

HCCA

**P14 Discover How Managed Care Plans are
Responding to their Obligations in
Detecting, Investigating and Preventing
Fraud and Abuse in the Health Care System**

Sunday, March 26, 2017 9AM to 12AM

Mary Beach
Caron Cullen
Katherine Leff
Bernadette Underwood

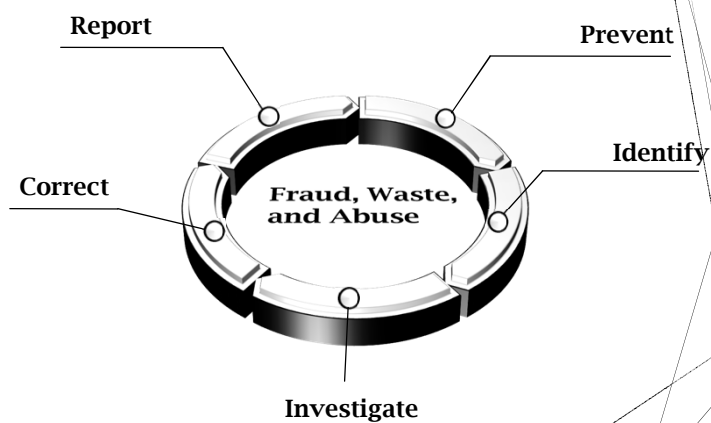
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AGENDA

- ▶ SIU Mission
 - FWA Prevention
 - FWA Identification
 - FWA Investigation
 - Correction
 - Reporting
- ▶ Program Integrity/Compliance

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SIU MISSION



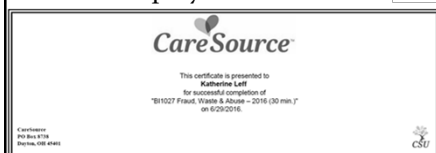
FWA PREVENTION

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PREVENTION

Education & Training

- Members
- Providers
- Employees



FRAUD, WASTE & ABUSE

Health care fraud, waste and abuse hurts everyone including members, providers, taxpayers and CareSource. As a result, CareSource has a comprehensive fraud, waste and abuse program in our Special Investigations Department, help us by reporting questionable situations.

PROVIDER FRAUD, WASTE & ABUSE

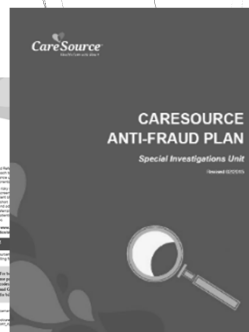
Some examples of provider activity that is monitored for fraud and abuse:

- Prescribing drugs, equipment or services that are not medically necessary
- Billing more than once for the same service
- Intentionally using improper medical coding to receive a higher rate of reimbursement
- Billing for services not provided
- Scheduling more frequent return visits than are needed
- Unbundling services to obtain higher reimbursement
- Purchasing drugs from outside the U.S.
- Prescribing high quantities of controlled substances without medical necessity



2016 CareSource Health Partner Manual

CareSource



FROM THE OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL

The Office of the Inspector General (OIG) has created free educational materials to Medicare programs and program beneficiaries from fraud, waste and abuse:

OIG Booklet:

[A Booklet to Avoid Medicare and Medicaid Fraud and Abuse Booklet](#)

OIG Power Point:

[A Booklet for New Physicians](#)

- Training Programs
- Website
- Member/Provider Manuals
- Newsletters
- Anti-fraud Plan
- OIG Links

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PREVENTION

Reporting Mechanisms

- FWA Hotlines
- Ethics & Compliance Hotlines



- Anonymous
- Confidential
- Non-retaliation

Easy Compliance Reporting

Ethics and Compliance Reporting

Anonymous:

Hotline: 877-LINKCSM or 877-546-5276

Website:

<http://caresource.safe2say.info>

Fraud, Waste, and Abuse Reporting

Anonymous:

877-725-4583 (or internally dial ext. 2300)

Write to: (use this form)

Special Investigations Unit

PO Box 1940

Dayton, OH 45401-1940

Nonanonymous:

E-mail: fraud@caresource.com

Fax: 800-418-0248

CareSource has a non-retaliation policy. This means no action of retaliation or reprisal will be taken against anyone for reporting a complaint or inquiry. Hotlines are available 24 hours/day.

Posters
Intranet Site
Badges
Website



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PREVENTION

Programs

- Clearinghouse Instructions
- Coding Assist
- Clinical Edits
- Provider Education Letters
- Provider Pre-pay review
- Claim Line Pre-pay Review



Clinical Edits

- ▶ Clinical editing rules
 - ▶ Rebundle
 - ▶ Duplicates
 - ▶ Modifiers
 - ▶ Mutually Exclusive
 - ▶ Invalid Coding
- ▶ Edits customized per line of business

Clearinghouse

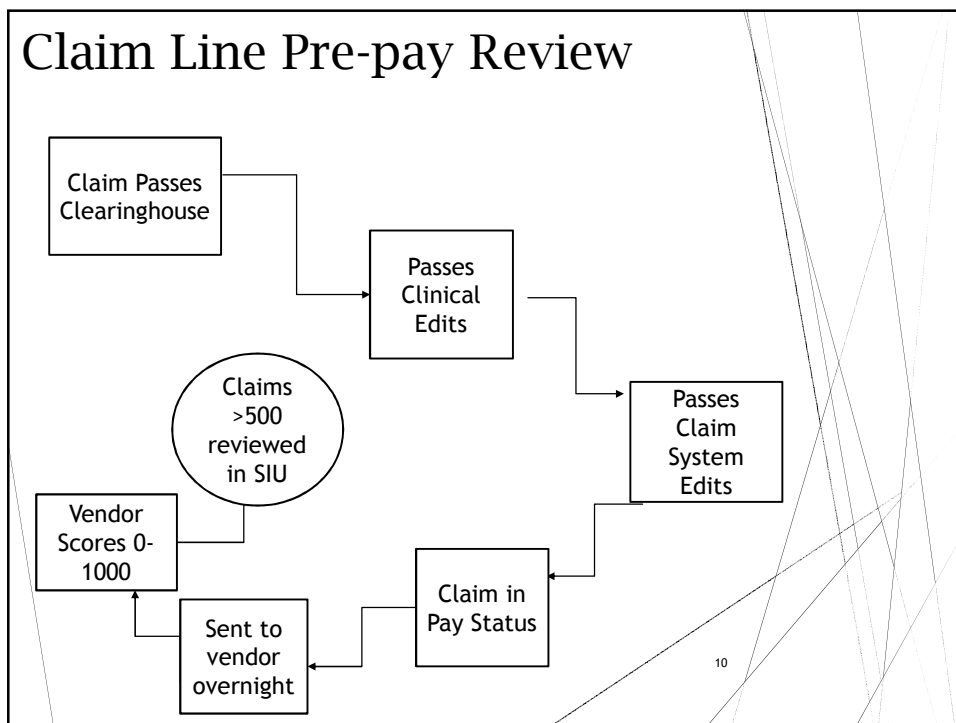
- ▶ Duplicates
- ▶ Patient sex and surgical procedure do not match
- ▶ Member mismatch

