

**Provider Education and Training Quarterly Meeting
Minutes
July 17, 2002**

Attendees:

Anita Antkowiak, CareFirst of MD; Kim Droboniku, CareFirst of MD; Jason Kerr, CareFirst of MD; Sandra Sigler, CareFirst of MD; Donna Waters, CareFirst of MD; Ella Glover, CareFirst of MD; Diane Baker, CareFirst of MD, Bill Foster, St. Agnes Health Care; Larry Collier HCR Manor Care, Rhonda Tucker JHHS, Randy Zimmerman JHHS, Brain Ward, I.H.S., Erma Brutscher, JHHS, Don Doyle, CareFirst of Maryland,

Anita Antkowiak, supervisor of Provider Education and Training, welcomed everyone to the meeting. Marcie Dashevsky from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) was introduced as our new CMS representative, who joined us via conference call. Round table introductions were made. Anita explained the purpose of the meeting, and announced to the group that Donna Waters had accepted a position in the Benefit Integrity Unit of CareFirst of Maryland Medicare A.

CMS Updates- Marcie announced CMS's new Outreach Administrator, Sonia Madison. Marcie also shared with the group that CMS will sponsor a National Nursing Home Quality Initiative satellite conference on September 20, 2002. Providers will have the opportunity to ask questions during this broadcast, to register contact- <http://cms.internetstreaming.com>. Marcie also reminded the group of the Open Door Forum, which allows providers to express concerns and issues directly to CMS. CMS will examine resuming bulletin/newsletters mailings for fiscal year 2003.

FI Updates-

Jason Kerr reviewed our web site updates and changes. He also announced our first Claims Correction Workshop, which will be held July 31, 2002. This workshop will include working frequently returned reason codes, additional development requests, helpful hints for customer service, navigating around our web site and other helpful resources. Web site seminar registration and feedback will be coming in the near future.

Kim Droboniku reminded the group that bulletin and Intermediary News will not resume mailing until at least September 30, 2002.

Anita Antkowiak reviewed the top ten reason codes that are returned to providers, she asked for providers to share this information with the provider community.

Diane Baker informed the group that Negotiated Lab Rulemaking will begin for lab services effective 11/25/02. More information is available in Program Memorandum AB-02-087, dated June 26, 2002.

Round Table Discussion:

Rhonda Tucker gave feed back concerning our Basics and Advanced Medicare Seminars, she felt the Basic class was very helpful for new employees, the Advanced session could involve more claims resolution.

Don Doyle let the group know some of the problems Maryland hospital are having are due to OPPS edits that Maryland are not subject to, and asked that the group informed the provider community.

Follow –up issues:

Erma Brutscher asked if a response on the Correct Coding Initiative (CCI) edits not effecting Non-OPPS facilities could be sent in writing directly from CMS.

Anita Antkowiak asked CMS if the group could get something in writing concerning the patient signing an ABN, when they are seen in the emergency department.

Erma Brutscher asked if providers could receive a report from Medicare indicating claims that do not cross over to our trading partners.

The next meeting will be on Wednesday, October 16, 2002.