

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.**

November 15, 2010

HOLIDAY CLOSURES

Stay Warm & Be Happy

Plexus will be closed on Thursday, November 25th and Friday, November 26th for the Thanksgiving holiday. On Monday, November 29th we will open at our regular hours.

We will be closed for the Christmas holiday on Friday, December 24th only and re-open at our regular hours on Monday, December 27th.

No deposits will be made on these days, nor will messages be collected or calls returned.

We will close for the New Year festivities at 12:30 December 31st and re-open on January 3rd.

We wish you and yours a very happy holiday season and safe travels.

DOWNLOAD PHI

New Medicare Feature

Medicare has a new feature; it is called "Blue Button". This site allows you an easy way to download your personal health information (PHI) to a file. Keep in mind this is for Medicare beneficiaries only – this is not yet something that the commercial carriers have embraced.

Your PHI can then be saved on your home PC, a travel drive, CD, etc. It is noted that this is a safe, secure, reliable and easy method to use.

To access go to:

www.MyMedicare.gov

To download and save your Medicare data you will:

- Click the Blue Button to create a downloadable file with all your Medicare information.
- Save the Excel file to your computer.
- Upload or import this Excel document file to a PHI application or tool that can accept it.
- To find these tools go to: www.myphr.com

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

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Since you control access to your downloaded PHI it is your responsibility to protect it. You should treat this information just like you would your banking or social security information. To this end, here are a few security suggestions;

- Download to an encrypted or passworded drive.
- If you forward this data to a health care professional use encryption to email it.
- Keep paper copies in a safe placed that you can control.
- If you have any reason to suspect that your PHI has been breached you should immediately contact 1-800-Medicare.

2011 LAST DX UPDATE

Then ICD-10 Begins

As of 10-1-2011 the code set for diagnosis codes in ICD-9 will have their last update – ever. The exceptions may be those new codes created for new technologies and diseases.

Then ICD-10 will begin in 2012.

Plexus purchased a cross-walk book just to look at what is going to take place and get a heads up on what will be expected. What we found is quite frightening.

The ICD-9 code of 733.81 (malunion of fracture), which is now obviously one code for this medical issue, has morphed into 1,470 different codes.

We can't emphasize enough how important it will be to secure and attend educational seminars on this and cross walking the codes.

Make sure you are using the 2011 ICD-9 codes as of 10-1-10.

ENROLLMENT BEGINS

Incentive Programs

In January 2011 you will be able to enroll in the EHR Incentive Program with CMS.

ENROLLMENT BEGINS Con't

In order to collect the \$44,000 per-physician bonus money you need to meet the following criteria:

- Enrolled in PECOS
- Have and NPI
- Use a certified EHR program

To see if the products you are considering is certified go to: www.healthit.hhs.gov

PROPER DOCUMENTATION

Audit Target

Please make sure you are documenting correctly in order to get full and accurate reimbursement for all your services.

This includes but is not limited to the actual recording of time spent face-to-face with a patient if you are in the mental health field.

If you use extended time codes on your E&M visits, be sure to document actual time spent (i.e.: 12:15 p.m. – 1:47 p.m.)

According to all of our latest literature, this and E&M documentation are prime targets for CMS audits.

MEDICARE CUTS

Ends 11-30-10

The temporary extension of the 27% Medicare reimbursement reduction will end on 11-30-10. Since we are in a lame duck session of Congress my instincts tell me that this will be extended until the end of the year. Once the reigns of control have been turned over, another vote will be taken.

Again, we urge you to contact your congressman and ask them to repeal the law that makes this annual reduction a law.

If this is extended in January another 3-5% will be tacked onto the already 27% cut.