



Reimbursement & Coding News

February 22, 2010

Santa Clara County Medical Association/Monterey County Medical Society

DID YOU KNOW?...

CMA hosts valuable educational webinars throughout the year on various topics.

CMA's webinars are live, interactive, online educational events designed to provide members and their staff with access to industry experts for guidance on timely topics such as best practices for your practice; E-health information technology, and reimbursement, legal, and regulatory issues. As an added benefit to CMA/SCCMA-MCMS members, each webinar is archived online for viewing at your leisure with links to the PowerPoint presentations and additional topic-related documents.

Upcoming webinars include:

3/2: Meaningful Use for Your EHR

3/3: Documentation Medi-Cal Fraud and Abuse Series

3/10: Medicare New Year, Fresh Start

View the full webinar calendar at

<http://www.cmanet.org/calendar>.

Source: CMA Alert Issue No. 2177

CMS Delays PECOS Enrollment Requirement Date

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) will delay until January 3, 2011, the implementation of Phase 2 of Change Request (CR) 6417, <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/mlnmattersarticles/downloads/MM6417.pdf> and CR 6421, <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MLNMattersArticles/downloads/MM6421.pdf>. This new effective date takes the place of the original enforcement date of April 5.

This delay will give physicians and non-physician practitioners who order items or services for Medicare beneficiaries or who refer Medicare beneficiaries to other Medicare providers or suppliers sufficient time to enroll in Medicare or take the action necessary to establish a current enrollment record in Medicare.

Although enrolled in Medicare, many physicians and non-physician practitioners who are eligible to order items or services or refer Medicare beneficiaries to other Medicare providers or suppliers for services do not have current enrollment records in Medicare. A current enrollment record is one that is in the Medicare Provider Enrollment, Chain and Ownership System (PECOS) and contains the NPI. Per the above referenced Change Request articles, a physician or non-physician practitioner who orders or refers and who does not have a current enrollment record that contains the NPI will cause the claim submitted by the Part B provider/supplier who furnished the ordered or referred item or service to be rejected.

Physicians and non-physician practitioners who are enrolled in Medicare but who have not updated their Medicare enrollment record since November 2003 are urged to update their enrollment record now.

If Medicare enrolled providers are not sure if they have a current PECOS record, you may download Medicare's list of enrollees posted on their website at <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MedicareProviderSupEnroll>. Just click on "OrderingReferringReport" on the left hand side of the page.

Source: CMS Provider Resource

CMA Offers PECOS Enrollment Guide

Physicians face the possibility of having their claims or orders for Medicare services rejected if they are not enrolled in Medicare's Provider Enrollment, Chain and Ownership System (PECOS). If you are not in PECOS, you can add or revalidate your enrollment with the CMS 855I enrollment form submitted to Palmetto GBA, or utilize the Internet-based PECOS enrollment system. CMA has developed this document to guide you through the process, from determining if you are in PECOS to accessing the Internet-based PECOS enrollment system.

The guide is available to members only at <http://www.cmanet.org>.