TO ALL INLAND EMPIRE AAHAM MEMBERS, ATTENDEES, VENDORS AND CORPORATE SPONSORS, etc.:

Welcome to our first edition of “News from the Empire”. I am so excited to be a part of our Chapter and to see the newsletter come to fruition! Thanks so much to Montine Moser, CPAM, CCT for taking on the daunting task of “Editor in Chief”. Please assist her in providing information you would like shared with everyone in the “Empire” and giving her your feedback.

Enjoy the Newsletter, the rest of your summer and I hope to see you in Spokane at our Winter Meeting in November. Look for additional information in this newsletter and on our web site.

Enjoy!!

Bonnie Berg, CPAM, CCT
President

Place of Service Issues Could Result in Overpayments

CMS issued a MedLearn (SE1104 03/09/2011 https://www.cms.gov/MLNMattersArticles/Downloads/SE1104.pdf) regarding the need to correctly classify the 1500 form/physician’s claim with the correct place of service. Why? If 11—office is used the full fee schedule is paid. If the service was done at the hospital, then 11 should NOT be used as the hospital is submitting their UB04 claim for the technical component of the service. The 1500 form should indicate 21—Inpatient hospital, 22—Outpatient hospital or 23—Emergency Room. This will reduce the provider’s payment as the provider did not provide the administrative overhead/staff/facilities while allowing for the UB to be paid correctly.

In some instances physicians billings systems may be ‘hard coded’ to a POS of 11, as a result the staff who is doing the data entry may not even know it is an option or how to modify the claim. There are many potential problems so ensure ‘everyone is talking on this one!’

For complete information from CMS visit www.cms.gov/place-of-service-codes/

Courtesy of Day Egusquiza—AR system. daylee1@mindspring.com or 208-423-6036.

Mark Your Calendars!

Inland Empire AAHAM Fall conference will be held November 10th and 11th at Red Lion Inn at the Park.

Currently details are under construction…please stay tuned!

Special Thank You to Our Corporate Sponsors

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For more information about becoming a Corporate Sponsor please contact Dan Jess at 208-664-8671 or djess@chapmanfs.com or Bonnie Berg at 509-788-6037 or bberg@pphdwa.org

“Our greatest glory is not in never falling but in rising every time we fall.”  Confucius
Important Dates for 2011:
• September 1—Registration deadline for November CPAT/CCAT/CCT exams
• October 3—AAHAM Officers Meeting—Las Vegas, Nevada, The Wynn
• October 4—AAHAM Officers & Committee Chairs Meeting—Las Vegas, Nevada, The Wynn
• October 4-5—AAHAM Board of Directors Meeting—Las Vegas, Nevada, The Wynn
• October 5-7—2011 ANI—Las Vegas, Nevada, The Wynn
• October 17-23—Patient Account Management week
• October 24-29—Fall CPAM/CCAM exam period
• November 10-11—Inland Empire AAHAM Fall Conference
• November 7-18 CPAT/CCAT/CCT exam period

Are you a national member? If so, please watch your mail boxes in September for your voting ballot.

Inland Empire AAHAM will be holding elections for the 2012-2013 officers!

Inland Empire AAHAM Executive Board 2010-2011

Chairman of the Board—
Berneice Thornton CPAM
Memorial Hospital (Retired)

Present—
Bonnie Berg CPAM, CCT
Prosser Memorial Hospital
723 Memorial Street
Prosser WA 99350
Office — (509)788-6037
Email — bberg@pphdwa.org

Vice Present—
Colleen Wentz CPAT
Yakima Valley Memorial Hospital
2811 Tieton Drive
Yakima WA 98902
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Secretary—
Patty Foland CCAT, CCAT
Central Washington Home Infusion
310 NW 29th Street
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Treasure—
Rosie Hartman CCAM, CCT
Wenatchee Valley Medical Center
PO Box 2087
Wenatchee WA 98807
Office—(509)664-4868 x 6298

Pop Quiz...
Listed below are definitions of commonly used terms...do you know the Acronym’s?

1. The group that established standards for electronic data interchange within healthcare.
2. An individual with financial resources and income at or below specified levels; these individuals do not have to pay their Medicare Part A/Part B premiums, deductibles or coinsurance.
3. A private firm that processes Medicare claims; formerly known as fiscal intermediary or carrier.
4. A type of indicator paired with each diagnosis in the medical record of an inpatient claim to help identify non-payable complications such as sponge left in patient.

A USA Today poll concluded that 49% of respondents said that inefficient meetings were significant time wasters each week. As I work with employees and teams, I hear the same thing.

Let's face it, productive meetings don't just happen - it takes effort and practice.

Here are 3 things you can do that can drastically reduce the amount of "wasted" time spent in poorly planned meetings:

1. Require a written agenda - if the meeting organizer hasn't provided you with a written agenda/purpose for the meeting, request one.

2. Confirm ahead of time that all key participants will be attending. If you find out that key players are not available, then suggest rescheduling.

3. Come prepared and be on time (this means at least 5 minutes early) and with the documents or information that support the agenda. Do your part to help the meeting stay on topic.

Qualify Your Meetings

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Do you have something you would like to see or share in the Inland Empire Newsletter? Please feel free to email Montine Moser at mmoser@pphdwa.org.