Coding Assist

- ▷ Peer Comparison base line
- ▷ Send claim back to provider in clearinghouse with notification of aberrancy
- ▷ Follow with letter to provider
- ▷ Certified coder calls provider
- ▷ Monitor for billing behavior change

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Claim Line Pre-pay Review



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Provider Education Letter

To whom it may concern:

As part of our ongoing process to identify fraud, waste, and abuse in the healthcare system, CareSource may periodically conduct an audit of medical claims data.

During a recent review of medical claims data, a pattern of unbundling ophthalmic exams and refractive services was noted. CareSource policy, which follows CMS guidelines, states that when the refractive service (92015) is performed during a routine eye exam (e.g., CPT codes 92002, 92004, 92012, 92014); the refraction is considered part of the exam and is not separately reimbursable.

Please reference CareSource Network Notification dated October 28, 2011 regarding the CareSource refraction policy. For your convenience, the notification is included with this letter.

This letter is being sent for educational purposes in the hopes that the areas of concern highlighted will be addressed by your practice.

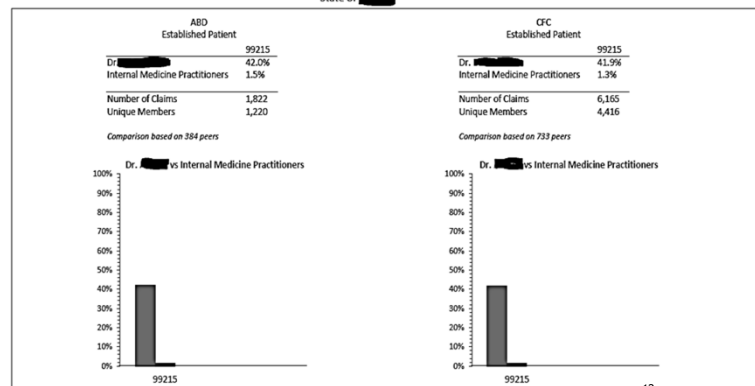
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Peer Comparison Chart

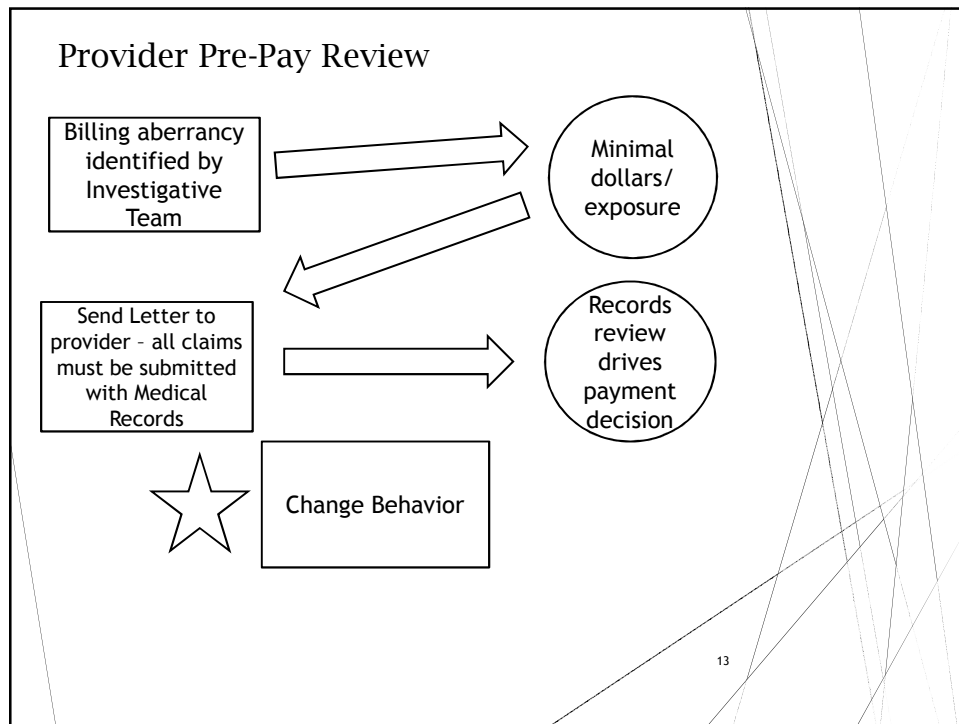


CareSource Ohio
CFC Eval and Management Peer Comparison
Dr. [REDACTED]
August 1, 2015 – August 1, 2016
As of August 10, 2016

State of [REDACTED]



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PROVIDER PREPAY NOTIFICATION LETTER

[DATE]

[PROVIDER GROUP NAME]
[PROVIDER NAME]
[ADDRESS]
[CITY, STATE, ZIP]

Dear Provider,

Please be advised that CareSource has implemented Prepayment Review of your Medicaid claims.

CareSource is mandated by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services to have an effective surveillance and utilization program that safeguards against unnecessary and inappropriate use of Medicaid services and overpayment of services. In addition, in an effort to safeguard the Medicaid program, your state office for Program Integrity requires a continuum of activities to be carried out, including pre-payment review.

