

12/17/2009 WVOS Reimbursement Update



Some very important information was released by CMS in the past 24 hours;

MM6740 – Revisions to Consultation Services Payment Policy
<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MLN MattersArticles/downloads/MM6740.pdf>

This article pertains to Change Request (CR) 6740, which alerts physicians and non-physician practitioners that effective January 1, 2010, the Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) consultation codes (ranges 99241-99245 and 99251-99255) are no longer recognized for Medicare Part B payment. Effective for services furnished on or after January 1, 2010, physicians and non-physician practitioners should code a patient evaluation and management visit with E/M codes that represent where the visit occurs and that identify the complexity of the visit performed.

2010 Drug ASP Numbers - (link included below)
http://www.cms.hhs.gov/McrPartBDrugAvgSalesPrice/01a19_2010aspfiles.asp#TopOfPage

WVOS UNDERWATER DRUG REIMBURSEMENT INITIATIVE

*Does your practice have any drug being reimbursed at less than the purchase price?
WVOS is launching an Underwater Drug Reimbursement Initiative to support
our members by working with payers to cover the costs of our patients' drugs.!*

Please report any Underwater Drug Reimbursement to
reimbursement@wvos.info

Legislative Update:

While Physician Fee Schedules (which reimburses for services - not drugs) have been released by Palmetto, the current fee schedules include the -21% adjustment included in the final rule. There are still multiple Bills in Congress which, if passed, would avert the cut but at this date we still do not know what is going to happen. Yesterday the House passed a Bill that would freeze the current physician fee schedule until February 28, 2010. This would have to be passed by the Senate and signed by the President to go into effect. WVOS will send an alert as soon as we know anything more about the fee schedules! Stay tuned.....

The remainder of this WVOS Alert is related to PQRI and E-Prescribing:

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) is pleased to announce the posting of 2010 Physician Quality Reporting Initiative (PQRI) educational products to the PQRI webpage at www.cms.hhs.gov/PQRI on the CMS website:

2010 PQRI Quality Measure List- this document identifies the 179 quality measures (this includes 175 individual quality measures and the 4 measures in the Back Pain measures group, which are not reportable as individual PQRI quality measures) selected for the 2010 PQRI

2010 PQRI Quality Data Code (QDC) Categories – a table that outlines, for each measure, each QDC that should be reported for a corresponding quality action performed by the individual EP as noted in the measures specification. This determines how each code will be used when calculating performance rates. This also clarifies those measures that require 2 or more QDCs to report satisfactorily. Insufficiently reporting the QDCs (as specified in the 2010 PQRI measure specifications) will result in invalid reporting.

2010 Single Source Code Master- this file includes a numerical listing of all codes included in 2010 PQRI for incorporation into billing software.

2010 PQRI Measure Specifications Manual for Claims and Registry; Reporting of Individual Measures and Release Notes- this zip file contains two documents which are the authoritative documents that describe 1) the 2010 measure specifications (including codes and reporting instructions) for the 175 individual PQRI quality measures for claims or registry-based reporting and 2) changes from the 2009 PQRI Measure Specifications in the form of release notes delineated by measure number.

2010 PQRI Implementation Guide- provides guidance about how to implement 2010 PQRI claims-based reporting of measures to facilitate satisfactory reporting of quality data codes by EPs.

2010 PQRI Measures Groups Specifications Manual and Release Notes- measures group specifications that are different from those of the individual measures that form the group. The specifications and instructions for measures group reporting are, therefore, provided in a separate manual. This zip file contains two documents which are the authoritative documents that describe 1) the 2010 measures groups specifications (including codes and reporting instructions) for the 13 PQRI measures groups for claims or registry-based reporting and 2) changes from the 2009 PQRI Measures Groups Specifications Manual in the form of release notes.

Getting Started with 2010 PQRI Reporting of Measures Groups - provides guidance about implementing the 2010 PQRI measures groups.

