

Part B Insider (Multispecialty) Coding Alert

Physician Notes: CMS Offers Advice on How to Make the Most of the E- Prescribing Incentive Program

Plus: New data shows that Alzheimer's patients posted the longest non-cancer hospice stays.

As of Jan. 1, you could benefit from Medicare's new e-prescribing bonus system. But if you aren't sure quite what it will entail, CMS has some guidance that could give you some aid.

The CMS document, "Medi-care's Practice Guide to the E-prescribing Incentive Program" offers tips on determining whether you are eligible for the incentive program, finding the right type of software, and submitting your claims to your carrier.

One of the most important factors you should know about the program is that you have to use a "qualified" e-prescribing system if you want to participate. You'll also need to know how to determine whether your system is qualified, which the document instructs you how to do.

In addition, you'll have to report on the e-prescribing quality measure, which requires you to bill an appropriate denominator code along with an applicable G code on more than 50 percent of applicable cases for the numerator.

The information is all spelled out in the CMS document, which is available on the web at www.cms.hhs.gov/partnerships/downloads/11399.pdf.