

URS BILLING SERVICES, LLC

July 2011

Medical E-Newsletter



Happy 4th of July!

URS hopes everyone has a safe and happy Independence Day.

Here are a few tips to assure your safety:

If you're heading out early in the day to enjoy the festivities:

- Wear sunscreen!
- Bring water
- Pack your own food! Convenient, economical and probably healthier for you!

If you're using your own purchased fireworks:

- Make sure to never re-light or "fix" fireworks
- Never carry fireworks in your pockets- Keep a safe distance

Happy Independence Day!

Comparing Health Care Quality: A National Directory

In order for locals to be as informed as possible, The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation has introduced an updated online directory of health professionals nationwide.

This resource will help patients identify the healthcare professional whom best suits their needs.

"Our efforts focus on improving both the health of everyone in America, and their health care – how it's delivered, how it's paid for, and how well it does for patients and their families." - Mission

of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation

However, don't intend to find the prices of healthcare through these reports, as the cost of healthcare is more difficult to measure than quality.

Sources: RWJF.org & blogs.wsj.com/health

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Comparing Quality Care: A National Directory

Special Feature:
Bad Debt Syndrome
By Richard L. Tamburello

The Coding Corner



Preventive Services

Q & A's

E-mail us @
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comments!

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Bad Debt Syndrome

By: Richard L. Tamburello

Given the unfortunate economic circumstances for millions of Americans, more and more medical practices are finding it increasingly difficult collecting deductibles and self-pay balances. This situation is not only impacting cash flow for practices, but also negatively affecting bottom lines. According to a recent study published in the American Journal of Medicine, 2007, "Medical bills are the cause of more than 60% of all bankruptcy filings in the United States..." Many patients ask, "Why aren't insurance plans covering more of the medical expenses"? As a result, medical practices are now dealing with the uncomfortable task of asking patients for payments after treatments and before they can be seen on the following appointments.

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The Coding Corner

Preventive Services

Preventive Services provided to Medicare patients in outpatient hospital settings are being denied in error!

CMS has discovered a few glitches in its claims processing system

Codes being automatically denied:

90740, 90743, 90744, 90746, 90747

Source: news.aapc.com

Q & A

Q: Why aren't most eligible providers not participating in Medicare's PQRS program?

A: Reasons include: Recordkeeping complications and 10-month waiting periods to see if they are qualified for the bonus

Source: CMS in American Medical News 5/9/11