

January 2013

PPR NEWS :: Tired of receiving paper reports each week?

Your PPR weekly Activity Reports and all of your month-end reports can be sent to you via secure e-mail. Call us if you would like to save the environment and receive your reports electronically!

OFFICE VISITS :: CPT changes may affect your reimbursement

Major revisions were made to psychiatric codes in the 2013 CPT. As a result, psychiatrists will now be using evaluation and management codes when performing medication reviews - some of which will take place at six-week intervals. Many insurance plans now limit the number of office visits patients can receive each year - *sometimes to only four visits per year!* Services you render for things like URIs, diabetes management or fractures may now become patient liabilities if they are being monitored by a psychiatrist for medication effects. Don't hesitate to forward any patient concerns to us if a "maximum met" situation winds up on the patients' monthly statement from you!

INDUSTRY NEWS:: Do we have the correct spelling of your patients' names? How about contract numbers?

BCBSM has requested providers to **NOT** use spaces, commas, hyphens etc. when reporting patient names . . . WPS Medicare began editing last October for any patients whose names **ARE NOT** reported with a space, apostrophe, etc.! Many out of state BCBS policies will change their three-letter alpha prefix at the first of the year . . . many TPAs/Carve Outs assign unique identification numbers which differ from the insurance company's number. **MAKE A COPY OF YOUR PATIENTS' INSURANCE CARDS** . . . you may have been reimbursed in the past, but these edits may now cause rejections.

MEDICARE NEWS :: Electronic Prescribing (ERx) hardship and avoiding penalties

If Physicians believe they meet one of the Medicare electronic prescribing (ePrescribing) **hardship** exemptions but did not file by the June 30, 2012 deadline, they will have another opportunity to apply. CMS has reopened the

Communications Support webpage to give physicians more time to file for a hardship. Many penalties received in 2012 were due to filing errors - hardships should be filed with the physician's individual Type I NPI. To avoid the **penalty** in 2014, you must report ten (10) electronic prescriptions between January 1 and June 30, 2013. For detailed information, contact PPR or visit www.CMS.gov/ERxIncentive