

### **Putting your Practice Puzzle Together**

A Monthly E-Zine for Utilization Solutions in Healthcare, Inc.

Since we had the launch of the case study campaign, I decided to delay the March Newsletter and restart our communications in April. It was also an effort to spare your inbox. :)

Enjoy this month's information and as always, please contact us if you have questions or comments - or if we may assist your practice.

Kind Regards,

Lisa



#### State & Federal Watch

# Important Information For ALL PA's and NP's

You may notice that I changed the title of this category moving forward. There is so

much happening that affects all of us in every state - that sometimes watching the nationwide picture is equally informative.

#### Recent news on the delay of ICD 10 is newsworthy.

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) <u>issued another delay</u> in the implementation of ICD-10 billing rules. Those rules, which were scheduled to take effect Oct. 1, 2013, will now take effect Oct. 1, 2014.

Entities covered under the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA) will be required to use ICD-10 diagnostic and procedure codes. Implementation of ICD 10 is expected to be challenging for providers and health systems as the new nomenclature will allow for an almost five fold increase in the ability of providers to describe diseases and conditions. The new system is also alpha-numeric and significantly different than the ICD-9 codes we are accustomed to in our current clinical environments.

Supporters of ICD 10 conversion say that the new system will allow more accurate payment for procedures, fewer rejected claims, fewer improper claims, better understanding of health conditions and monitoring and reporting of disease from a public health perspective.

#### References:

HHS announces intent to delay ICD-10 compliance date - FierceHealthIT <a href="http://www.fiercehealthit.com/press-releases/hhs-announces-intent-delay-icd-10-compliance-date?utm">http://www.fiercehealthit.com/press-releases/hhs-announces-intent-delay-icd-10-compliance-date?utm</a> medium=nl&utm source=internal#ixzz1s7MHYKMT

CIO Drexel DeFord: ICD-10 'could put us out of business if we don't get it right' - FierceHealthIT <a href="http://www.fiercehealthit.com/story/cio-drexel-deford-icd-10-could-put-us-out-business-if-we-dont-get-it-right/2012-02-16?utm\_medium=nl&utm\_source=internal#ixzz1s7NdMte9">http://www.fiercehealthit.com/story/cio-drexel-deford-icd-10-could-put-us-out-business-if-we-dont-get-it-right/2012-02-16?utm\_medium=nl&utm\_source=internal#ixzz1s7NdMte9</a>

http://www.aapa.org/news\_and\_publications/pa\_pro\_now/item.aspx?id=4157



#### Gimme The \$\$\$

Are you billing the AWV (Annual Wellness Visit) for Medicare Patients?

DO NOT bill this as an incident-to service! That service is not subject to incident-to rules and must be billed under the provider's individual NPI number.

#### Reference:

http://codingnews.inhealthcare.com/provider-news/don%E2%80%99t-bill-annual-wellness-visit-as-%E2%80%98incident-to%E2%80%99-cms-says/

If we can help you with understanding billing and coding for incident to claims, contact us and mention code <u>INCIDENT2012</u> for a 10% discount on a chart review.



#### Solve the Clinical Puzzle

# New Tylenol Warnings!

The makers of TYLENOL® have created a new website: <a href="http://www.getreliefresponsibly.com">http://www.getreliefresponsibly.com</a>. The site includes an interactive Acetaminophen Finder tool to help consumers identify products that contain acetaminophen and build a personal acetaminophen medication list to share with their healthcare provider or

pharmacist.

#### Your 2 cents

Participate in this months industry poll by clicking your answer below:

# Is your practice ready for ICD 10?

- YES
- NO
- What is ICD10?



#### **Our Solution for You**

USH is excited to announce that we are partnering with Succor, Inc. to offer full service comprehensive services for medical practices. Succor Consulting Group, Inc. provides a wide array of robust products and services, tailored to fit the needs of each medical practice environment. They provide general Health IT products and services, highly integrated Electronic Health Records and Practice Management Solutions and, together we will help clients maximize their medical operations and staffing efficiency.

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Lisa Shock is a Duke University Physician Assistant graduate and has greater than 10 years of clinical experience in a variety of healthcare settings. In addition to previously owning and running a rural primary care clinic, she is the current president and CEO of Utilization Solutions in Healthcare, a company she created in response to the many questions she has received over the years about Physician Assistant utilization. Lisa is a past

president of the North Carolina Academy of Physician Assistants. She also contributed to the Physician Assistant profession by serving on the PA Advisory Council of the North Carolina Medical Board as well as the Quality Improvement and Health Information Technology Committee of the North Carolina Medical Society, and she remains a state PA expert in reimbursement and legislative issues. She enjoys part time clinical primary care practice and enjoys teaching geriatric medicine and long term care as a Duke PA Program faculty member.

Lisa was recently interviewed on BlogTalkRadio - listen here!

Lisa P. Shock, MHS, PA-C
President/CEO
Utilization Solutions in Healthcare, Inc.
www.pushpa.biz

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Utilization Solutions in Healthcare, Inc 1609 Foreman Street Hillsborough, North Carolina 27278 United States (919) 289-9126