Our team will be evaluating various sources of information for risk related practices. Prepayment reviews look for overutilization of services or other practices that, directly or indirectly, result in unnecessary cost to the health care industry. Examples include but are not limited to: selection of the wrong CPT, HCPCS, ICD-10 code/s for services or supplies, lack of documentation in the medical record to support services billed, billing for items or services that should not or were not provided based upon documentation in the medical record. These audits can also confirm appropriate utilization of cost effective supplies and substantiating documentation to support services provided to the member. Based upon the finding of our evaluation, you have been selected for a comprehensive medical review.

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Prepayment Review of Medicaid claims is not a sanction and is not subject to appeal. Charges for services that do not meet guidelines for reimbursement will be subject to denial.

Prepayment review will be implemented beginning on [DATE] for those claims with date of service beginning [DATE] that have not yet been paid or submitted. All claims must now be submitted with appropriate supporting documentation (including but not limited to: office notes, individualized treatment plans, operative reports, office procedures and testing results).

During the time that you are on Prepayment Review please be advised that any claim submitted without the required documentation will be denied. Should additional records be required to support services billed, you will be notified via letter and will have 30 days to submit the additional requested documentation. If CareSource is not in receipt of the additional documentation within 30 days from date of notification letter, the entire claim will be denied.

Please ensure that all documentation sent to CareSource is in paper format and photocopied as single-sided copies to the following address:

CareSource
Attention Prepayment Review Team
PO Box XXXX
Dayton, Ohio 45401-XXXX

Please do not submit appeal requests until claim has been processed and decisioned.

If you have any question about submission of claims, please contact ----- via email to -----@CareSource.com or via phone to (937) --- -- --.

Sincerely,

CareSource Provider Pre-Pay Team

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PREVENTION

Federal Laws

- False Claims Act
- Prohibited Affiliations
- Disclosures
- Stark - Physicians Self-Referral
- Anti-kickback
- Civil Monetary Penalties
- Criminal Health Care Fraud Statute

EXCLUSION FROM PARTICIPATION IN ALL FEDERAL HEALTH CARE PROGRAMS



Effective Date	Last Review / Revision Date	Next Annual Review Date
05/20/15	02/20/17	02/20/18
Attachments		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	
Department	Process Owner	Policy Inventory No.
SHU	Katherine Leff	FW-18

Click to select product line: All Lines of Business excluding Marketplace

Click to select corresponding Note: All States Administered by the Plan

A. POLICY / PROCEDURE TITLE

Program Integrity - Prohibited Affiliations

B. DESCRIPTION / PURPOSE



Effective Date	Last Review / Revision Date	Next Annual Review Date
06/20/08	02/20/17	02/20/18
Attachments		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	
Department	Process Owner	Policy Inventory No.
SHU	Katherine Leff	FW-18

Click to select product line: All Lines of Business

Click to select corresponding Note: All States Administered by the Plan

A. POLICY / PROCEDURE TITLE

SHU - Federal and State Anti-Kickback Laws and Stark Law

B. DESCRIPTION / PURPOSE

To define these facts and actions that will be taken if concerns are identified.

State Laws

- False Claims Acts
- Fraud Statutes

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PREVENTION

Identity Theft

WHO TO CONTACT FIGHT BACK!

Department of Health & Human Services
Office of Inspector General Hotline



Report suspected Medicare fraud:
Phone: 1-800-447-8477 (1-800-HHS-TIPS)
TTY: 1-800-377-4950 | FAX: 1-800-223-8164
E-mail: HHSTips@oig.hhs.gov
Online: OIG.HHS.gov/fraud/hotline

Medicare Call Center and SMPs

Report questionable charges to Medicare:
Phone: 1-800-633-4227 (1-800-MEDICARE)
TTY: 1-877-486-2048 | Online: medicare.gov

You can also contact your local SMPs (formerly Senior Medicare Patrols). They work locally to empower seniors to fight health care fraud and resolve errors.
Phone: 1-877-808-2468 | E-mail: info@smppresource.org

Federal Trade Commission's Identity Theft Hotline

Report misuse of your personal information:
Phone: 1-877-438-4338 (1-877-ID-THEFT)
TTY: 1-866-653-4261 | Online: FTC.gov/idtheft

For more on medical identity theft:
www.WorldPrivacyForum.org/medicalidentitytheft.html

For more information and a printable brochure:
www.StopMedicareFraud.gov and www.OIG.HHS.gov

Medical Identity Theft & Medicare Fraud

Tips to Avoid Medical ID Theft

DETER

Protect Your Personal Information

Guard your Medicare and Social Security numbers carefully. Treat them like you would treat your credit cards.

If it's free, they don't need your number! Be suspicious of anyone who offers you free medical equipment or services and then requests your Medicare number.

It's illegal and it's not worth it! Do not let anyone borrow or pay to use your Medicare ID card or your identity.

If your Medicare card is lost or stolen, report it right away. Call Social Security at 1-800-772-1213 (TTY 1-800-325-0778) for a replacement.

DETECT

Watch Out For These Common Fraud Schemes

Just walk away if someone approaches you in parking lots, shopping centers, or other public areas and offers you free services, groceries, transportation, or other items in exchange for your Medicare number.

Simply hang up the phone if someone calls you claiming to be conducting a health survey and asks for your Medicare number.

Don't give information to telephone marketers who claim to be from Medicare or Social Security and ask for payment over the phone or Internet. They may want to steal your money.

DETER DETECT DEFEND

DEFEND

Check All Your Medical Bills, Medicare Summary Notices, Explanation of Benefits, and Credit Reports

- ▲ Were you charged for any medical services or equipment that you didn't get?
- ▲ Do the dates of services and charges look unfamiliar?
- ▲ Were you billed for the same thing twice?
- ▲ Does your credit report show any unpaid bills for medical services or equipment you didn't receive?
- ▲ Have you received any collection notices for medical services or equipment you didn't receive?

Get help reading your Medicare Summary Notice at www.medicare.gov/basics/SummaryNotice.asp
Get a free credit report each year by calling 1-877-322-8228

Report Medicare Fraud and Medical Identity Theft

- ▲ If you spot unusual or questionable charges, contact your health care provider. It may just be a mistake.
- ▲ If your complaint is not resolved by your provider, report the questionable charges to Medicare.
- ▲ If you suspect Medicare fraud, contact the Department of Health & Human Services Office of Inspector General.
- ▲ If you think someone is misusing your personal information, contact the Federal Trade Commission.

