



A newsletter to inform NMHA members of the RAC activities in New Mexico.

The RAC Program Mission...

- To detect and correct past improper payments
- To implement actions that will prevent future improper payments

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### RAC Provider

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Face-to-Face *Open Forum* with CMS staff and RAC representatives:  
**CMS & RAC Contractor Outreach Education**  
Space is limited: If you have not already done so please register as soon as possible.  
(JHall@nmhsc.com)

November 3, 2008  
10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.  
Science & Technology Park at UNM  
800 Bradbury  
Albuquerque, NM

(major intersections University/Cesar Chavez see attached map)

### Medical Records Limits

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services staff announced limits on the number of medical records the RACs will be allowed to request from providers.

- ▶ **Inpatient Hospital, IRF, SNF, Hospice**
  - ☐ 10% of average monthly Medicare claims (max of 200) per 45 days
  - ☐ The maximum number of records RACs may request will vary by the hospital's national provider identifier
- ▶ **Other Part A Billers** (Outpatient Hospital, HH)
  - ☐ 1% of average monthly Medicare services (max of 200) per 45 days
- ▶ **Physicians**
  - ☐ Solo Practitioner: **10** medical records per 45 days
  - ☐ Partnership of 2-5 individuals: **20** medical records per 45 days
  - ☐ Group of 6-15 individuals: **30** medical records per 45 days
  - ☐ Large Group (16+ individuals): **50** medical records per 45 days
- ▶ **Other Part B Billers** (DME, Lab)
  - ☐ 1% of average monthly Medicare services per 45 days

**NOTE:** Providers with more than one NPI may face a unique record limit per NPI; however, CMS staff said they plan to provide further clarification on this policy. Our region, Region C, the first phase of the rollout may begin to receive requests for medical records or reimbursement of overpayments as early as December.

### "Look Back" Period

- ▶ "Look back" period will go back one (1) year from **October 1, 2007**
- ▶ Thereafter as the program progresses the "look back" period will go back three (3) years

### **AHA Education Series: Risk Managers and Compliance Professionals**

The AHA and the American Society for Healthcare Risk Management (ASHRM) will host a call for our hospital members featuring representatives from CMS:

#### **RAC Update & Lessons Learned from RAC Demonstration**

Audience: Risk Management and Compliance Professionals  
Presenters: **Don May**, AHA; and **Risk Managers** from Demo States  
Date/Time: **Thursday, October 23, 2 p.m. ET**  
<http://www.ashrm.org/ashrm/education/pdf/RACRegForm.doc>

For more information about CMS RAC Program, please visit: <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/RAC/>