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## PROVIDER OUTREACH & EDUCATION (POE) ADVISORY GROUP - NORTHEAST QUARTERLY MEETING

December 18, 2008  
Via Teleconference

### Members Attending:

|                                 |                                  |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Abington Hospital               | Mary Cepparulo, (H, P, R)        |
| Memorial Hospital - York        | Kathy Sipe (H, P)                |
| Memorial Hospital - York        | Tracey Hoover (H, P)             |
| Mainline Health                 | Kim McNally (H, R, S)            |
| Lancaster General Hospital      | Athena Hasik (H, P, R)           |
| Lancaster General Hospital      | Beth Toms (H, P, R)              |
| Lancaster General Hospital      | Connie Coulson (H, P, R)         |
| Lancaster General Hospital      | Jen Traeger (H, P, R)            |
| Lancaster General Hospital      | Chris Clerico (H, P, R)          |
| Northeastern Hospital           | Karen Paul (H)                   |
| Jeannes Hospital ( H)           | Tracy Dennery                    |
| Thomas Jefferson Univ. Hospital | Mary Marrow (H, P, R)            |
| Thomas Jefferson Univ. Hospital | Ann Spitzkopf (H, P, R)          |
| Thomas Jefferson Univ. Hospital | Debbie Kim (H, P, R)             |
| Hospital of Univ. of PA         | Kathleen Dougherty (H, P, R)     |
| Lifecare Management             | Kathy Maris (H,)                 |
| Berkshire Medical Center        | Peggy Ryan-Rockwell (H, P, R, S) |
| Berkshire Medical Center        | George Soucy (H, P, R, S)        |
| Berkshire Medical Center        | Joann Willis (H, P, R, S)        |
| Berkshire Medical Center        | Lori Donaldson (H, P, R, S)      |
| CMS                             | Richard Frieman                  |
| CMS                             | Nicole Cooney                    |
| WPS Medicare A                  | John Wrynn                       |

This meeting was conducted via teleconference for the combined Provider Outreach and Education Advisory Groups (POEAG) in Massachusetts and Pennsylvania. The teleconference began at 2:00 PM.

John welcomed everyone to the WPS Part A Provider Outreach & Advisory Group quarterly teleconference call. John asked if everyone had received the e-mail containing the Agenda and the minutes of the National POEAG meeting. Members were also sent a copy of the CMS PowerPoint presentation on the Medicare Learning Network (MLN).

### **CMS Comment on the Medicare Learning Network**

Richard Frieman and Nicole Cooney of CMS reviewed the Medicare Learning Network PowerPoint presentation. The presentation focused on using the MLN as the place for official Medicare Fee for Service (FFS) provider education and information. CMS is marketing the websites in the presentation. The Website contains MLN products, Web based training, fact sheets, brochures, Quick Reference Charts and MLN articles important to all provider types. CMS is also looking for feedback on the MLN website's best features, features to improve and topics or issues that need more coverage.



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### **Review of Minutes from the Prior Meeting**

The minutes from the National Provider Outreach & Education (POE) meeting of August 13, 2008 were reviewed to determine if any of the educational topics discussed were of interest to the members in Massachusetts and Pennsylvania. Members agreed that many of the topics were similar to topics suggested at previous Advisory Groups teleconferences. John pointed out that many of the topics had already been incorporated into training modules for 2008 and additional topics, based on their suggestions, has been planned for 2009.

### **Group Input and Feedback on Provider Education and Training Topics**

#### **Training Topics for FY 2009**

Members were asked about their Medicare education and training needs for 2009. Education can be conducted in any of three formats currently used, Ask The Contractor Teleconferences (ACT), Computer Based Training (CBT) and Seminars. John reviewed the Seminars, ACT calls and CBTs completed during the first quarter of FY 2009. John has conducted two seminars. One was in Maryland in November on SNF Clinical Issues and another in Massachusetts in December on Acute Inpatient PPS. John also conducted an ACT teleconference call on the Three Day Payment Window in November 2008. Several CBT trainings have been added to the WPS Website including three on FISS DDE and three updates to SNF PPS. John also asked members for input on training for the second quarter of FY 2009, beginning January 2009. Members agreed that OPPS is always a good topic for a seminar. Another member suggested education on ESRD specifically home training. John indicated that an ESRD ACT call was conducted on December 10, 2008 but he will add the home training topic specifically to our list of topics for training. Members were reminded that any of the training posted to the WPS Website is open to all providers and not just those from the state or area where the seminar or ACT teleconference call is conducted.

#### **Ask the Contractor Teleconference (ACT)**

John plans to conduct an ACT teleconference on Medicare Advantage (MA) Billing sometime in March 2009. John asked members for specific topic areas within MA billing they would like to learn more about. John reminded members that they may sign up for any or all of these ACT teleconference calls via the WPS Website <http://www.wpsmedicare.com> under Education and then Teleconferences.

