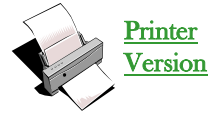


THE SENTINEL

A PUBLICATION OF THE CENTER OF SERVICE AND INFORMATION FOR
SENIOR MEDICARE PATROL (SMP) PROJECTS



ACL UPDATE

Reports Measure Performance, Prevention

With one national training meeting over, planning will begin for next year's meeting. The OIG Report was abbreviated this year due to data transitions. New research will measure SMP prevention.

NEWSROOM

MIPPA Offers Resources for SMPs

The Medicare Improvements for Patients and Providers Act helps people with Medicare save on their health care costs. The National Council on Aging's Center for Benefits Access serves as the resource center for MIPPA grantees. SMPs may find some of the tools and resources developed by and for MIPPA grantees to reach low-income Medicare beneficiaries useful in their work.

Allies to Help Reach Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders

The National Asian Pacific Center on Aging is producing training webinars, in-language outreach and education materials, and a toolkit to help SMPs and SHIPs better serve and reach limited English proficient AAPI Medicare beneficiaries. Three outreach and education materials will be in 10 different AAPI languages.

Medicare for People Under Age 65

The Center for Medicare Advocacy is undertaking an innovative, model project to help SHIPs and SMPs reach and serve Medicare beneficiaries under age 65. It works with partner organizations to help SHIPs and SMPs learn about the needs of Medicare's younger beneficiaries and to increase the resources available so they can better communicate with and support these Medicare beneficiaries.

New Tools Available in the Fight Against Medicare Fraud in Highly Vulnerable Communities

Cultural competency is a key to success in the limited English proficient Hispanic community. The National Hispanic Council on Aging works with SMP and SHIP staff members nationwide to educate Hispanic beneficiaries about Medicare and combat Medicare fraud in LEP communities.

SMP Rural CoP: A Promising Intervention for Peer-to-peer Sharing and Learning

In a follow-up to the February story, this article provides an overview of suggested rural outreach mediums and locations, summarizes findings from a preliminary evaluation of the CoP, and highlights five initiatives and presentations from the CoP.

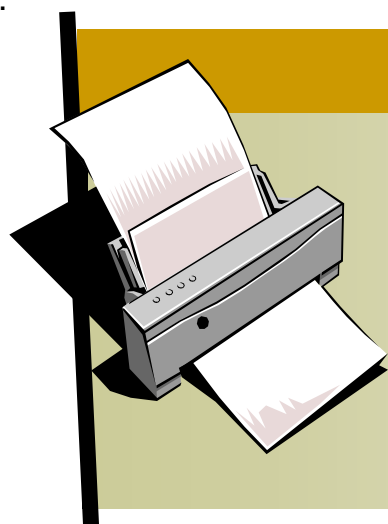
Coverage for Dental Services: Exclusions, Exceptions, and the Need for Oral Care in Nursing Homes

Medicare doesn't cover most dental care, but there are exceptions: If an otherwise noncovered service is performed by a dentist as incident to and as an integral part of a covered procedure or service, the total service may be covered. This story is the result of a question asked on the July mentor call.

SMP BEST PRACTICES

Case in Progress: Mobile Clinic Charges

A beneficiary who was called and convinced to attend a "stroke prevention" screening at a church was surprised when Medicare didn't pay for a physical that she had later at her doctor's office. The screening had been billed as a physical. The beneficiary may need to pay her doctor while awaiting the outcome of the appeal.



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