

Justification for Using SSNs

- **Is personally identifiable information being collected?**

Yes, there is personally identifiable information being collected.

- **Is the SSN being collected?**

Yes, the SSN is being collected.

- **Is the information being collected electronically?**

No, information is not being collected electronically.

- **Is the information stored electronically?**

No, information is not stored electronically.

- **Why do you need to use the SSN?**

The SSN is required to assure individuals with similar names are accurately identified and properly processed. In addition, Form CMS-4040 can be used by a family member or spouse. The SSN is used to identify spousal and Social Security Act Title II benefits relationship for eligibility for Supplementary Medical Insurance.

- **What will happen if you cannot use the SSN as a data element?**

If the SSN is not used, the Federal Government will not be able to properly identify individuals, resulting in the denials of Part B enrollments.

- **Explain alternative data elements considered and why you do not consider them suitable replacements for the SSN.**

The Social Security Administration uses the SSN to determine Title II benefits for which Medicare Part B entitlement is derived. Presently, there are no suitable replacements.