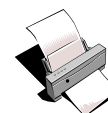


THE SENTINEL

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



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ACL UPDATE

[Spring Arrives with News of Funding, Brochures, Training Meeting](#)

SMP receives more funding, new SMP brochures and Personal Health Care Journals will be designed and printed, and registration is open for the August SMP/SHIP National Training Meeting.

NEWSROOM

[Federal Report Roundup: Health Care Anti-fraud Efforts Recover \\$2.4 Billion](#)

SMP saves more than \$122 million. ACL works to quantify the effect of preventative education. On average in FY 2013-2015, \$6.10 was recovered for every dollar spent from the HCFAC program. The FY 2015 Medicare FFS program improper payment rate was 12.1 percent, representing \$43.3 billion in improper payments. Medicare tops the list of all federal program improper payments.

[Self-Administered Drug Denials Confuse Beneficiaries](#)

Beneficiaries often assume that Medicare covers medications they receive during an emergency room visit, outpatient procedure, or observation stay under Part B. They don't know that, with some exceptions, Part B does not pay for drugs that patients usually self-administer. Here are four things SMPs can do to help beneficiaries.

[Fraudsters Cash in on Medicare Prescription Drugs: HHS Inspector General Takes Aim](#)

Medicare Part D fraud is an opportunity that scam artists can't seem to pass up, as several cases illustrate. OIG concerns related to Part D are aimed at costs to taxpayers, medical identity theft, patient harm, and rising opioid (narcotic) deaths.

[Federal Elder Justice Task Forces Coming to 10 States](#)

Ten regional Elder Justice Task Forces will focus on nursing homes that provide grossly substandard care.

continued

SMP BEST PRACTICES

Operation Red File Helps in Medical Emergencies, Gives Fraud Info

The Kansas SMP creates a packet that connects potentially life-saving beneficiary health records with SMP, volunteer, and other information. The overwhelming community response has proven that the packets are a huge hit.

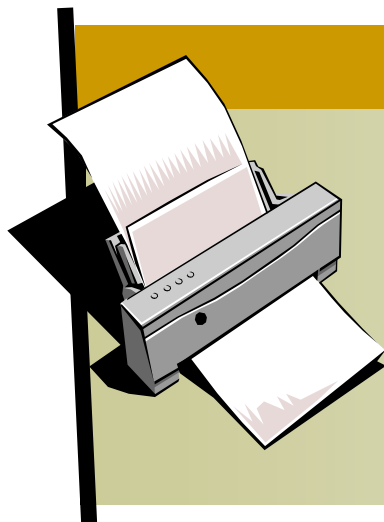
Partnership Yields Benefits for SMP and SHIP

A joint effort has led to 221 additional volunteers for Ohio SMP. The SMP has better access to rural hard-to-reach populations. It's even led to SMP being awarded Partner of the Year.

SMPs Create National Video

The Ohio and Kentucky SMPs team up to create a video that describes Medicare fraud problems and solutions. Other SMPs can customize it for their programs.

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Editor

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