



Opening Minds, Hands, & Hearts

Chiropractic Success Systems™

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GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

- There are no public seminars this fall. The next series will begin in February 2007 in the San Jose area.
- If you or your team needs immediate training, we will come to you! Just give us a call at (831) 438-0861.
- Look for *Children-The Future of Your Practice* in the October 26, 2006, issue of *Dynamic Chiropractic*.
- Join me in Anchorage Alaska for the Alaska Chiropractic Society 2006 Convention October 6-8, 2006.



CMS-1500 (08/05) UP-DATE

The date for mandatory use has changed to April 2, 2007. Remember to check with your software company to find out what they are doing to accommodate this new form and if you have not already done so, get your NPI number now. When you apply on line you most likely will receive it within 2 weeks.

To apply on-line go to
<https://nppes.cms.hhs.gov>.

Another option when it comes to preparing for the new form is to use a clearinghouse to do electronic billing for you. In some cases there is no need to upgrade your software because they take the billing information and send it to the carriers in the new format.

CALIFORNIA WORKERS' COMPENSATION

• LIEN FILING FEES REPEALED

As of 7/1/06 you are no longer required to send the \$100 fee. Labor Code 4903.6 does contain conditions on the filing of liens. The Labor Code is available on line at www.dir.ca.gov/dwc.

• NEW MEDICAL-LEGAL FEES

For medical legal examinations and testimony occurring on or after July 1, 2006, the fee schedule has increase by 25%. More information can be found at the dwc's website. In addition the mileage rate for medical and medical-legal travel expenses increased on July 1, 2007, to 44.5 cents per mile.

• FREE EDUCATIONAL SEMINARS

The Division of Workers' Compensation is offering seminars to the public in English and Spanish to help injured workers receive the benefits they are entitled to. Not only would these be beneficial for your patients but you and your team would learn a lot too. For more information visit the dwc's website.

CALIFORNIA MEDICARE

• REMITTANCE ADVICES

If you are a non-participating provider who is not accepting assignment on a claim, Medicare will no longer be sending Remittance Advise Notices to you unless you request that they continue to do so.

If you wish to continue to receive RAs so you can determine if a patient received reimbursement or had their claims processed and or the claims were sent to the patient's supplemental carrier, you need to write to Medicare. Fax your written request to (213) 593-5975 and state "Please remove provider number from ERA form". Send your request on your office letterhead and be sure to include your provider ID number, doctor's name, business name, address, phone, fax, and tax ID numbers. The doctor must also sign the request.

• UP-DATED PUBLICATIONS AVAILABLE

The *Chiropractic Service Billing Guide-August 2006* has been revised. There are major changes so please read it.

The *Instructions for 1500 Claim Form-July 2006* has been revised and contains information on how to complete the new CMS-1500 (08/05) form which will be available to use as of October 1, 2006.

Finally the *Introduction to Medicare Billing Guide-July 2006* has been revised.

PRACTICE TIP-

• GETTING PATIENTS AND TEAM TO READ BROCHURES

Chances are that no matter how colorful and nice your brochures are, patients will not pick them up and read them if they think that someone will see which topics they are taking brochures on. Sherry Hodge said that when Dr. Ward placed them in the restroom that they disappeared. Just try it and see.