

DR. KNOW

We won't change the way you do billing...we'll change the way you do business!

An e-newsletter created by **PLEXUS HEALTH SOLUTIONS, INC.**

JANUARY 15, 2009

**Volume No. 3
Issue No. 30**

You can view past issues of this newsletter on our website.

ICD-10-CM

We Now Have Effective Date

We have found an effective date for the use of ICD-10-CM codes. Effective October 1, 2011 you must use these new codes. This gives us almost 3 years to gear up for this.

You will need retraining as diagnosis codes will go from 155,000 codes to more than 250,000 codes plus innumerable code sets.

You will find yourself charting differently and being more precise in your description of body location and side because ICD-10 is totally dependent on your charting.

We recommend that you obtain training from your Wisconsin affiliation or the Medical Society of WI.

There are no similarities in the ICD-9 and ICD-10 codes. Your superbills and our software system will require a major update.

MEDICARE

2009 Premiums & Deductibles

For 2009 the Medicare Part A (hospital) deductible is \$1,068.00. The enrollee premium for this coverage is \$443 per month.

The Medicare Part B (physician) deductible is \$135, with a 20% copay, (based on Medicare allowable) with a monthly premium of \$96.40.

The Medicare Part D (prescriptions) deductible is \$275 plus 25% of the costs up to \$2,510, then after a total out-of-pocket expense of \$4,050 the enrollee pays \$2.25 for generics and \$5.60 for other drugs OR 5% copay whichever is greater. There are too many formularies involved in Part D so the above fees are usual but may not be gospel.

HUMANA MEDICARE PRODUCT

You Were Sent a Letter

You should have received a letter dated 12/2/08 from Humana extending an invitation to their Medicare Advantage PFFS plans. The letter says that if you DO NOT want to

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participate you must contact Humana within 60 days from the date of the letter. This written notice must be sent to the address indicated on your Agreement. If you fail to notify Humana of non-participation within this time frame, you will be actively participating in this plan.

Plexus recommends that you call Humana at 1-800-626-2741 with any questions.

OBAMA SUPPORTS CHIROPRACTIC SERVICES

*Letter Published in
THE WISCONSIN CHIROPRACTOR*

President-elect Obama is a strong chiropractic supporter. In a letter in the December 2008 issue he says "We need to expand the range of chiropractic services covered by Medicare, facilitate integration of doctors of chiropractic into the health care systems of the Dept. of Veterans Affairs and Dept. of Defense, and allow commission of doctors of chiropractic as officers in the Commissioned Corps of the U.S. Public Health Services. And again, under my health care plan, many, if not all, chiropractic services would be included in the benefits package offered in the public plan."

PYRAMID LIFE

Medicare Plan

Pyramid Life has a Medicare product called Today's Options. You do not need a separate contract to see these patients. You do not need a referral either. You will be reimbursed at traditional Medicare rates.

You can speak to a Provider Relations Rep. at 866-568-8921 or go to <http://www.todaysoptions.com/>

DIABETES COSTS

2007 Figures

The Associated Press released the results of a study paid for by the Danish pharmaceutical company Novo Nordisk A/S. In 2007 Americans spent \$218 billion dollars on diabetes care.

WPS LOST BID

New Contract Effective March 2010

Currently, the Medicare Part B contractor in the State of Wisconsin is WPS and has been for almost 20 years. Beginning March 2010 Noridian Administrative Services (NAS) will administer claim payments.

The competitive selection for a new Medicare Administrative Contractor was made on a "best value" basis.

No matter who or why, whenever there is a transition like this - there is turmoil. You can depend on delayed claim processing and remittances with inadequate support.

Plexus is fully aware of this transition and will do all that we can to make it a smooth and uninterrupted process as possible.

NAS is located in Fargo, ND.

NEW YORK TIMES FEATURE

Marshfield Clinic

The Marshfield Clinic of Wisconsin was featured in a *New York Times* December 27 article.

This article focused on the benefits and expected potential of EMR. Also, it was indicated that computerized medical records could improve the quality and efficiency of medicine.