

# 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.**

## ADDITIONAL NPI'S *Need Them All*

If you are a medical professional who covers call for other physicians or who is a specialist who sees the patients of other medical professionals or provides services in a nursing home setting, we will need the NPI numbers for these practices and facilities too.

As of this date, our sources tell us that there will not be a National database for these numbers until MAYBE the end of the year and we cannot wait.

Plexus will be sending out form letters to local practices requesting that this information be filled in and faxed back to us.

If you have the means to obtain this information by any other method, please advise us.

Don't forget to share your NPI information with other medical professionals/entities too.

We will no longer need or use the UPIN's.

Personal NPI's are yours for life; corporate NPI's are based on address, so if you move you need to apply for another one.

## CPT-4 CHANGES *2007 CPT Deletions*

According to the Medicare January 2007 *Communiqué* there are CPT-4 deletions. The big one to watch out for is 15000. Please delete it from your encounter forms and fee schedules so that it is not used accidentally.

As with all deleted codes, Plexus has it flagged in our system to question you when it is inadvertently used.

## PODIATRIST H&P'S *Effective 11-27-06*

As of 11/27/06 CMS gave permission to the specialty of podiatry to perform history and physicals (H&P's) on their patients.

The U.S. Code of Federal Regulations requires an H&P by a physician no more than 30 days prior or 24 hours after an admission to a hospital.

The definition of a physician includes podiatrists according to the Social Security Act (Section 1861(r)).

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## KEEP US POSTED

### *Newsletters Help*

Plexus depends on you to help keep us updated with the latest changes within the industry from your association newsletters and other update notices you may receive.

After you have read them please forward them to us. If you need them returned, we'll reproduce it and return your original.

It is impossible for us to be on the mailing list of all insurance carriers and specialty affiliations so your help in this endeavor is greatly appreciated.

## FEES FOR MEDICAL RECORDS

### *New Wisconsin Law Is Effective April 1, 2007*

There is new legislation on how much a medical provider can charge for copying and forwarding medical records.

If a patient requests their own records you can charge \$.31 per page (p/p) plus postage.

If a third party (lawyer, insurance carrier, employer, etc) requests someone else's records, you can charge \$.31 p/p plus no more than \$12.50 if the request generates *less than 5 copies*, plus postage. You can charge \$.31 p/p plus no more than \$15 if the request generates *more than 5 copies*, plus postage.

<http://www.legis.state.wi.us/ruletext/03-111-0.pdf>

No viruses attached to this file.

## FRAUDULENT CHECKS

### *Not To Be Confused With NSF's*

In an article (highlighted below) written by Jim Moynihan for HBMA based on an interview with Philip Schrodel, there is a growing problem with checks being fraudulently reproduced and *cashed*.

This is due to the sophisticated computer peripherals that are relatively inexpensive and available to anyone. All it takes is a scanner, a color printer and a devious mind to create a cashable check. Because of the sophistication of software products, even watermarks on your check stock will not keep these people from reproducing a credible replica.

According to the American Banking Association there was over \$5.5 billion in fraudulent check presentations in 2004. This is up over 2003 that had \$4.3 billion.

The article suggests that a quick fix to this growing problem is a "positive pay" safeguard. This is an agreement with your bank that they will accept a notification from you, either electronically or paper, itemizing the checks you have issued, who they were issued to, the date and the amount. Your bank will pre-qualify all of your checks for cashing against this list. There is a fee for this service and it is usually fairly inexpensive.

Plexus has taken a different approach to this problem and electronic transfers funds to vendors and suppliers. With a minimum balance this service is free at our bank.