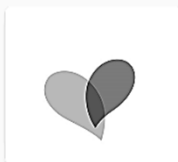
See back cover for contact information

PREVENTION

Fraud Alerts

CareSource

MEMBERS PREMIERS ABOUT US MY CARESOURCE LOGIN



Members

MEMBERS

OHIO
GEORGIA
INDIANA
KENTUCKY
WEST VIRGINIA
NURSE ADVICE LINE

FRAUD ALERT: HHS OIG Hotline Telephone Number Used in Scam

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Office of Inspector General (OIG) recently confirmed that the HHS OIG Hotline telephone number is being used as part of a telephone spoofing scam targeting individuals throughout the country.

LEARN MORE



WELCOME OHIO MEMBERS

Learn more about your Medicaid, Marketplace, Medicare Advantage or CareSource MyCare Ohio plan.

OHIO MEMBERS



WELCOME INDIANA MEMBERS

Learn more about your HP, HMO, Marketplace or Medicare Advantage plan.

INDIANA MEMBERS



WELCOME WEST VIRGINIA MEMBERS

Learn more about your CareSource Marketplace plan.

WEST VIRGINIA MEMBERS



WELCOME GEORGIA MEMBERS

Learn more about your Georgia Families Medicaid, PeachCare for Kids or Planning for Healthy Babies plan.

GEORGIA MEMBERS



WELCOME KENTUCKY MEMBERS

Learn more about your Medicaid, Marketplace or Medicare Advantage plan.

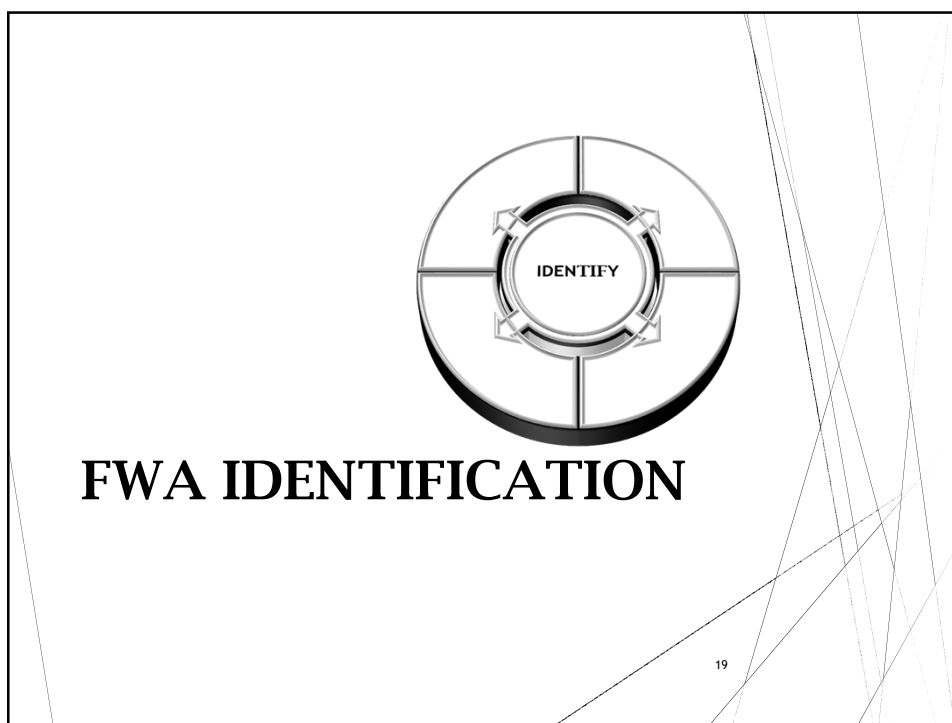
KENTUCKY MEMBERS



NURSE ADVICE LINE

You can call CareSource 24 any time of the night or day - 24 hours a day, 7 days a week - to talk with a registered nurse.

NURSE ADVICE LINE



Creating an Effective Program Integrity Program - Stakeholders

<p>Internal</p> <p><u>FWA Awareness and Collaboration</u></p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 45%;"> <p>Compliance Department</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fraud Helpline (internal and external) • Fraud Tips • PCO and RMM collaboration <p>Pharmacy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PBM • Audits/investigations <p>Provider Contracting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Credentialing • Sanctioned Providers <p>Health Care Analytics</p> <p>Anti-Fraud Tools</p> </div> <div style="width: 45%;"> <p>Health Plan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HP Leadership • Gov't Relations • Provider Relations • HCMS <p>Clinical Services</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appeals and grievances • Medical Directors • Quality of care issues • Coding and policy changes </div> </div>
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Internal Identification Sources

- ▶ Compliance
 - ▶ Fraud Hot Line - Internal and External
 - ▶ Associate FWA Training
- ▶ Provider Contracting
 - ▶ Credentialing
 - ▶ Sanctioned Providers
- ▶ Health Plan
 - ▶ Government Relations
 - ▶ Provider Relations
 - ▶ Health Care Management Services

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Internal Identification Sources

- ▶ Pharmacy
 - ▶ PBM
- ▶ Clinical services
 - ▶ Appeals and Grievances
 - ▶ Medical Directors
 - ▶ Quality of Care Issues
 - ▶ Coding and Policy Changes
- ▶ Health Care Analytics
 - ▶ Costs Containment

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Internal Identification Sources

- ▶ Special Investigations Unit
 - ▶ Anti-Fraud Tools
 - ▶ Post-payment Review
 - ▶ Pre-payment Review

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FICO® Insurance Fraud Manager

[Home](#)
[Review Claims](#)
[Review Providers](#)
[Review Procedures](#)
[Add Suspect](#)
[Investigations](#)

Review medical claim

Expand all sections

Claim

- Claim ID
- Claim lines 2
- Overall score 989
- Total billed \$34,590.00
- Total paid \$25,797.29
- Total allowed \$25,797.29

Provider

- Provider ID
- Performing provider name
- Doing business as
- Performing provider score 989
- Performing provider NPI

Member

- Member ID
- Member name
- Gender
- Date of birth
- Age

Analysis

▼ High Allowed Day

This analysis looks at total dollars allowed for a member on a particular day given the procedures performed on the member.

