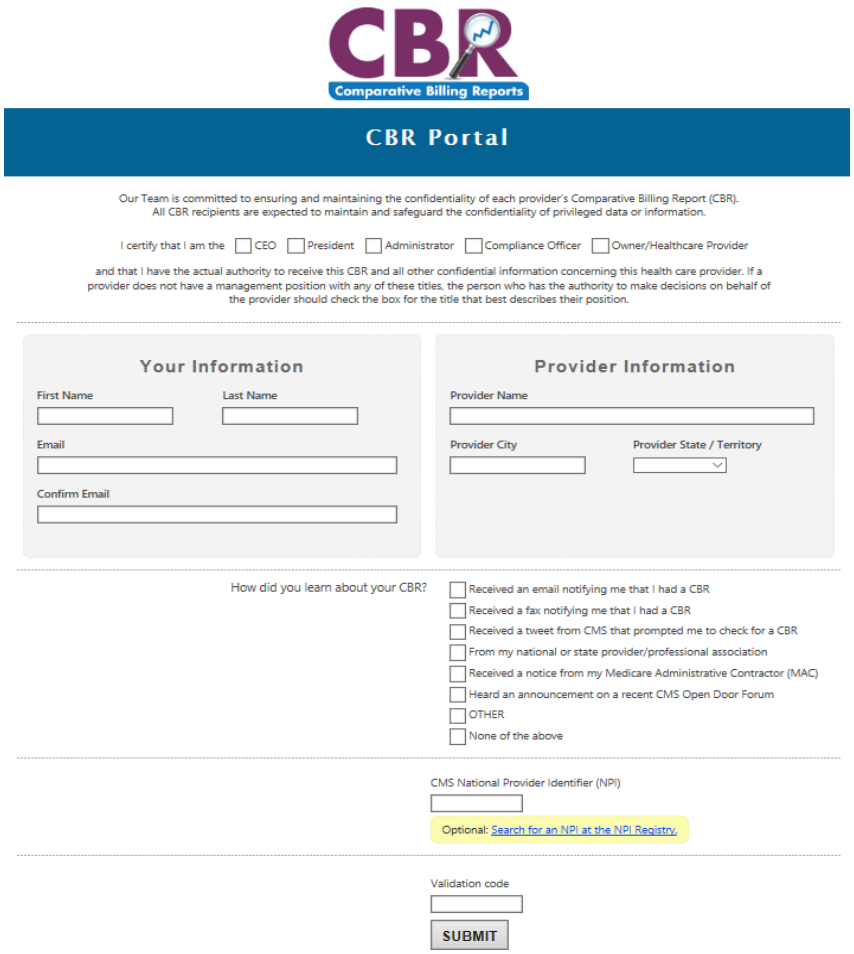
**Figure 1:**




- Year 1 represents claims between Dec. 1, 2015-Nov. 30, 2016
- Year 2 represents claims between Dec. 1, 2016-Nov. 30, 2017
- Year 3 represents claims between Dec. 1, 2017-Nov. 30, 2018

