

# 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.**

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## PHS HOLIDAY CLOSINGS *Tis the Season*

You should have received via the U.S. Mail a couple of postcards informing you of the Plexus Holiday office closings.

For Christmas we will be closed Monday & Tuesday, December 25 & 26. We will resume regular office hours on Wednesday, December 27.

We will close on Thursday, December 21 from 11 a.m. – 2 p.m. for our Company Christmas luncheon.

Plexus will be closed for New Year's on Monday and Tuesday, January 1 & 2 and will reopen our regular hours on Wednesday, January 3, 2007.

May you and yours have a safe, happy and health Holiday Season!

## CARE CREDIT® *A Collection Option*

We hope you have had the opportunity to look over the Care Credit information that we included in our Conference Update to you in September.

This is a great method of collections for you that is painless for both you and your patient.

[www.carecredit.com](http://www.carecredit.com)

## MEDICARE CCI UPDATES *Version 13.0*

According to Frank Cohen of the National Society of Certified Healthcare Business Consultants, of which Plexus is a member, there are significant changes in this version of the CMS Correct Coding Initiative (CCI).

There are over 9,500 new edits in this Version. This means that now there are 287,080 active edit pairs in the CCI.

The CMS website can help you if you are interested in downloading these edits (lots & lots of paper), or just looking at them.

## MEDICARE MANAGED CARE *Local Listing*

To find a listing of the Medicare managed care plans offered in our area, you can check the website listed below.

Be sure you are contracted with that carrier prior to seeing any patients with that coverage.

[www.medicare.gov/mpcompare/home.asp](http://www.medicare.gov/mpcompare/home.asp)

*You can contact us at:*

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## NEW CMS-1500 FORMS

### *NPI Is Needed Now!*

The timeline for use of the new CMS-1500 forms are as follows:

This form will be available for use on January 1, 2007 for all those providers who have their NPI now. We will have to use both historic provider numbers and the NPI's for a short period of time. Plexus plans on using historic numbers through 2007.

Mandatory use for this form is April 2, 2007. Be sure to forward to Plexus your e-mail notifying you of your NPI after you apply. No insurance carrier will be paying you after May 23, 2007, without an NPI.

Plexus' medical software system will be updated on January 7, 2007 for use of this new billing form.

This NPI replaces ALL unique provider numbers given to you by insurance carriers. It is another part of HIPAA that will continue to standardize the medical industry.

## MENTAL HEALTH NEEDS OF VETS

### *An Appeal From Dr. Rivera, CMO*

Pedro N. Rivera, M.D., the Chief Medical Officer of Tricare has a special request for primary care physicians (PCP).

He appeals PCP's to "...be sensitive to the need for information related to the military experience and to remember how those can be related to presenting signs and symptoms of physical and mental condition."

Knowing that manifestations can happen weeks or months after deployment is important. Gather appropriate data so that Tricare can reach and help vets and their families who experience deterioration physically and mentally as a result of a past military experience.

## ONLINE REPSONSE

### *Fantastic Results*

Many of our clients have taken advantage of our live remote access. The set up is fast and simple. This new availability allows easy look up of dates of service and patient/insurance balances.

Be sure that you do not change a patient address that is different from your chart or old computer system. We are continually updated on addresses on a daily basis by the post office. If the patient changes this date with you in the office, forward the information to Plexus and allow us to update.

## WI HEALTH CARE REFORM

### *Several Bills For This Session*

- Wisconsin Health Plan
- Wisconsin Health Care Partnership Plan
- The Pathway Plan
- Badgercare Plus
- Healthy Wisconsin

For in-depth descriptions go to

[www.nfib.com/wi](http://www.nfib.com/wi)