

## General Information

- The Health and Human Services (HHS) through the Office of Inspector General (OIG) and the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) continue their crack down on laboratories and other health care providers to uncover Medicare fraud and abuse and to reduce the costs to the Medicare Program.
- Compliance with the Rules and Regulations that pertain to the reimbursement of services provided by laboratories to Out Patients **REQUIRES YOUR HELP**.

### **THE LAB NEEDS THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION WITH EVERY ORDER:**

1. **Written order with proper authorization (*see Required Elements of an Order*)**
  2. **Diagnosis that supports why the specific test/service was ordered**
    - **Diagnosis(s) or Indication(s) are required to establish Medical Necessity (See bulletin on Establishing Medical Necessity)**
    - **Many orders require more than one diagnosis / indication**
    - **Some orders may require that the patient sign an Advanced Beneficiary Notice (ABN) (See bulletin on ABNs)**
- We have made a strong commitment to establish a Compliance Plan that will protect the rights and well being of the patient, while assuring that all rules and regulations for performing and billing lab services are followed. At times it may seem that the Laboratory is requiring more effort on your part, but these changes are a reflection of the CMS rules and regulations.
  - We have instituted a series of Compliance Information Sheets that will be used to inform our clients about the policies that are in place to ensure that compliance violations do not occur. Because CMS, its intermediaries, along with other third party payers are continually expanding and revising their policies and regulations, these information sheets will be bundled into a packet of individual sheets that may be added or removed as necessary changes are made. Each sheet will have version number and date
  - Additional copies of the Laboratory Compliance Information Bulletins are available by calling the Laboratory's Client Services Representatives (CSR) at (317) 491-6000

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