Score 989	Paid on day \$25,797.29
Member	Claim lines on day 2
From date Jul 11, 2016	Allowed standard deviation \$8.25

Claim	Line	Procedure	Modifiers	Diagnosis	Type of service	Paid	Day average	Day standard deviation	Procedure average	Provider ID	Units
	2	02790		View	UO	\$25,744.95	\$170.89	87.885	\$89.21		300
	1	99213	TH	View	OBVD	\$52.34	\$80.30	74.762	24 \$52.24		1

FICO FICO Insurance Fraud Manager Dale Hockenberry (Dale.hockenberry@carinsource.com)

Home Review Claims Review Providers Review Procedures Add Suspect Investigations Reports Administration

Review Providers (medical)

Overall Provider Score

Scoring period: Sep 1, 2015 - Aug 31, 2016

Sort by: **Score** Filter

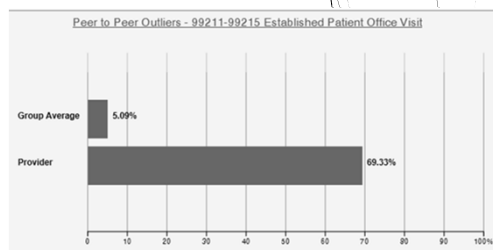
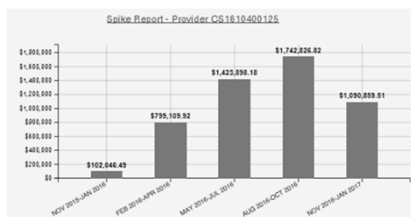
View mode: **Table view**

Displaying page 1 of 687 (384 results)

Provider ID	Score	Name	Declared specialty	Data/Item specialty	Provider investigations	Paid	Claim lines	Procedures	Members	Participating status	Tax ID	Reasoncode 1	Reasoncode 2	Reasoncode 3	Reasoncode 4	Reasoncode 5
999		Internal Medicine	Family Practice		1	133975.8	2,450	109	732	Y	94365082	Procedure Group I- Orthotics / Prosthetics	Procedure Group I- Orthotics / Codes (Temporary- Vacancies (EPD / Chen)	ICD-History Pointing and Certain Other Consequences of External Causes	Procedure Group 20000- 29999 Surgery- Musculoskeletal	Procedure Group 70010- 79999 Radiology
999		Certified Nurse Practitioner	Certified Nurse Practitioner		1	72712.31	730	18	82	Y	432425619	Procedure Group I- Orthotics / Prosthetics	Procedure Group II- Durable Medical Equipment	Member Based Allowed Volume	Procedure Group Mix	Activity in Place of Service 2 (Home)
996		Internal Medicine	Internal Medicine		1	311396.28	199	5	58	Y	94393583	Allowed Volume	Member Based Allowed Volume	Per Member Per Day Allowed	Procedure Group (U-) Drugs, Injections and ...	ICD- Diagnosis of the Nervous System

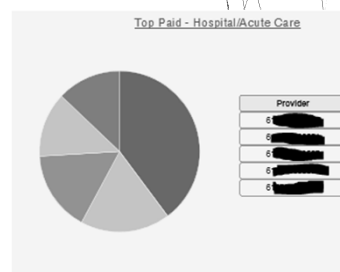
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LEXIS POST-PAY



Rule Spotlight - DMERR001 - Possible excessive rental DME charges

Provider ID	CLI	Flag Count	Provider Charged Amount	Provider Paid Amount ±
1	77	416	\$1,419,180.00	\$1,243,534.26
2	80	4,402	\$1,994,488.30	\$945,634.64
3	80	4,842	\$1,858,640.10	\$791,090.00
4	78	596	\$465,234.70	\$226,727.40
5	67	128	\$207,965.76	\$155,796.12
6	67	460	\$157,986.10	\$70,599.00
7	61	65	\$107,300.00	\$58,931.96
8	70	37	\$108,256.00	\$53,429.00
9	69	74	\$107,532.41	\$50,599.60
10	64	714	\$153,041.96	\$50,259.89



DATA ANALYTICS

The screenshot displays the LexisNexis Health Care Portal interface. On the left, a sidebar lists various reports under the 'Medical Reports' category, including items like 'HOSP0000 - Revenue Code 270 Claims by Highest Paid Status, No Place of Service' and 'MED0000 - Compromised Critical Care Codes'. The main content area is titled 'CMS.gov | healthcare fraud prevention partnership' and 'Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services'. Below this, there's a section for 'Generalized Data Studies I' with a list of study types and names, such as 'Bilateral Procedures', 'Duplicate Claims Detection', 'J-Codes', 'Lucentis - Avastin', 'Mobile Diagnostic X-Ray', 'NCCI Edit Results', 'Ophthalmology', and 'Referring Provider Relationships'. To the right, a 'CMS Health' dashboard is visible, showing various charts and data points. Handwritten annotations include 'Numerous Reports' pointing to the sidebar, 'HFPP - Numerous Studies' pointing to the 'Generalized Data Studies I' section, and 'Pharmacy Controlled substance High utilization reports' pointing to a specific report in the CMS Health dashboard.

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CASE TRACKING SOFTWARE

The screenshot shows the Case Tracking Software interface. On the left, a sidebar contains navigation links for 'Records', 'Reports', 'Maintenance', and 'Logout'. Below these, there are sections for 'Case Entry', 'My Responsibility', 'Pending Cases', 'Open Cases', and 'All Cases'. The main content area is titled 'i-Sight Case Record' and displays a list of case records. Each record includes fields for 'Case #', 'Status', 'Business', 'Owner', 'Recorded', and 'Due'. A table below the list shows details for a specific case, including 'Claimant Contact Data', 'Member Information', 'Allegation Information', 'Agency Notifications', 'Contacts', 'Investigation Data', 'Report Types', 'Actions', 'Activities', 'Resolution', 'History', and 'Attachments'. Handwritten annotations include 'Dashboard' with an arrow pointing to the sidebar and 'Case Details' with an arrow pointing to the 'i-Sight Case Record' section.

