

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.**

AUGUST 15, 2007

MORE INFO ON EMR *Server Or Web Based*

A recent Medical Group Management Association (MGMA) survey found that the average purchase price and implementation costs for an electronic medical record (EMR) software system was \$33,000 per physician and monthly maintenance fees of \$1,200 per physician.

A web-based system can cost less than the MGMA results show above, when you consider such factors as simplicity, cost savings, HIPAA compliancy, backups, upgrades, etc. It will be easy to choose a web-based system.

Plexus has done some research and has found various web-based solutions. When you are ready, give us a call and we'll share this data with you.

From an article in the **MEDICAL OFFICE ONLINE** produced by the MGMA (8-14-07)

THE NEXT STEP *Big Upgrade*

In the very near future Plexus will be making a very large investment in our server and peripheral hardware. This upgrade will include increased memory and faster access.

We are growing rapidly this year and find it necessary to make this type of purchase so that we can continue to provide expedient service and accessibility for you.

This upgrade will be done on a Saturday and we will give you notice via e-mails and faxes. If you are on line with us, you will not be able to access the system, as your connection will be down during this time. We ask for your patience in this matter and we will notify you when this transition is complete, which will hopefully be by the following Monday.

We will keep you apprised of our progress on this issue.

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HIPAA TRAINING

Growing Concern

Plexus continues to offer HIPAA Privacy training classes. Our last trip for this purpose was in Northern Wisconsin. Administration was very pleased with the Power Point presentation and the individual and corporate training manuals included with the program.

We can do this for you too, in your office, at our office or a neutral site. We will bring you compliant with the HIPAA Privacy Act and its' training requirements.

Call Jean (262-654-5555, Ext. 103) for more details or to arrange this seminar.

2008 MEDICARE NEWS

Prepare For Reductions

The Sustainable Growth (SGR) formula has devastating impact on physician reimbursements in 2008. It passed the House Ways & Means Committee on July 27. This is what they passed:

*9.9% reduction in 2008 MC payments

*5.0% reduction in 2009 MC payments

*Elimination of the 2008 PQRI 1.5% payments

*More imaging reductions on top of the 37% technical component fees in 2007

*Elimination of global imaging billing

*Elimination of Stark exemptions that have allowed hospital ownership by physicians to be greater than 40%.

Democrats are trying to "fix" this situation so that there will be a negative impact on physicians. You can be sure the AMA is on top of this.

ICD-9 UPDATES

Get Your New Books

Don't forget that as of October 1, 2007 you are to begin using the 2008 ICD-9 codes.

Our system is already updated and ready to detect any old codes you may use. To get this corrected takes time, so please get your new books and begin using them as indicated.

The 2008 CPT-4 codes are not to be used until 1-1-08.

COLD & FLU SEASON WILL SOON BE HERE

Be ready!

Be sure to check out the coding requirements for administration of these injections. They can be found at:

<http://www.wpsmedicare.com/policies/wisconsin/phys040.pdf>

MISSED APPOINTMENTS

Can You Charge a MC Patient?

You can charge a Medicare patient for a no show. But keep in mind that you must bill everyone else for one too and bill the same charge. This excludes Title XIX patients in Wisconsin.