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January 3, 2007

Home Care Association of Colorado Management Report

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New updates added weekly to www.hcaconline.org! Check it out!

How to Get Referrals from Assisted Living Facilities and Personal Care Homes

The Home Care Association of Colorado presents

"How to Get Referrals from Assisted Living Facilities and Personal Care Homes"

A lunch & learn audio-conference

Elizabeth E. Hogue, Esq.
 Health Care Attorney & Consultant
 Burtonsville, MD

January 25, 2007
11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Home health, HME and hospice providers must get referrals for their services in order to maintain economic viability. This session will discuss:

Quick Links...

- [Save the Date for HCAC's Annual Convention: May 10-11, 2007](#)
- [Check Out HCAC's Jobs and Services Store](#)

- How to establish preferred provider arrangements through use of Preferred Provider Agreements
- Space rental agreements for satellite offices / drop sites and/or offices for coordinators / liaisons to occupy
- Patients' right to freedom of choice of providers

Save time and travel costs and include all staff members who will benefit from this timely topic!



- [Visit Our 24/7 Virtual Trade Show](#)

Register for more than one session and save!

[Click Here for Details and to Register](#)

Join our mailing list!

National Provider Identifier Deadline is Closing In; Colorado Medicaid Requests NPI Information

**The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) has reminded providers that use of the National Provider Identifier, NPI, will become mandatory May 23, 2007. CMS states: "Providers should begin to test and use their NPIs in electronic health care transactions no later than Jan. 31, 2007." [Click here for FAQs and details.](#)

**Colorado's Dept. of Health Care Policy & Financing has announced that the Medicaid fiscal agent (ACS) is collecting NPI information. If you have not already done so, please apply for your NPI. Once you have your NPI you should submit the information to the fiscal agent on your agency letterhead or by using the Provider Update form located at: http://www.chcpf.state.co.us/ACS/Pdf_Bin/Updated_Procedure.pdf. The FAQ Section is located at <http://www.chcpf.state.co.us/ACS/FAQ/Faq.asp>.

National Council on Aging Seeks Creative and Best Practices

Falls and fall-related injuries among older adults are growing public health issues, which can be addressed in part by promoting a safe home environment. The National Council on Aging in collaboration with the **Falls Free Coalition is seeking to identify and promote ten *Creative and Best Practices in Home Safety Assessment and Modification*** that serve to address fall risks and that are linked to, or part of, a more comprehensive fall prevention intervention. Programs or services that make a difference in the lives of older adults are sought. In addition to national prominence, selected programs will receive a cash award and certificate. The self-nomination process is simple using an easy to complete survey tool available on the web through the month of January at <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.asp?u=478512814179>. If you have questions contact the coalition at fallsfree@ncoa.org.

Fraud and Abuse: Recent Court Decision

by Elizabeth Hogue, Esq.

The court case, [McNutt v. Haleyville Medical Supplies, Inc.](#) (D.C. Docket No. 01 -03156-CV- AR-J), in the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 11th Circuit, September 9, 2005, makes it clear that providers who violate any requirement of the Medicare/Medicaid Programs and submit claims for reimbursement have also violated the False Claims Act. [Click here to read the entire article.](#)

Medicare Home Health Growth

Click here to read the March 2006 Medpac report on Medicare payment policy http://www.medpac.gov/publications/congressional_reports/Mar06_Ch04b.pdf

Home Health Agencies to be Paid \$50 to Complete Homebound Survey

Message from Mathematica on Home Health Independence Demonstration: Over the years, Congress has tried to address the difficult issues surrounding the requirement that Medicare beneficiaries be "homebound" in order to receive home health services. The Home Health Independence demonstration was designed to provide answers about this issue. As you may be aware, few beneficiaries participated in the demonstration and Congress now needs some other information before it can move forward on this important topic. The only source of that information is you. Mathematica has sent surveys to 50 agencies in Colorado. Agencies are encouraged to complete the survey (and will be paid \$50 for the effort). The survey information will only be used for a report to Congress on the homebound issue; it will not be used for any other purposes.

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