

Part B Insider (Multispecialty) Coding Alert

PHYSICIAN NOTES: CMS Offers Overview of the RAC Program With New Transmittal

Plus: NPES system will prompt password changes this week, thanks to CMS system overhaul.

With the recovery audit contractor (RAC) program back in business as of last week, you can't miss a chance to ensure that you know all there is about RAC contractors and their habits. That's why a new CMS transmittal may be the most interesting reading material you've come across in a long while.

CMS Transmittal 148, dated March 6, offers updated advice on communication with RACs, points of contact, and an overview of the entire RAC process.

Plus: The transmittal offers some insight into the RAC exclusion program, noting, "The RAC can permanently exclude an individual claim or a series of claims, or suppress a provider's entire claim submission or claim type for a period of time not to exceed one calendar year," and offers a list of cases requiring suppression or exclusion.

To read the transmittal, visit www.cms.hhs.gov/transmittals/downloads/R148FM.pdf.