AMERICAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION HOUSE OF DELEGATES

Resolution: 704
(A-18)

Introduced by: New York

Subject: Non-Payment and Audit Takebacks by CMS

Referred to: Reference Committee G
(Theodore A. Calianos, II, MD, Chair)

Whereas, The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services now disallows any claim made if there is any discrepancy in the charted note; and

Whereas, In a review they will use this as evidence of false claims and demand a percentage of the yearly payment made back from the physician; and

Whereas, The patients often give us different answers to questions during different parts of the history which may then seem discordant; and

Whereas, Physicians do use a template format to make the charting less time consuming and to be able to spend more time with the patients face to face; a small error can be made; and

Whereas, We are humans, and humans make mistakes; and

Whereas, A mistake of this nature in no way proves that the physician has not spent time and effort doing the work of a physician for the patient; and

Whereas, This type of measure, although easy for a low level examiner to do, in no way reflects the quality, importance, and appropriateness of the medical care delivered; and

Whereas, This is clearly a ploy to not pay physicians for their work; or at best, delay payment which causes a substantial increase of the cost of doing billing; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That our American Medical Association seek through legislation and/or regulation policies opposing claim nonpayment due to minor wording or clinically insignificant documentation inconsistencies (Directive to Take Action); and be it further

RESOLVED, That our AMA seek through legislation and/or regulation policies opposing extrapolation of overpayments based on minor inconsistencies (Directive to Take Action); and be it further

RESOLVED, That our AMA seek through legislation and/or regulation policies opposing bundled payment denial based on minor wording or clinically insignificant documentation inconsistencies. (Directive to Take Action)

Fiscal Note: Not yet determined

Received: 04/25/18