

Part B Insider (Multispecialty) Coding Alert

Physician Notes: Remember Timely Filing Rules Going Forward

Plus: Hire someone who the OIG considers 'excluded' and you'll pay dearly.

Remember: You have only 12 months to file a claim after you furnish services to a Part B patient for dates of service Jan. 1, 2010 and thereafter, thanks to provisions in the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act. Although you may have already heard this news several times before, CMS sent out a reminder email this week to ensure that practices are aware of these timely filing rules.

Plus: Any Medicare claims with dates of service Oct. 1, 2009 through Dec. 31, 2009 must be filed by Dec. 31, 2010, which is only a few weeks away.

Good idea: Run a report through your practice management software to ensure that you don't have any lingering claims for those dates of service, and if you do, submit them to your MAC immediately, or you'll forfeit those charges.