

## Part B Insider (Multispecialty) Coding Alert

### Get Ready To Revise Contracts

Many physician employment contracts violate new self-referral regulations, and practices may have to revise them. Even if CMS doesn't go after your practice over the issue, a whistleblower could file a qui tam suit, notes attorney **Bob Ramsey**. Also, a physician could claim her employment contract is void because it violates the law.

The new regs may give rise to tricky disputes, says attorney **William Maruca** with **Fox Rothschild** in Pittsburgh. For example, if a physician group has a new recruit who started work last January with a non-compete clause in place, the hospital may refuse to keep paying the income subsidies to the new doctor because those subsidies are now technically kickbacks.