2010 PQRI Measure Applicability Validation Process for Claims-Based Reporting of Individual Measures- provides guidance for those eligible professionals who satisfactorily submit quality-data codes for fewer than three PQRI measures, and how the measure-applicability validation process will determine whether they should have submitted QDCs for additional measures.

2010 PQRI Measure-Applicability Validation Process Release Notes- the release notes for the changes occurring for the 2010 PQRI Measure Applicability Validation Process (MAV).

2010 Measure-Applicability Validation Process Flow Chart- a chart that depicts the Measure Applicability Validation Process (MAV)

Group Practice Reporting Option (GPRO) Requirements for Submission of 2010 PQRI Data- provides guidance on how a group practice can self-nominate to participate in the GPRO for 2010 data submission.

2010 PQRI GPRO Disease Modules and Preventive Care Measures- a document containing a list of the 2010 PQRI GPRO Measures

2010 PQRI GPRO Narrative Measure Specifications- this document contains descriptions of the 2010 PQRI GPRO measures.

Registry Requirements for Submission of 2010 PQRI Data on Behalf of Eligible Professionals- this document describes the high-level requirements for a registry to qualify to submit under the registry-based reporting alternatives for 2010. This document also outlines how a registry can become qualified for 2010 data submission.

To access the 2010 PQRI educational products, visit the following page http://www.cms.hhs.gov/PQRI/02_Spotlight.asp on the CMS website. Once on the Spotlight page, view the listing of educational products and the corresponding webpages where they can be found.

Further information on the 2010 PQRI Program may be found in the final 2010 Medicare Physician Fee Schedule rule with comment period (74 FR 61788 through 61861) that was published in the Federal Register on October 30, 2009. The final rule can be found on the Physician Quality Reporting Initiative webpage at www.cms.hhs.gov/PQRI on the CMS website, click on the Statute/Regulations/Program Instructions section page at left.

Reporting for the 2010 PQRI begins January 1, 2010. Please note there is no need to sign up or pre-register in order to participate.

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) is pleased to announce the posting of 2010 Electronic Prescribing Incentive (eRx) Program educational products to the eRx webpage at www.cms.hhs.gov/ERxIncentive on the CMS website:

- 2010 eRx Measure Specifications and Release Notes- Provides guidance on the 2010 eRx measure specifications for claims or registry-based reporting and release notes describing changes from the 2009 eRx measure specifications.
- Claims-Based Reporting Principles for the 2010 eRx Incentive Program- provides guidance on the principles for reporting the eRx measure on claims for the 2010 eRx Incentive Program.
- 2010 EHR Measure Specifications for eRx and Release Notes- provides guidance on The 2010 EHR measure specifications for eRx and release notes. In addition it details the specifications contain a detailed description of data element names and codes.
- 2010 EHR Downloadable Resource- an Excel spreadsheet listing 2010 EHR information.
- Group Practice Reporting Option (GPRO) Requirements for Submission of 2010 eRx Data- provides guidance on the Group Practice Reporting Option (GPRO) requirements for submission of 2010 eRx data.
- GPRO eRx Measure Specifications- provides guidance on the specifications for the eRx measure for use in the 2010 eRx GPRO.

To access the 2010 eRx educational products, visit the following page http://www.cms.hhs.gov/PQRI/02_Spotlight.asp on the CMS website. Once on the Spotlight page, view the listing of educational products and the corresponding webpages they can be found on.

Further information on the 2010 eRx Incentive Program may be found in the final 2010 Medicare Physician Fee Schedule rule with comment period (74 FR 61788 through 61861) that was published in the Federal Register on October 30, 2009. The final rule can be found on the Electronic Prescribing Incentive Program webpage at www.cms.hhs.gov/ERxIncentive on the CMS website, click on the Statute/Regulations/Program Instructions section page at left.

Reporting for the 2010 eRx begins January 1, 2010. Please note there is no need to sign up or pre-register in order to participate.

