



Protect your Practice - How to Stay Under the Audit Radar

What are the red flags that prompt Medicare or Medicaid to audit a practice?

First and foremost, if you practice in the Rio Grande Valley you are three times more likely to be audited. Therefore, you must know your practice inside and out. You must know what data the carrier will look at when it reviews your practice. These are the questions the carriers will ask:

- Do you bill more CPT codes than other similar specialists in your geographic area?
- Do you bill more higher or lower level CPT codes than other specialists in your geographic area?
- Do you use your modifiers correctly?
- Do you use appropriate diagnosis codes?
- Is your documentation complete and compliant?
- Do your patients complain about their care or your service?

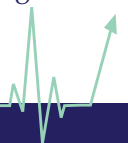
Insurance companies can get this information from your claims, from your bell curve and from random audits. At times they will even talk to your patients.

You can have this same information. With a few strategic reports from your practice management system, Physician Services can generate your practice's bell curve. The bell curve compares your practice to what is considered normal for your specialty and location. It is the tool that Medicare most often uses to target problems in a practice.

We can also review your documentation for your most used codes and procedures, and analyze your usage of diagnosis codes and modifiers. With this information, you will know where you stand. You can then decide whether you need to change your procedures or simply be sure they are substantiated in the record.

The fee for the initial analysis is \$1000 and \$750 for any future reports. It is a small price to pay to know if your practice is at risk. And more importantly, if you are audited, your documentation will be correct and compliant.

If you're interested, take a look at our website. We have over 30 years of experience in medical billing, coding and consultation. Then call Sharleen at extension 204.



For more information, visit our website:

WWW.PHYSSERV.COM
or call tollfree 888 877-4882 extension 201