

## MDS Alert

### **CODING ACCURACY: This Coding Combo For Influenza Vaccination Will Trigger A Fatal Record Error**

The **Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services** says the state database should give you a fatal record error (404) when the following occurs:

- W2a (Did the resident receive the influenza vaccine in this facility for this year's influenza season?) is marked as 'No' AND
- W2b is marked as "1" (Not in facility during this year's flu season) AND
- The A3a (assessment reference date) or R4 (discharge) date is between 10/1 and 3/31.

**The bottom line:** When the target date of the assessment (A3a or R4 for discharge summaries) falls within the flu season there's no way the resident isn't in the facility during that time (W2b = 1), says **Nathan Lake, RN**, an MDS software developer in Seattle.