



Opening Minds, Hands, & Hearts

Chiropractic Success Systems™
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WINTER WORKSHOP SCHEDULE

All classes will be held on Thursdays, at the Fremont Marriott (Hwy. 880 @ Fremont Blvd. South).

Practice Building Basics

February 2, 2006 9:00-4:30

Insurance Basics

February 9, 2006 8:30-5:30

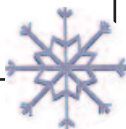
Cash Basics & Advanced Collections

February 23, 2006 9:00-4:00

Codes, Fees & EOBs

March 2, 2006 9:00-1:00

*Dates, times, and locations are subject to change without notice.



GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

January 26-29, 2006

Join me in Las Vegas at the Karl Parker Seminars. I will be conducting the Insurance/Collections classes for CE units.

Strategies for Building a Strong Team

will appear in the January 1, 2006 issue of Dynamic Chiropractic.

Welcome to 2006. I hope that you and your practices are healthy and ready for more change in 2006.

MEDICARE

• **2006 Deductible** - As of January 1, 2006, the new annual deductible for Part B is \$124.00.

• **2006 Fee Schedule** - The new fee schedule is available at www.medicarenhic.com. At first glance it appears we have all taken a hit and that the prices have decreased.

• **RAC - Recovery Audit Contract Initiative** will begin some time in 2006 and will include California, Florida and New York. This is part of the new demonstration project in which they will be tracking over and under payments. Stay tuned for more information. Information is also available at www.cms.hhs.gov.

INSURANCE CHANGES

Does not apply to CA Workers' Compensation.

- **-51**- This modifier is no longer required when you are billing for the 98940 on the same day as the 98943.
- 97020 (microwave) has been deleted. To report use 97024 diathermy.
- There is a new set of codes for "Orthotic Management and Prosthetic Management". The codes are 97760 through 97762.
- 97703 (Checkout for orthotic/prosthetic use) has been deleted. To report use 97762.
- 97504 (Orthotic(s) fitting and training...) has been deleted. To report use 97760.
- Acupuncture codes 97811, 97813 and 97814 have been revised.

BLUE SHIELD-ACN

This is still a very hot and sensitive topic. If you did not read the facts in the fall 2005 *Strategies* do so now. It is available on our website: www.chiropracticsuccesssystems.com. Here are additional things to be aware of:

You are not required to be or become an ACN provider to participate in this study.

If a patient has a limited number of visits that are covered each year, continue to send in the required paper work even after they have exhausted their benefits, other wise Blue Shield and ACN will think that is all that was required.

When you receive your notice form ACN stating their opinion on whether or not the number of visits is within their idea of what is reasonable, file it away.

PRACTICE TIP UPDATES

To ensure that your records are current it is strongly recommended that all patients complete an up-date form on their first visit of each year. The easiest way to ensure that one is completed is to attach the form to every active patient's treatment/travel card on January 2, 2006.

Things to you should look for:

- New addresses and or phone number including area code for work and home
- New employer (Does the new employer have a Pre-Designated Chiropractor form on file?)
- Do they have insurance that may cover chiropractic in your office? Or has it changed?
- Verify that their chiropractic benefits the same this year as last? New deductible amount or coverage?
- Double-check that the diagnosis and date of on-set are correct for all non-work related and personal injuries.

If you do not have our Forms and Letters CD and would like an Up-Date form, please let me know and I will send you one by email or fax.



Keeping a Watchful Eye on the California Chiropractic Industry