No Surprises Act: FAQ

At BCA, we have taken the guess work out of the No Surprises Act for 2022. Below is a list of the most common questions we have answered from Good Faith Estimates to Translation and more.



Who is affected?

All Healthcare providers who provide any service that is not urgent nor emergent. This includes hospitals for inpatient and outpatient treatment, all outpatient clinics, FQHCs, and Title X clinics.



When does this go into effect?

The initial date of effect for uninsured, self-pay, and patients who do not want their insurance billed is January 1st, 2022. In January 2023, there will be additional guidelines and payer requirements.



What information is required on the Good Faith Estimate?

On a Good Faith Estimate (GFE) - patient identifiers, payer source (s), reason for visit, anticipated CPT codes and costs, anticipated ICD-10 codes and descriptions, information about the dispute resolution process and patient signature are required.



When must a GFE be provided to a patient?

A GFE must be provided to the patient: Upon request and for all appointments scheduled >3 days in the future for the aforementioned payer groups. If the services on the GFE are changed, a new GFE must be provided as soon as possible. GFEs are **not** required for appointments scheduled <3 days in advance or for walk-in appointments. Please see the **BCA GFE tool** for more detailed information on time constraints.



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Are there language or translation requirements?

Yes— It is required that the Notice and Consent documents be translated into the top 15 languages for the state your organization or facility is in. BCA offers translated documents in top languages and other languages upon request for an additional fee.



Are facilities required to list costs for services provided to a patient outside of their facility?

Not in 2022. This guideline is one of many changes that will take effect in January of 2023.



How long must a GFE be kept on file?

A GFE is considered a part of the patient medical record as it does contain PHI. These must be kept on file for at least 6 years according to the No Surprises Act, but HIPAA law and record maintenance supersedes this requirement.



Where can I find more information and get additional questions answered?

Please visit our website at BCArev.com or contact Rachel Moon by email at rachel@codinghelp.com

