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Medicare and Medicaid Recovery Auditor Newsletter

May 2014

If there are any RAC concerns that need to be addressed with CGI, HMS, Truven Health Analytics, OMPP or CMS, please contact Dave Wiesman, IHA Vice President, at dwiesman@IHAconnect.org or 317-423-7741.

CMS News

The last day that Recovery Auditors may send claim adjustment files to the Medicare Administrative Contractors (MAC) is June 1, 2014. As of June 2, 2014, only claim closure files may be sent to the MACs, by the Recovery Auditor.

Because no additional reviews will occur under the current contracts, current Recovery Auditors will not be required to update the "New Issue" portion of their websites, as of June 2, 2014. However, Recovery Auditors shall continue to update the "Claims Status" portion of their provider portal, in a timely manner, until further notice.

Recovery Auditors shall complete all Discussion Periods that are underway as of June 1, 2014. Recovery Auditors shall continue to accept new Discussion Period requests until June 30, 2014. All Discussion Periods initiated during June shall be completed. Recovery Auditors shall not accept new Discussion Period requests on or after July 1, 2014.

Recovery Auditors shall continue to maintain their customer service areas (telephone lines and appropriately training staff) and process for escalating concerns, until further notice.

Recovery Auditors shall continue to support the Medicare appeal process until April 2016.

Medicare Administrative Contractor (MAC) processes will continue. Therefore, claims sent for adjustment, by a Recovery Auditor, on or before June 1, 2014 may complete the adjustment process on, or after, June 2, 2014.

CGI News

CGI is performing a clean-up of outstanding ADRs and found that there were some requests that had not been cancelled back in 2010. They are working on resolving those now however, any medical records requested and received after May 23, 2014 will not be reviewed but will receive a technical denial.

CGI issued “re-review” letters on or around April 23, 2014. These re-reviews were for medical records previously requested and received by CGI for DRG reviews. CMS ordered CGI to cancel all of these re-reviews and if reviews had been completed and Review Results letter had been sent, those determinations and letters were to be rescinded.

CGI announced that their call center will be available until further notice.

RAC Monitor News

On May 1, it was announced that CGI elevated its pre-award bid protest over the procurement process from the Government Accountability Office (GAO) to Federal Court. CGI’s suit is against the new payment term changes that CMS issued prior to the request for quote (RFQ) that prohibit RACs from being compensated until after the second level of appeal. Currently, the RACs receive their contingency fees after the first level of appeal. As a result, CGI did not submit an RFQ for a new contract stating that the payment terms “present an intolerable revenue flow model.”

CMS News

The CGI lawsuit could delay the RAC award process. CMS previously indicated that awards would be announced in May. The first hearing of the lawsuit is scheduled for June 6. Out of respect for the court, CMS most likely will await the new RAC decisions until after the court rules.

New Issues Posted to the CGI RAC B Website in May

Issue Name: CAH Cardiovascular Nuclear Medicine Correct Coding R2 J8 (WPS)

Claim Type: Outpatient - Critical Access Hospital (CAH)

Issue Type: Automated

Issue Number: B000272014

Web-sites

Region A RAC: <https://www.performantrac.com/Default.aspx>

Region B RAC: <https://racb.cgi.com/Default.aspx>

Region C RAC: <http://www.connolly.com/healthcare/pages/ApprovedIssues.aspx>

Region D RAC: <https://racinfo.healthdatainsights.com/Public1/NewIssues.aspx>