

## Part B Insider (Multispecialty) Coding Alert

### Which Specialties Are Billing Improperly?

The government's CERT report not only identifies the types of errors that practices make—it also profiles which specialties had the highest Part B error rates. Keep in mind that the error rate for all providers is 10.5 percent, so we've listed all Part B specialties that had higher rates than that average, as follows:

#### Specialty Error Rate

Chiropractic	51.4%
Private practice occupational therapist	32.2%
Vascular surgery	29.4%
Clinical laboratory	24.4%
Psychiatry	22.1%
Clinical social worker	21.6%
Private practice physical therapist	18.7%
Pulmonary disease	18.1%
Clinical psychology	17.8%
General practice	15.8%
Internal medicine	15.3%
Critical care (intensivists)	15.0%
Infectious disease	13.8%
Gastroenterology	13.7%
Family practice	13.7%
Independent diagnostic testing facility (IDTF)	13.6%
Neurology	12.4%
Diagnostic radiology	12.3%
Physician assistant	12.1%
Cardiology	11.8%
Obstetrics/gynecology	11.0%
Allergy/immunology	10.9%



Emergency medicine 10.9%

Among the specialists with the lowest error rates were CRNAs at 1.4 percent, dermatologists at 2.4 percent, and hematology/oncology at 3.6 percent.