

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.**

DECEMBER 15, 2008

**Volume No. 3
Issue No. 29**

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

CCI EDIT UPDATE *4th Quarter 2008*

Effective 10-1-08 the following changes/updates to the CMS Correct Coding Initiative (CCI) were posted. It includes:

3,273 added edit pairs
11 terminated edit pairs
341 modifier changes
1,495 duplicate edit pairs
4,251 swapped edit pairs

There are now 479,661 edit pairs in the database. Of these there are 320,026 active edits and 159,605 terminated edits.

REFUNDING MEDICARE *Special Form & Address*

If you are sending a refund to Medicare you must send the Voluntary Overpayment Refund form with the check. All refunds for the state of Wisconsin are sent to:

WPS Medicare Part B
P.O. Box 6611
Marion, IL 62959

http://www.wpsmedicare.com/part_b/business/vol_refund_new.pdf

MORE EMR INFO *In Addition to Special Report*

Earlier this month Plexus sent out a Special Edition of DR. KNOW. This was a tip on what to look for when shopping for an EMR program and a couple of calculators to make sure the software you chose is cost effective for you.

In continuing to research this area we find that the average cost to re-create a patient chart in a new EMR program is about \$18 per chart.

This is after the software has been customized for you and your practice particulars and only going back two years worth of data.

HOLIDAY CLOSINGS *Christmas*

Plexus will be closed for the Christmas Holiday on Wednesday and Thursday, December 24th & 25th.

We will be closed for an extended lunch on Thursday, December 18th for our Christmas luncheon. We plan to re-open at 1 p.m.

You can contact us at:

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BADGERCARE PLUS IN THE RED

In MY BUSINESS a Magazine by NFIB 11/12 '09

BadgerCare Plus has exceeded enrollment projections and is over budget by \$25 million. The Governor says that you can tell the program is a success by the overrun.

The State has signed up more than 85,000 residents since 1-1-2008, most of these are children.

An application has been filed with the feds to expand this Title XIX plan to include childless adults, which is expected to bring about another 80,000 lives to the WI Medicaid program.

VISA & MASTERCARD RAISE RATES AGAIN

In The Same Issue as The Article Above

For the second time this year credit card processing rates have increased. Usually the rate increases occur in April, but this it was April and October.

Plexus has not realized an increase in rates (as of yet) and will not impose any until we are charged a higher rate.

If you process your own credit cards and do not use the Plexus online portal, you may realize an increase in fees without receiving a notice. Be sure to call your processor if this occurs and obtain details of the fees and the increases imposed.

OIG SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT

Savings & Recoveries

For fiscal year 2008 the Dept. of Health & Human Services (HHS) reported savings and expected recoveries of more than \$20.4 billion. A breakdown of this savings is: \$16.72 billion to implement

recommendations on ways to put funds to a better use, \$2.35 billion in investigative receivables and \$1.33 billion in audit receivables.

For this same time period, the Office of the Inspector General (OIG) reported exclusions of 3,129 individuals and entities for fraud or abuse, 575 criminal actions and 342 civil actions. To view the full report go to:

www.oig.hhs.gov/publications/docs/semiannual/2008/semiannual_fall2008.pdf

UTILIZE SECTION 179

Ask Your Accountant

A Business that spends less than \$800,000 a year on qualified equipment can write off up to \$250,000 in 2008. The rules are designed for small business. You cannot write off more than your taxable income.

WAIT TILL YOU HEAR THIS

The Impact of ICD-10 on Your Practice

A report dated 10-8-08 generated by Nachimson Advisors, LLC, on the impact of implementing ICD-10 on your practice has come up with some staggering numbers.

For this purpose, a typical small practice consists of three physicians and two admin. staffers. For this practice size the Nachimson Advisors estimate a cost of \$83,290 per practice.

The areas of education, process analysis, superbill changes, IT costs, documentation costs and cash flow disruption have been included in this monetary figure. To view their whole report go to

<http://nachimsonadvisors.com/documents/icd-10%20impacts%20on%20providers.pdf>