

Do you know the benefits?

The Situation

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) and the Office of the Inspector General (OIG) are continuing their scrutiny of practitioners' documentation and coding practices. The audits conducted by CMS and the OIG can be very onerous, and there are a number of consequences to any practice that becomes subject to a review. First, the process consumes a great deal of staff time, increasing the burden on many offices already short on manpower. Even more significant are the dollars involved in the potential fines and carrier paybacks that may become due. Therefore, it is important for every practice to be fully aware of the coding compliance of its practitioners.

What to Do

The most important thing that you can do to protect your practice and minimize exposure is to conduct quarterly chart audits. The quarterly chart audits provide assurance that practitioners are maintaining compliant documentation and coding practices.

The Benefits

By performing quarterly chart audits, you will have a greater confidence in your coding and be assured that any review conducted on your practice will have minimal disruption and a positive outcome.

How We Can Help

KB Healthcare Consultants is well versed in completing quarterly chart audits. Our staff has worked directly in the medical billing industry and knows where to concentrate. We review your charts with a focus on services currently identified by the OIG's Work Plan, such as Electronic Health Record (EHR) documentation and higher-level inpatient and outpatient visits. In addition to quarterly review, we provide your practice with any recent updates to your specialty's coding guidelines or billing practices.

To schedule quarterly chart audits for your practice and to learn more about KB Healthcare Consultants, please contact Kathy Hargreaves, CPA/CFP®/CPC®, at khargreaves@kbgrp.com or Johna Kennedy-Preston, CPC®, at jpreston@kbgrp.com or call 941-365-4617.