

## Part B Insider (Multispecialty) Coding Alert

### PHYSICIAN NOTES: OIG Imposes One of the Largest Ever Civil Monetary Penalties Against Nevada Radiology Practice

**Plus: CMS establishes MLN Matters article to answer your PQRI questions.**

Think its okay to provide diagnostic tests without physician orders? One Las Vegas radiology practice is paying dearly for making that mistake, among others.

The physician-owned practice will pay \$2 million to resolve allegations that it submitted false claims to Medicare, the OIG announced in a March 25 press release.

The settlement--one of the largest ever negotiated under the OIGs Civil Monetary Penalties authority--will resolve the following allegations against the radiology practice:

" Improperly providing diagnostic tests to Medicare beneficiaries without the required treating physicians orders

" Billing for certain tests under CPT codes not supported by the medical records

" Failing to satisfy certain other Medicare billing and coverage requirements, the OIG noted in its press release.

OIG will investigate and pursue enforcement actions against health practitioners who engage in a pattern of billing Medicare for services that were not ordered by the patients treating physicians, said Inspector General **Daniel Levinson**