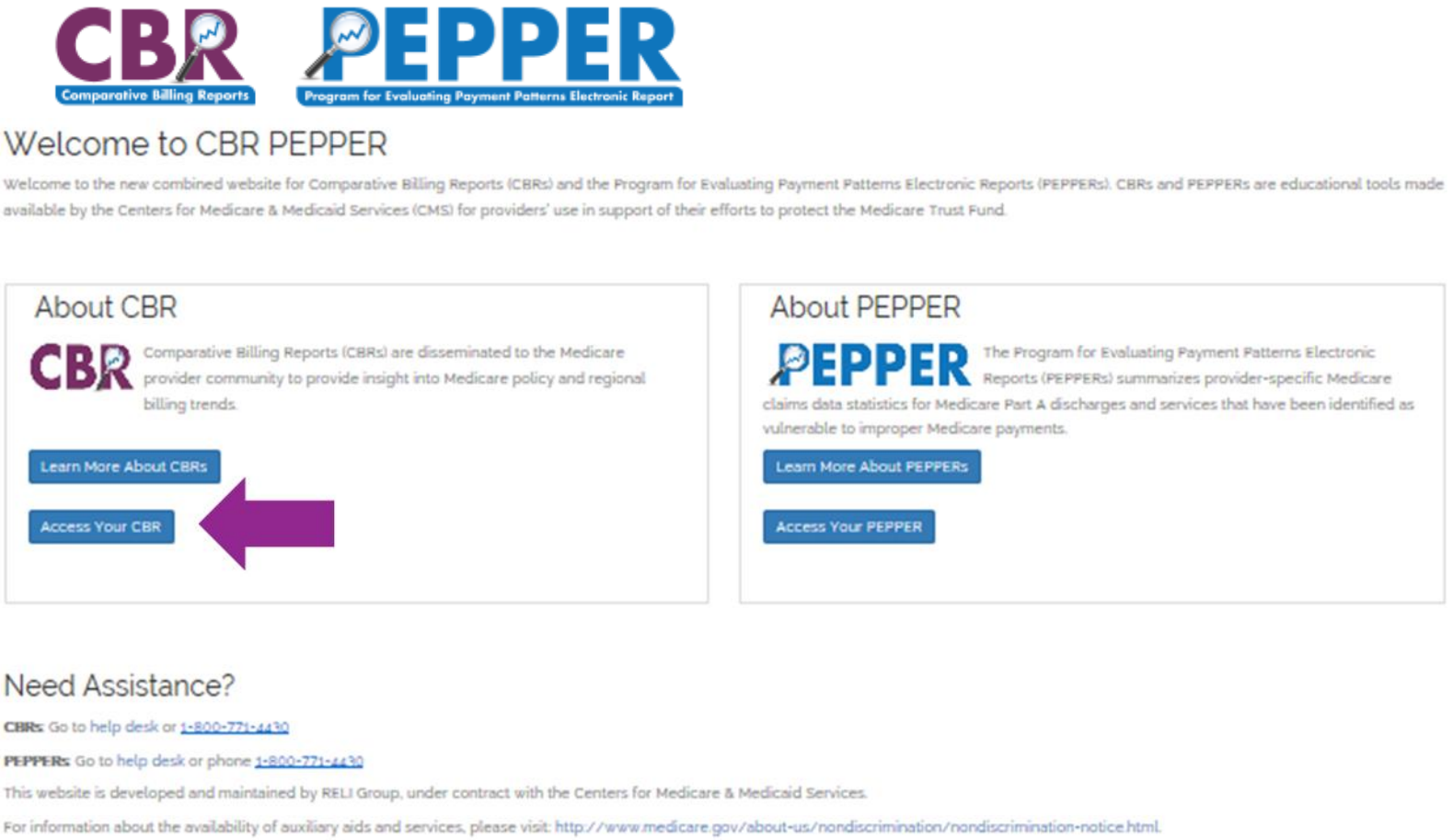
# How to Access Your CBR

https://cbrfile.cbrpepper.org/



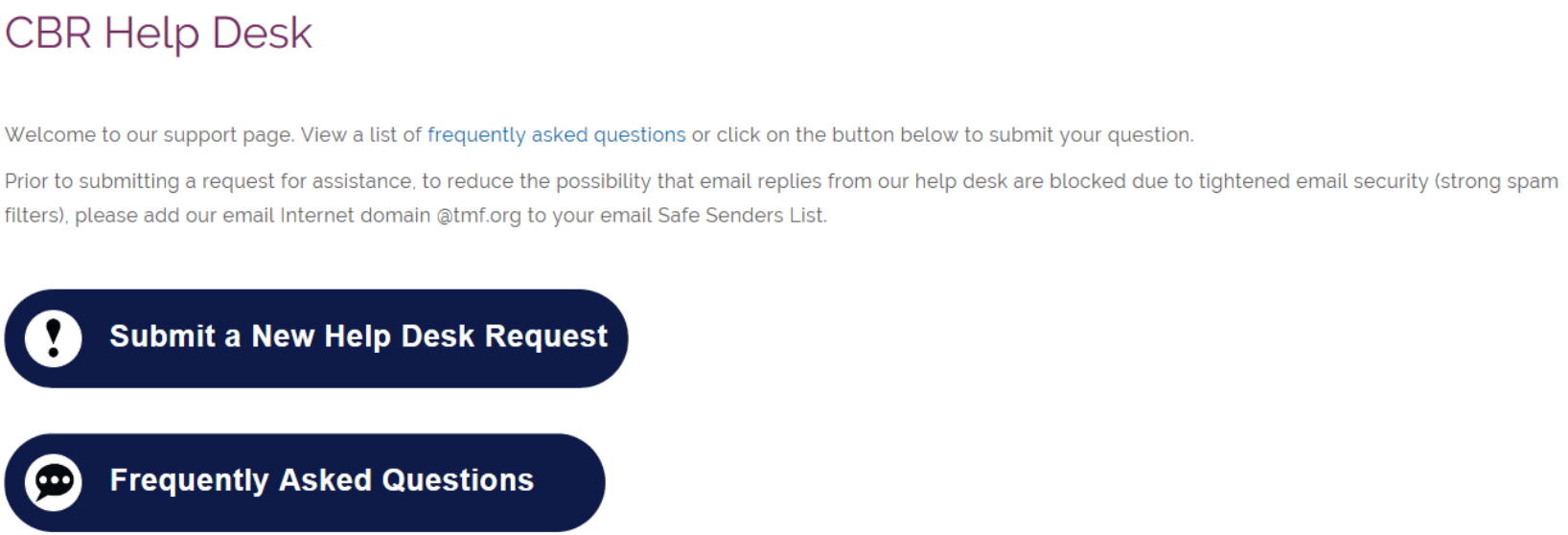
# How to Access Your CBR, cont'd

https://cbrpepper.org/



# Helpful Resources

https://cbr.cbrpepper.org/Help-Contact-Us



# Helpful Resources, 2

- https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Medicare-Fee-for-Service-Payment/AmbulanceFeeSchedule/index.html
- Medicare Claims Processing Manual, Chapter 15, Section 20.3
- Medicare Benefit Policy Manual, within Section 10.4 Air Ambulance Services, and Section 30.1.2

# Helpful Resources, 3

- https://www.cms.gov/Research-statistics-data-and-systems/monitoring-programs/medicare-FFS-compliance-programs/recovery-audit-program/index.html
- https://oig.hhs.gov/oas/reports/region9/90400029.pdf
- https://oig.hhs.gov/oas/reports/region3/30400014.pdf
- https://oig.hhs.gov/oas/reports/region3/30400023.pdf
- https://oig.hhs.gov/oas/reports/region6/60600046.pdf

# Helpful Resources, 4

https://cbr.cbrpepper.org/home

- Sample CBR
- Training materials
- Resources and references
- Join our email list
- Provide feedback on CBRs
- Submit a CBR success story

## Welcome to CBR Resources

### This is the official site for information, training and support related to Comparative Billing Reports (CBRs).

CBRs are disseminated to the Medicare provider community to provide insight into Medicare policy and regional billing trends. The CBRs that are distributed to the provider community contain an analysis of billing practices across geographic and service areas. Medicare Administrative Contractors (MACs) have been producing and disseminating comparative billing reports to providers in their jurisdiction as part of their provider education efforts for many years. The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) has formalized and expanded the program to the national level.

A CBR will present the results of statistical analyses that compare an individual provider's billing practices for a specific billing code or policy group with the billing practices of that provider's peer groups and national averages. Each CBR is unique to a single provider and is only available to that individual provider. CBRs are not publicly available.

