



November 2018

MEDICARE'S NEW OUTPATIENT PROSPECTIVE PAYMENT SYSTEM (OPPS)

Medicare has announced that they propose to begin paying the same for routine office visits whether they take place in physicians' offices or hospital outpatient departments. The new policy will be phased in over the next 2 years. Medicare has been paying up to 80% more for a visit performed in a hospital owned location. The proposed policy advances the agenda of providing price transparency to patients so they can be better informed about out of pocket costs. The proposed change would result in lower co-pays for patients and a savings for the Medicare program. To read more: <https://www.cms.gov/newsroom/fact-sheets/cms-proposes-medicare-hospital-outpatient-prospective-payment-system-and-ambulatory-surgical-center>

MAILING DOCUMENTS TO PPR

Now is the time to use only envelopes that have the new PPR address on them. The postal service has been forwarding mail addressed to our old location since June. Please make sure to ask for and use the pre-paid envelopes with the PPR new address only when mailing your billing documents to us. You may dispose of any envelopes with our Northwestern address.

NEW ICD-10 2019 CODE SETS

The ICD-10 CM Official Guidelines went into effect on October 1. You are welcome to make use of PPR's ICD-10 coding tool. Just call us to find out how. Make sure that your coding reflects the documentation in the patient's record. Also, we will notify you if you are using any outdated codes, or any codes that don't appropriately match the procedure performed.

LET PATIENTS PAY ONLINE

Studies show the 79% of patients would prefer an online payment option. Many of our clients have been using PPR's online option and both patients and providers like it. The new portal helps keep patients and practices safe with secure payment processing. Get paid faster, easier, and safer. Contact us to find out how you can add the icon onto the statements your patients receive.

2018 HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

It's hard to believe that we're nearing the end of 2018! PPR wishes that all of you have a safe and happy holiday season. Here are our closing times for the holidays.

Thursday, November 22, closed
Friday, November 23, closed
Monday, December 24, closing at noon
Tuesday, December 25, closed
Monday, December 31, closing at noon
Tuesday, January 1, closed