

## Part B Insider (Multispecialty) Coding Alert

### Claims Must Be NPI-Only By May, CMS Warns

May 2008 seemed like a long way off back when the **Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services** (CMS) said it was delaying the original May 2007 requirement for the National Provider Identifier (NPI) for a year.

But now that May 23 deadline is looming closer, and CMS warns that you absolutely must have the NPI, and only the NPI, in **all relevant fields** on your claims by that date. That includes the NPI of the referring/ordering /attending/service facility provider, CMS notes in MLN Matters article MM674. Without NPIs in all fields, your claims will be denied.

**Don-t** furnish services to Medicare beneficiaries unless you already have the NPI of the referring provider, CMS suggests.

Separately, **Noridian Administrative Services** sent out a notice to providers: The Part B carrier is now verifying valid matches between the NPI and the legacy identifier on claims. If they don't match, Noridian is now denying claims, the carrier warns.