

Part B Insider (Multispecialty) Coding Alert

In Other News: • Investigators have their eyes on hospital outlier payments, and are ready to strike if it looks like something's amiss

A New Jersey hospital agreed to pay \$6.35 million last week "to settle allegations that the hospital defrauded Medicare," according to a March 19 Dept. of Justice news release.

Two lawsuits filed against the facility, Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital Hamilton, alleged that it fraudulently inflated its charges to Medicare patients so it could collect supplemental outlier payments "for cases that were not extraordinarily costly and for which outlier payments should not have been paid," the release indicated.

To read the full news release, visit the DOJ's Web site at www.justice.gov/opa/pr/2010/March/10-civ-293.html.