

## Part B Insider (Multispecialty) Coding Alert

### Medicare Already Has Toolkit For Finding Wasteful Doctors

Medicare could use -profiling- to find physicians who are providing too many services or being inefficient, said **Bruce Steinwald** with the **Government Accountability Office** at an April 3 presentation before the **American Enterprise Institute**.

Medicare already has a -comprehensive claims database- that would make this kind of examination possible, Steinwald noted. The database covers all the services physicians provide to patients. Also, Medicare has enough physicians in each region to allow meaningful local comparisons. And the program has some experience in using methods to account for differences in patients- health status.