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External Identification Resources

- ▶ NHCAA
 - ▶ Latest Schemes and Trends
 - ▶ SIRIS Database
 - ▶ Training Opportunities
- ▶ Health and Human Services – Office of Inspector General
 - ▶ Sanctioned List
 - ▶ Fraud Alerts
 - ▶ Task Force Referrals

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External Identification Resources

- ▶ State Regulatory Agencies
 - ▶ Program Integrity Unit
 - ▶ Insurance Fraud Division
 - ▶ Medicaid Fraud Control Unit
- ▶ CMS
 - ▶ MEDIC Fraud Alerts
 - ▶ Part C & D Work Group Meetings
- ▶ FBI
 - ▶ Task Force Meetings

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External Identification Resources

Medicare Fraud Strike Force Locations



Source: Medicare Fraud Strike Force, HHS Office of Inspector General,
<https://oig.hhs.gov/fraud/strike-force/>

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External Identification Resources

Healthcare Fraud Prevention Partnership

The HFPP began in 2012 and started with approximately 20 Partners.

Today the HFPP has grown to 75 Partners, including federal agencies; private payers; and anti-fraud, waste, and abuse associations.



Exchange of Information
Leverage Analytic Tools

Forum to share successful practices and effective methodologies



Healthcare Fraud Prevention Partnership

- Studies & Algorithms
- In-person regional information sharing sessions
- Real-time provider alerts
- Fraud scheme notifications



Healthcare Fraud Prevention Partnership (HFPP)

7 Federal Agencies	40 Private Plans	11 Associations	17 State & Local Partners
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Department of Defense, Defense Health Agency • Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), Associate Deputy Secretary's Office • Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) • Department of Health and Human Services, Office of the Inspector General (HHS OIG) • Department of Justice (DOJ), Criminal Division • Department of Justice, Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) • United States Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aetna • Amerigroup • Anthem • AvMed • BCBS of Alabama • BCBS of Kansas • BCBS of Louisiana • BCBS of Nebraska • Blue Shield of California • CareFirst • Blue Cross Blue Shield • Care Source • Centene • Central Health Plan of California • Cigna • Emblem Health • Fidelis Care NY • Florida Blue • Geisinger Health Plan • Health Alliance Plan • HealthCare • Wellcare 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • America's Health Insurance Plans (AHIP) • American Insurance Association (AIA) • Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association (BCBSA) • Coalition Against Insurance Fraud (Coalition) • Delta Dental Plans Association • National Association of Insurance Commissioners (NAIC) • National Association of Medicaid Directors (NAMAD) • National Association of Medicaid Fraud Control Units (NAMFCU) • National Business Group on Health (NBGH) • National Health Care Anti-Fraud Association (NHCAA) • National Insurance Crime Bureau (NICB) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arkansas: Office of the Medicaid Inspector General • Arizona: Medicaid Office of the Inspector General, Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System • California: Department of Healthcare Services • Connecticut Department of Social Services • Illinois: CountyCare, Cook County HHS • Illinois: Department of Healthcare and Family Services, Office of Inspector General • Iowa: Insurance Fraud Bureau (NAIC's representative on the Information Sharing Committee) • Maryland: Department of Health and Mental Hygiene • Massachusetts: Office of the State Auditor • New York: Office of Medicaid Inspector General • North Carolina: Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Medical Assistance • Ohio: Attorney General's Office (NAMFCU's representative on the Information Sharing Committee) • Ohio Department of Medicaid • Oregon Health Authority • Texas: HHS Commission Office of Inspector General • Vermont: Program Integrity Unit, Dept. of Vermont Health Access • West Virginia: Bureau for Medical Services

Current Membership is at 75 Partners



FWA INVESTIGATION

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Investigative Process

- ▶ After a concern or issue is identified, then what?
- ▶ The investigation begins but...
- ▶ What are we looking for?

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WHERE DO WE START?

- ▶ Gather information!
- ▶ What kind of information?
- ▶ How do we determine if there is a credible allegation or evidence of fraud?

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DEFINITION: CREDIBILITY

Merriam Webster Dictionary

- 1: the quality or power of inspiring belief
- 2: capacity for belief
- 3: the quality of being believed or accepted as true, real, or honest

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CREDIBLE EVIDENCE

The legal definition

Credible evidence is not evidence which is necessarily true, but is evidence worthy of belief, that is, worthy to be considered by the jury. It is often natural, reasonable and probable as to make it easy to believe.

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GATHER PRELIMINARY INFORMATION (1)

- ▶ What does that look like?
- ▶ Who is involved? Provider/member/vendor.
- ▶ What is the specific issue or allegation fraud or abuse?
- ▶ What is available that makes you think there is a concern?

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GATHER PRELIMINARY INFORMATION (2)

- ▶ How much exposure does the Plan have?
- ▶ How urgent the situation is? Is there potential member harm?
- ▶ Based upon these answers, you may proceed in various ways.

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DO YOU HAVE CREDIBLE EVIDENCE TO PROCEED?

- ▶ NO. What actions do you take now?
- ▶ YES. Proceed with a Comprehensive Investigation.

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GATHER COMPREHENSIVE INFORMATION

- ▶ Review the provider / member/vendor files
- ▶ Pull 3 to 6 years of comprehensive paid and denied claims
- ▶ Research the medical necessity, CPT code and the regulation
- ▶ Determine if other providers / members are involved
- ▶ Interview the person submitting the allegation if possible

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GATHER COMPREHENSIVE INFORMATION

- ▶ Obtain medical records for analyzing
- ▶ Perform a service verification call
- ▶ Possible surveillance & onsite visit
- ▶ Prior internal complaints or external complaints documented from state or federal agencies,
- ▶ Online sources such as the internet, Facebook, LinkedIn, etc.,

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Gather Information...

- ▶ This investigative stage may also include: interviewing relevant parties such as the provider or member, obtaining signed statements from witnesses or the subject of the investigation, and reviewing a sampling of claims data.
- ▶ Review internal systems to assure it has been configured correctly (really a preventative step).

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Gather Information...

- ▶ Any action taken in the investigation stage, whether it is requesting medical records, conducting an interview, completing a telephone call, or requesting claims reports, must be documented in the case files.

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Is There Credible Evidence to Proceed?

- ▶ NO. What actions do you take now? Let it go...
- ▶ YES. Proceed with an evaluation of the facts.

