

Eli's Hospice Insider

Hospice News: Data Mining To Drive Investigations

If your billing patterns make you stick out like a sore thumb, you may see pre-payment consequences sooner than you think.

The **Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services** is aiming to integrate its new data-driven Fraud Prevention System with its payment processing system by January, says the **Government Accountability Office** in a new report. "FPS analyzes Medicare claims data using models of fraudulent behavior, which results in automatic alerts on specific claims and providers, which are then prioritized for program integrity analysts to review and investigate as appropriate," GAO explains.

However: CMS has "not yet developed reliable schedules for completing this activity," the GAO says of the FPS-payment system integration. The report is at www.gao.gov/products/GAO-13-104.