

For immediate release, February 11, 2010

Another Regulatory Mandate Approaching Quickly

Burlington, VT—As we approach the halfway point of the first quarter of the year, now is a good time to remind you that new Medicare reporting rules go into effect soon. This requirement is onerous, non-compliance can trigger substantial penalties.

MMSEA 111 – or Section 111 of the Medicare, Medicaid SCHIP Extension Act Of 2007 – reporting requirement becomes mandatory April 1, 2010. Medicare is testing and accepting voluntary claims submissions during the first quarter of this year. If you haven't yet registered with Medicare, we urge you to do so now. If you have already registered, then you should have been given a date when your report must first be submitted and for subsequent quarterly online reporting filing.

The penalties for non-compliance are substantial -- \$1,000 per day per claim. This can be prohibitively expensive for organizations that submit multiple claims multiple days late.

Government officials believe Medicare can save billions of dollars by matching claims of all property/casualty lines of business for which there is bodily injury or medical coverage involved to ensure it doesn't pay claims as a primary insurer for Medicare-eligible claimants. This reporting requirement theoretically allows Medicare to verify all claims. Any insurer, either captive or self-insured, paying these claims is considered a Required Reporting Entity (RRE) by Medicare and must follow this new mandate.

If you have a question about whether your organization is considered an RRE or need other information about this new law's requirements, please contact us at your earliest convenience. If you want to read more about MMSEA 111, Medicare has a link for general information and accompanying links for more specifics at:
http://www.cms.hhs.gov/mandatoryinsrep/04_whats_new.asp

We can direct you to reputable third-party providers or software applications that can help you meet your reporting responsibilities for this regulatory mandate.