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EVALUATING the INFORMATION

- ▶ What conclusions may you draw from the information and whether we have a potential FWA case or not?
- ▶ Some questions to consider: What does the information and data tell us?
 - Is there reasonable explanation for the situation or behavior that was suspected as fraudulent or abusive?
 - Would this medical treatment for this diagnosis be consistent with acceptable medical practices?
 - Do you have a statement from an independent clinician to state a contrary position?
 - What is the provider's explanation?

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QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER...

- ▶ Do we have any admission of guilt by the member or provider?
- ▶ Do we have signed statements from relevant parties, i.e., from a member, to state that the member never received the service billed?
- ▶ Is this information reliable?
- ▶ Do other factors come into play, e.g., has the member ever been diagnosed with dementia?
- ▶ Does the claim data support the allegation of inappropriate billing?
- ▶ Do you have enough information to make a decision? If so, what is the decision and what are your next steps? If not, what other information would be helpful to make a decision? Is the information available?

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REAL LIFE STORIES

Provider A

Optical

- ▶ Exposure: \$ 250,000
- ▶ Scheme: unlawfully used various providers NPI / EIN to create contracts with various MCO's in NYC and they also used the provider's information to open bank accounts / furnish the office with the best equipment available. With the help of a billing agency they managed to obtain member information to falsify medical records / claims. In this case, we were unable to directly recovery the funds as the provider was indicted.
- ▶ Civil law suit.

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REAL LIFE STORIES

Provider B

Pain Management

- ▶ Exposure: Significant Member Harm
- ▶ Scheme: Provider refused to bill health plan, required members to pay \$150 or \$200 cash per "office visit." The only service was to write a RX for controlled substances (suboxone, methodone). An E/M visit for substance use is a Medicaid covered service; member billing is prohibited.
- ▶ Initial overpayment recovery is to make the members whole.
- ▶ This case is still open pending responses from NY Office of Medicaid Inspector General (OMIG) and NY Office of Professional Medical Conduct (OPMC), Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA).

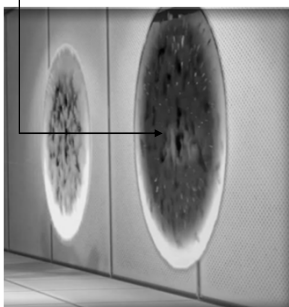
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REAL LIFE STORIES

Providers C and D

Examples

- ▶ Mama bought me a CT Scanner –
 - ▶ 6.5 Years in prison
- ▶ Tiptoeing through the portal



Member
eligibility

Guess at
member names

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INVESTIGATE

**Case
Tracking
Software**

Triage

- Data analytics
- Research
- Limited medical records request
- Interviews
- Provider education
- Case assessment
- Close case or move to investigation



Investigation

- Review Triage findings
- Report FWA to appropriate agencies
- Investigative plan
- Background checks
- Data analytics
- Interviews
- Social Media
- Medical record SVRS request
- Medical/Coding experts
- Onsite audit/review and interviews
- Law Enforcement/State Agency Collaboration
- Recommend Corrective Actions to Investigation Committee

**Compliance Committee
Board Audit and
Compliance Committee**

- Identify Risks
- Report Actions



Investigation Committee

- Present evidence
- Discuss member impact
- Approve action or require more information

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CORRECTION

55

Correct!

Provider



RECOVERY

LEGAL ACTION



**CONTRACT
TERMINATED**



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Correct for whom?

- ▶ Plan – Do we help or hurt?
- ▶ Providers – Primary Concentration
- ▶ Members – What are State or Federal guidance?
- ▶ Employees – Collaboration with HR
- ▶ Vendors – Collaboration with Contracting / Other Operational Areas

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Plan Issues

- ▶ Is your claims processing system configuration appropriate?
- ▶ What has the Plan done to contribute to potential issues?

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Provider Training & Education

- ▶ Arrange for specific training of the provider and office staff for the identified issue.
- ▶ If you are seeing trends, offer periodic coding classes, or newsletters, or faxblast to all offices

When:

- ▶ If it appears to be a lack of understanding
- ▶ If this has not been a recurring theme with this provider's claims

Provider



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Provider on Review

For the claims in questions, consider:

- ▶ Require authorizations for all services in question, or
- ▶ Review claims prior to the release, or
- ▶ Request medical records for all cases.

When:

- ▶ The issue keeps appearing and perhaps training and education did not make a difference.



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Provider Limitations

- ▶ Close Providers Panel to New Membership
- ▶ Limit availability of Provider to members.

When:

- ▶ You are working with provider to resolve issues.
- ▶ You feel it is somewhere between errors and perhaps abusive practices.



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Provider Overpayment Recovery

Consider: What claims will be processed, paid, and denied going forward? What action is needed to address past claims. Actions will vary.

- ▶ Request a refund on claims/issues in question
- ▶ Withhold the payment of future claims to recover overpayments
- ▶ Negotiate a settlement amount

When:

You reach a conclusion that the claims were paid incorrectly and/or should not be paid going forward.



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Provider Auditing

“Auditing is a formal, systematic and disciplined approach designed to evaluate and improve the effectiveness of processes and related controls. Auditing is governed by professional standards, completed by individuals independent of the process being audited, and normally performed by individuals with one of several acknowledged certifications. Objectivity in governance reporting is the benefit of independence.”

Source: Defining the Meaning of Auditing and Monitoring & Clarifying the Appropriate Use of the Terms, by Mark P. Ruppert, CPA, CIA, CISA, CHFP. Accessed at: <https://www.ahia.org/assets/Uploads/pdfUpload/WhitePapers/DefiningAuditingAndMonitoring.pdf>



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Provider Monitoring

“Monitoring is an on-going process usually directed by management to ensure processes are working as intended. Monitoring is an effective detective control within a process.”