#### **Seminars**

Seminars planned for the Northeast Region for second quarter 2009 are a SNF Billing & Compliance Seminar and an OPPS Seminar. Locations are yet to be determined.

#### **Computer Based Training (CBT)**

There are currently 25 Computer Based Training (CBT) topics on the Medicare Part A Website. See CBTs on the WPS Website [http://www.wpsmedicare.com/part\\_a/education/cbt.shtml](http://www.wpsmedicare.com/part_a/education/cbt.shtml)

Members were reminded to submit any additional topics for consideration in any of the training formats referenced above.



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### **Contractor Updates and Issues**

#### **WPS Medicare Website**

Members were informed of recent changes to the WPS Medicare Web page, <http://www.wpsmedicare.com> to make it more user friendly. The Part A front page now has an easy to view list of Medicare areas with sub headings from which to select. Members were reminded that they may also link directly to the CMS Website (specifically the Medicare Learning Network) under the Education section, MLN Matters.

### **Other Agenda Item Discussions**

Many of the topics discussed below at the teleconference are current Medicare published topics and are discussed to determine if the topic is one that members believe requires education and training for their provider staff.

### **Provider Outreach & Education Topics - Medicare Updates**

#### **Medicare Program Updates and Changes for 2009**

Members were made aware of several updates and changes:

#### **Hospital Updates**

- FY 2009 Final Rule for IPPS and LTCH in Federal Register 8-19-08.
- FY 2009 Final Rule for OPSS in Federal Register 11-18-08.
- FY 2009 Final Rule for IRFPPS rates in MM6166.
- *ESRD FY 2009 changes in MM 6216.*
- Hospital Acquired Conditions Fact Sheet- see <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/HospitalAcqCond/>
- Present on Admission Fact Sheet- see above site for this Fact Sheet.
- Transition of Medical Review responsibility from the QIO to WPS- see MM5849.
- Hospital Quality Data Reporting for OPSS- see MM6072 and the WPS Newsletter, Communique of 12-08.
- Part B payment for prosthetic devices on 12X bill type-see MM6050.

#### **SNF Updates**

- FY 2009 SNF PPS Final Rule rates in Federal Register 8-8-08 and in MM6193.
- Consolidated Billing HCPCS updates for 2009- see MM6220.

#### **All Providers**

- ICD-10 coding is coming- see SE 0832 for basic information and references.
- Recovery Audit Contractors (RAC)- CMS awarded four contractors to perform audits of claims. Diversified Collection Services, Inc. was named the RAC for Region A which includes all northeastern states including Pennsylvania, Maryland and DC.
- CMS Quarterly Provider updates - the CMS Website contains a useful reference page containing all program changes during the past quarters for specific provider types as well as upcoming updates for the next quarter. See <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/quarterlyproviderupdates>
- Top Claim Error published on the WPS Website for August 2008 displayed one error code that continues to be a problem: 31715 – Units in excess of medically reasonable daily allowance frequency, aka the MUE (Medically



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Unlikely Edits). Members may go to the CMS Website for more details on the edits and the edit table- see

[http://www.cms.hhs.gov/NationalCorrectCodInitEd/08\\_MUE.asp#TopofPage](http://www.cms.hhs.gov/NationalCorrectCodInitEd/08_MUE.asp#TopofPage)

### **WPS Medicare and CMS Medicare Website Updates**

Members were reminded to check the WPS Medicare Website <http://www.wpsmedicare.com> for the monthly Newsletter, the Communique and other current updates. Member should also insure they have signed up for e-News via our electronic e-mail sign-up at [www.wpsmedicare.com/listserv](http://www.wpsmedicare.com/listserv). Members should also check the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) in the Claims and Self-Service sections and the Education section for upcoming educational sessions such as ACTs or Seminars. Also check out our on-line Computer Based Training (CBT) topics.

Provider can also sign up on the CMS listserv to get Medicare updates. The updates contain all the important Medicare regulatory changes as well as all documents published by CMS that are related to their provider type, e.g., a hospital or a SNF.

### **Contacting John Wrynn, Northeast Region**

Members may contact John with topics for educations via e-mail at:

[john.wrynn@wpsic.com](mailto:john.wrynn@wpsic.com)

### **Next Meeting:**

Members agreed to hold the next meeting on Thursday March 26, 2009. Members will be notified well in advance of the meeting. Members with conflicts on this date should contact John as soon as possible.

The meeting adjourned at 3:05 PM.

Respectfully submitted by John Wrynn, Northeast Region

December 29, 2008