

Part B Insider (Multispecialty) Coding Alert

CMS Seeks Ethnic Cancer Care Proposals

The **Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services** posted a new \$25 million demonstration project inviting grant proposals from physician groups and others to improve cancer detection and treatment among ethnic minorities. Services can include scheduling appointments for patients with "culturally sensitive caregivers," coordinating care among different providers, arranging for interpreters and transportations and removing all other barriers to cancer care.

Cancer mortality rates are higher among African Americans than other ethnic groups in the United States. Proposals are due by March 22, 2005, and you can find more information at www.cms.hhs.gov/researchers/demos/CPTD/default.asp.