Source: Defining the Meaning of Auditing and Monitoring & Clarifying the Appropriate Use of the Terms, by Mark P. Ruppert, CPA, CIA, CISA, CHFP. Accessed at: <https://www.ahia.org/assets/Uploads/pdfUpload/WhitePapers/DefiningAuditingAndMonitoring.pdf>



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Provider CAP

- ▶ Establish a formal Corrective Action Plan (CAP) (see template) for the Provider to include:
 - ▶ What the issue was
 - ▶ Who is the responsible party
 - ▶ What is going to be done to rectify it
 - ▶ By what date
 - ▶ Consequences if fail to implement
 - ▶ Validate

When:

- ▶ Multiple findings
- ▶ Dollar Threshold is “\$\$”



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Provider CIA

- ▶ Establish a “Compliance” Integrity Agreement with the Provider (similar to a Corporate Integrity Agreement issued by the DOJ)

When:

- ▶ Significant, multiple findings
- ▶ Dollar threshold is “\$\$\$\$”
- ▶ Termination may not be an option
- ▶ The provider is willing to work with you



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Other Provider Sanctions

- ▶ Law Enforcement
- ▶ Termination
- ▶ Legal Action
 - ▶ Civil or Criminal
- ▶ Reporting to External Agencies

**CONTRACT
TERMINATED**



LEGAL ACTION

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Other Provider Sanctions...

When:

- ▶ Provider is not willing to work with you.
- ▶ You have run out of other options.

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Employee Considerations

Work with Human Resources but consider...



- ▶ Confidentiality
- ▶ Experience in Investigations
- ▶ Disciplinary Actions
- ▶ Terminations, if needed

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Member Considerations

Is it the Health Plan's obligation to investigate and take corrective action against members?

- ▶ No!
- ▶ Prepare Documentation
- ▶ Distribute to State or Federal Regulatory Agencies
- ▶ Share with Commercial Insurance Policyholders



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Vendor Considerations

Who is managing vendors / FDRs?

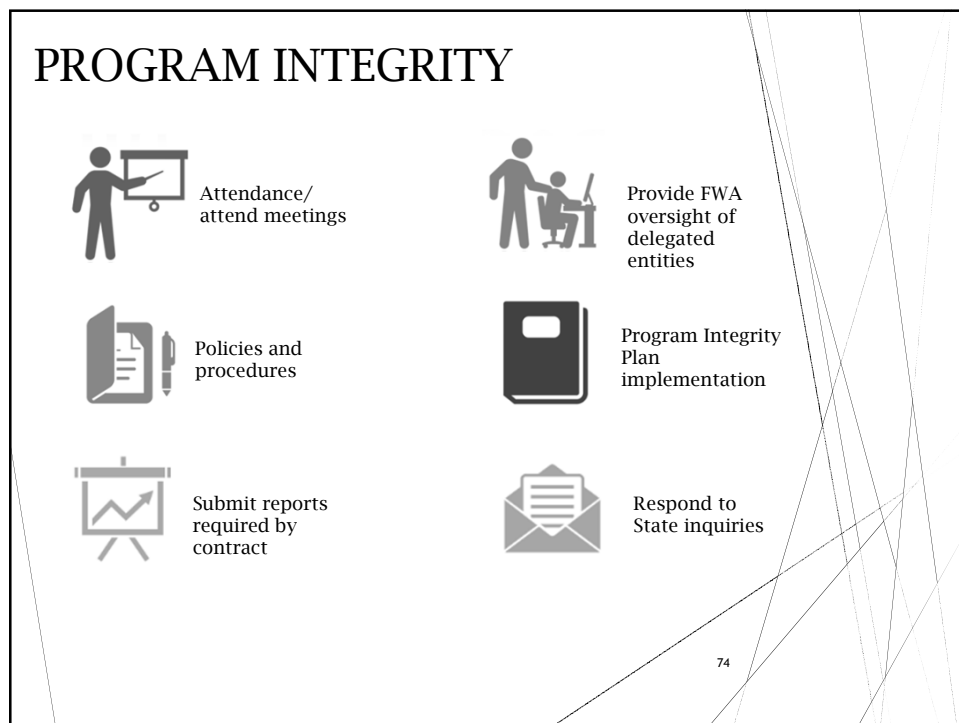
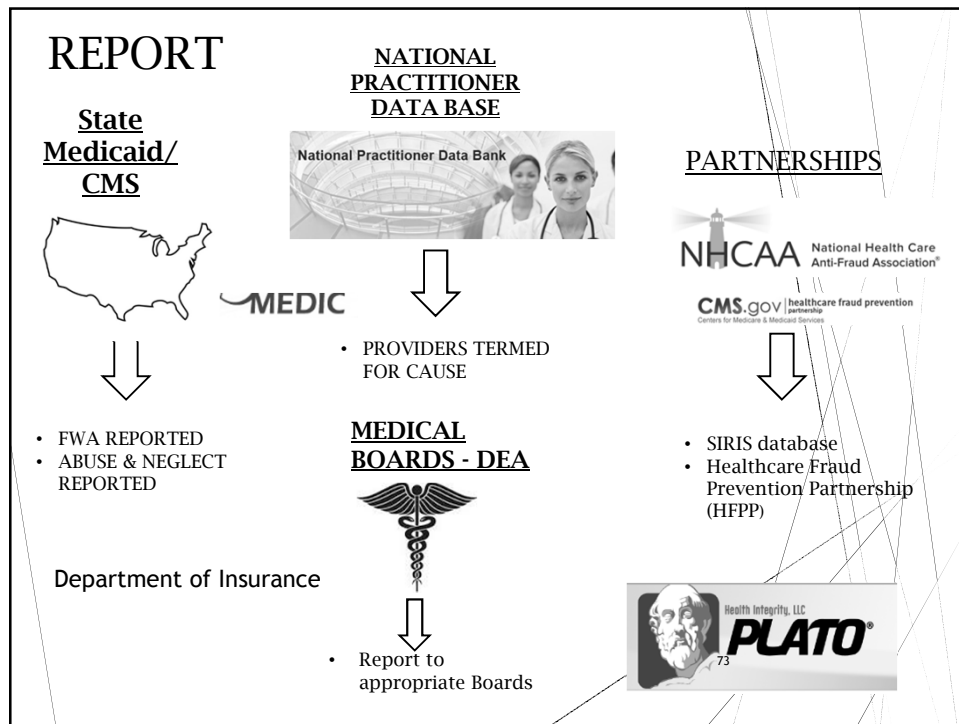
- ▶ Contractual obligations
- ▶ Validation Processes
- ▶ Variance Reports
- ▶ Oversight at an Enterprise Level



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REPORTING

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Open Discussion and Questions

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