**Success stories: How your peers have used CBRs.** Go to Success Stories

**Upcoming Event: CBR 201904: Vitamin D Testing**

**When**: Tuesday, May 7, 2019
3:00 - 4:00 p.m. EDT
**Topic**: This session will review the Comparative Billing Report (CBR) 201904 on Vitamin D Testing, released Apr. 29, 2019.

REGISTER

**Upcoming Event: CBR 201905 Air Ambulance Transports**

**When**: Thursday, May 9, 2019
2:00 - 3:00 p.m. EDT
**Topic**: This session will review the Comparative Billing Report (CBR) 201905 on Air Ambulance, released Apr. 29, 2019.

REGISTER

CBR 201903:

**Subsequent Hospital Care**

- Sample CBR: Mock Provider Data (PDF)
- Training: (recording coming soon) and Handout (PDF)
- National/Specialty Data (XLSX)
- Access Your CBR

CBR 201902:

**Office Visits, New and Established, Family Practitioners**

- Sample CBR: Mock Provider Data (PDF)
- Training: Recording and Handout
- National/State Data (XLSX)
- Access Your CBR

CBR 201901:

**Intensity-Modulated Radiation Therapy**

- Sample CBR: Mock Provider Data (PDF)
- Training: Recording and Handout
- National/State Data (XLSX)
- Access Your CBR

# Frequently Asked Questions

https://cbr.cbrpepper.org/FAQ

## Frequently Asked Questions

The following questions represent frequently asked questions (FAQs) from the provider community about Comparative Billing Reports (CBRs) and the CBR project in general. FAQs pertaining to a specific CBR release/topic are available with the resources specific to each CBR release/topic.

- \+ What is a CBR?
- \+ Why am I getting this report?
- \+ I have a question about the CBR I received. Who should I contact?
- \+ Can I get specific claim data related to this report?
- \+ I have a question about my claims. Who should I contact?
- \+ I did not receive a CBR. Can I request one?
- \+ How will I know if I have a CBR available?
- \+ Is there a sample CBR that I can view?

# Questions?