



Providing Ambulance Billing Service to New England Since 1984

NEWSLETTER

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MA Medicaid Recredentialing

Medicaid MA (MassHealth) is randomly selecting participating providers to be recredentialed. If you receive a package from MassHealth, contact our Provider Relations Administrator, Christina Colomba at 800-488-4351, and she will assist you with the forms.

Medicare Conducts Recredentialing

We have begun receiving requests from CMS (Medicare) to update your Medicare Part B Enrollment record. Comstar will prepare the necessary forms for your review and signature when we receive a request specific to your service. As part of this recredentiaing process, Medicare requires that your service enroll to receive payments via electronic funds transfer (EFT) instead of via check. Please contact Christina Colomba at our office, 800-488-4351, if you have any questions on this CMS initiative.

NEW!

EMS Law Corner:

GAO Releases Ambulance Cost Study

On May 23, 2007, the General Accounting Office (GAO) issued its report comparing costs and Medicare reimbursement for ground ambulance services. The report, *Ambulance Providers, Costs and Expected Medicare Margins Vary Greatly*, can be obtained at www.gao.gov/new.item/d07383.pdf.

This report reaffirms earlier study's that have concluded that Medicare and Medicaid reimbursement rates are significantly below your cost. This report provides useful information that can be used to lobby state and federal officials to increase their reimbursement rates to your service.

Comstar Has Updated Its Website

Comstar has updated its website with a more user friendly front page. Patients who wish to submit insurance information or a question to Comstar online will find more visible links to those section of our website. Please check it out, www.ComstarBilling.com

Major Insurance Carrier Now Pays Separately for BLS and ALS Supplies

A major insurance carrier has added a separate charge to its fee schedule for BLS and ALS supplies. If you do not already have such charges established, please contact us to do so.

This newsletter is not intended as legal advice. Consult an attorney for specific legal advice concerning your situation.



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