

BRIEF

Bi-monthly newsletter to keep you connected

CMS QPP Request for Billing Information, AMA issues call to action on Medicare, Billing Information for NP/PAs, Blue Cross Blue Shield Change Healthcare update, CDI Coding Initiative Training, CDI 1:1 Provider Coding Coaching, Yankee Alliance Monthly Specials!



CMS Quality Payment Program (QPP) Request for Current Billing Information

Under the Quality Payment Program for Medicare, CMS has issued an advisory to alert certain clinicians who are Qualifying APM participants (QPs) and have earned an Alternative Payment Model (APM) Incentive Payment that CMS does not have the current information needed to disburse the payment. This advisory provides information to QPs on how to update their Medicare billing information so that CMS can disburse APM Incentive Payments.

To see the full advisory, click the following: [\[TEXT\]](#) [\[PDF\]](#)

AMA issues call to action on Medicare pay

The AMA has issued a call to action regarding Medicare reimbursement for physicians and the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) has proposed to reduce Medicare physician reimbursement, with a 2.8% reduction in the proposed 2025 Medicare Physician Fee Schedule.



From the AMA: This latest inexcusable cut looms despite the fact that CMS also projects an increase in the Medicare Economic Index, the measure of practice cost inflation, to be 3.6% in 2025. The AMA has also provided resources to help connect with your legislators.

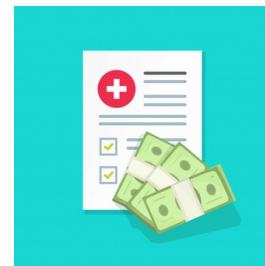
Please join us this August recess and let Congress know that it's time to Fix Medicare Now - everyone agrees that the Medicare physician payment system is broken. If you would like to reach out to Congress, click

here. [Let's do something about it!](#)

Billing Information for NP/PAs

Did you know?

- **Blue Cross Blue Shield** and **Aetna** do not recognize incident-to billing for NPs and PAs.
- For plans that do recognize incident-to billing, incident-to claims are billed under the physician number at 100 percent payment. If you are billing an NP or PA claim under his/her own provider number, he or she will be reimbursed at 85 percent
- Incident-to claims must be for an established patient, seen in the past by the physician, with an established plan of care



Blue Cross Blue Shield reconnects to Change Healthcare for some functionality

Blue Cross has recently restored connectivity to Change Healthcare's clearinghouse, Relay Exchange, that was disrupted by Change Healthcare's Feb. 21, 2024 cybersecurity incident.

This will allow **medical and mental health providers who have a direct connection** to Change Healthcare to:

- submit claims
- receive electronic remittance advices
- get historical claims data

[Read more.](#)

BILHPN Monthly CDI coding training Series

BILHPN offers a monthly CDI Coding Training Series. Each session covers a specific medical specialty, with a focus on HCC (hierarchical condition category) codes and the potential for coding improvement. Sessions will be led by an instructor from the American Academy of Professional Coders (AAPC) and BILHPN's Director of Professional Coding and Education.



All sessions are eligible for CME credit.

Next Session: Bonus Session

Gastroenterology

Thursday, September 19th

12:00pm to 1:00pm

[Link to Training](#)



BILHPN CDI in-person 1:1 provider coding Training

In addition to the BILHPN CDI team running their monthly coding training series found below in our newsletter, the CDI team is now offering 1:1 virtual or in person provider/coder coaching.

More about this opportunity can be found [here](#).



Last Year, Yankee Alliance members saved over \$110 million dollars. Joining Yankee Alliance brings you savings when buying:

- Medical, surgical and pharmacy supplies
- Office supplies and furniture
- PPE
- Administrative, financial and management services

For more information, please contact **Leslie Levine, Operations Administrator, PPLLC** at llevine5@bidmc.harvard.edu

<https://www.yankeealliance.com/>

Specials this month!

Yankee Alliance is currently offering savings during World Immunization Month on Continuum of Care related products:

- Covid 19 Vaccines
- Influenza Vaccines
- Respiratory Syncytial Virus Vaccines
- Plasma Products, Specialty Products, and More!

For full details and offerings, click [here](#)

Please reach out to me if you have any questions or concerns. I can be reached via email at PLLCAdministration@bidmc.harvard.edu or leave me a message at (617) 632-9728 and I will get back to you.



Deb Schoenthaler, Executive Director



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