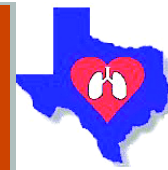


Changes on the Reimbursement Front

By: Twyla Selvidge, MS
East Texas Medical Center Regional HealthCare System



Latest Information on our LCDs



As you recall, the LCD for Cardiac Rehab and Pulmonary Rehab were in draft form and posted on the Trailblazer website on July 1, 2010 with the public comment period ending 8/15/2010.

UPDATE: **CARDIAC REHAB**

- A revised LCD was posted the last week of September. The only revision was under the title "Revision History" on the last page. Actually, this posted Cardiac Rehab LCD was the LCD that has been in effect since March 2008. The revision includes language that notifies the public of hospitals that used to be under Mutual of Omaha (now WPS) are transitioning to Trailblazer as their MAC.
- Recall that the AACVPR MAC committee had a conference call with the medical director of Trailblazer, Dr Charles Haley on July 31 whereby we submitted comments in order to implement changes to the draft version. At this time, the revised LCD that you read on the Trailblazer website may not be the final revised version.
- The current CR LCD draft remains on the website.



UPDATE: **PULMONARY REHAB**

- The draft LCD for Pulmonary Rehabilitation has not been finalized and is still posted on the website as a draft.
- Respiratory Therapy Rehabilitation has been revised and has the same worded revision under "Revision History" that the Cardiac Rehab LCD has.....I suspect both the CR and the RTR LCD revisions were posted to inform the users of LCDs that WPS was coming under the Trailblazer J-4 jurisdiction.

SUMMARY:

Government contracts are never easy to read and interpret. I do however, suspect that these most recent revisions are not the final LCDs for Cardiac Rehabilitation and Pulmonary Rehabilitation. I will be attending the AACVPR national conference October 6th-9th. I'm sure this will be discussed in the MAC Health and Public Policy Committee.

Twyla Selvidge, MS
AACVPR MAC Committee Liaison



What's That?

LCD.....Local Coverage Determination
MAC.....Medicare Administrative Contractor
WPS....Wisconsin Physician Services

