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The Healthcare Bulletin

CMS Internet-Streaming Videos

Nursing home providers can access www.cms.internetstreaming.com to view free in-services on a variety of topics from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. CEUs are available.

UB-04

The National Uniform Billing Committee (NUBC) announced on December 17, 2004, the opening of a 45 day public comment period, ending on February 1, 2005, for the new UB-04 data set and form to replace the UB-92. The NUBC has created a survey to identify any remaining issues related to the implementation and adoption of the new form. The survey is available online at www.nubc.org/UB04.pdf. Additional information on the UB-04 is available at www.nubc.org.

Maintaining the Medicare Secondary Payer (MSP) Form

The MSP form must be completed for each admission for each beneficiary receiving Part A and Part B services. The purpose of the form is to determine if another payer source should pay before Medicare. The MSP form must be kept for at least ten years after the date of service that appears on the claim.

SNF Help File

Providers should refer to the SNF Help File for the most current information regarding items or services that are included or excluded from SNF consolidated billing. The latest SNF Help File can be accessed at www.cms.hhs.gov/manuals/104_claims/clm104c06snfhelp.pdf

Documentation

Documentation should be done when care is rendered. Errors and omissions often occur when documentation is completed at the end of the shift.

Medicare HMO Beneficiaries Admitted to a SNF

Providers must count the number of days paid by an HMO as Part A days used (this is their 100 days of Medicare SNF benefits). If the beneficiary drops their HMO participation, they have the balance of their 100 day SNF days available to use.

Medicare Redetermination Notice (MRN)

First level appeals are now called "redeterminations". Providers and beneficiaries will receive a Medicare Redetermination Notice (MRN) for any decision made on a request for redetermination made on or after October 1, 2004 (unless the decision is to pay the claim). The MRN describes the redetermination process, explains the results of the Medicare appeal, and provides information about how to file an appeal regarding Medicare's decision.

SNF Long Term-Care Open Door Forum

The next SNF Long Term Care open door forum is scheduled for January 27, 2005 at 2:00 p.m. (EST). To participate, dial 1-800-837-1937. Reference Conference ID: 2865530.

Restorative Nursing

Restorative nursing can have a positive impact on your facility's quality measures, quality indicators, survey and reimbursement. You can find helpful information to assist you with establishing a restorative program that will benefit your facility when you order the **Nursing Rehabilitation/Restorative Care Manual**. This manual, based on the RAI, contains restorative nursing guidelines, policies and forms. Order from Ed Roberts at 1-800-277-0080 or order from the website at www.mjcpa.com. Price \$99.

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