

# Medicare Education

## Updates

### MAC:

#### Medicare Administrative Contractors (MAC):

- ☞ On January 7, 2009 CMS announced Jurisdiction 15 award to Highmark Medicare Services, Inc.
  - (HMS) has been awarded J15 for Kentucky and Ohio. The contract will also include Home Health and Hospice
- ☞ Two protests against the award have been filed with the Government Accountability Office (GAO). GAO's decision on the protests must be issued no later than 100 days after the protests were filed. In this case, the deadline for GAO's decision on the protests is May 2009.
- ☞ On March 3, 2009 one protest against J15's award was dismissed
- ☞ Review all notifications at:
  - <http://www.gao.gov/index.html>
  - Select the "Legal Decisions" tab at the top of the page
  - Select "Bid Protest" on the left
  - Select the "Bid Protest Docket" link
  - Select "Open Docket" and search for "Department of Health and Human Services"
- ☞ Once the transition starts, providers that submit electronic claims will need to complete the EDI application for Highmark.
- ☞ Preparing for a Transition from an FI/Carrier to a Medicare Administrative Contractor (MAC) Tool Kit is available at:
  - <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MLNMaterialsArticles/downloads/SE0837.pdf>

### ANSI 5010 and ICD-10

- ☞ On January 15, 2009 the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services released two final rules of an updated set of diagnosis and procedure codes and updated standards for electronic health care and pharmacy transactions that the effective dates will not change:
  - January 1, 2012, for the transaction standards
  - October 1, 2013, for the ICD-10 code set.

### New Call Center Requirement:

- ☞ **Effective April 6, 2009**, when you call either the IVR system or a CSR, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) will require you to provide three data elements for authentication:
  - Your National Provider Identifier (NPI);
  - Your Provider Transaction Access Number (PTAN); and
  - **New - The last 5-digits of your tax identification number (TIN).**
- ☞ Make sure that your staffs are aware of this requirement for provider authentication

### Medicare Education: We Can Help!

Palmetto GBA provides comprehensive education for physicians, other health care providers, and administrative staff.

For information including registration:

OH: <http://www.PalmettoGBA.com/boh/education>

WV: <http://www.PalmettoGBA.com/bwv/education>