



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

Contacts:

NMHA

Trish Garduño

Jeff Dye

505-343-0010

Bret Goebel

505-401-6780

CMS – Baltimore

Connie. Leonard

@cms.hhs.gov

Narcessa.Chesil

@cms.hhs.gov

Patricia.Fenton@cms.hhs.gov

CMS RAC Project Officer

Amy Reese

Amy.Reese@cms.hhs.gov

410-786-8627

RAC Provider

Connolly Consulting Associates, Inc.

Christine Castelli

Connolly Healthcare

The Navy Yard Corporate Center

One Crescent Drive, Suite 300

Philadelphia, PA 19112

Office: # 203.529.2315 - Fax: #

203.529.2815

Christine.Castelli@connollyhea

lthcare.com

Connolly & Associates Signs Joint Operating Agreement with TrailBlazer “Demand Letters in the Mail”

We have received word today from Christine Castelli, Principal, Healthcare Division of Connolly and Associates that they have signed the Joint Operating Agreement with TrailBlazer.

You can expect that “**demand**” letters and **medical records requests** will begin to be issued to providers **immediately**.

As a reminder, please submit your contact information form to Connolly. While completing and submitting the contact form is not a requirement, it’s in your best interest to take advantage of customizing your address and identifying a contact person at your facility.

I have attached a copy of the form for your convenience. Additionally, the form can also be found on their website www.connollyhealthcare.com/RAC.

What can providers do to get ready?

- Identify and maintain a RAC Liaison to manage correspondence
- Respond to RAC “demand” letters and medical record requests fully and within the required 45 day turn around
- Utilize the benefit of the discussion period
- Communicate, communicate, and communicate

Know Where Previous Improper Payments Have Been Found

- ▶ Look to see what improper payments were found by the RACs:
 - Demonstration findings: www.cms.hhs.gov/rac
 - Permanent RAC findings: will be listed on the RACs’ websites
 -
- ▶ Look to see what improper payments have been found in OIG and CERT reports
 - OIG reports: www.oig.hhs.gov/reports.asp
 - CERT reports: www.cms.hhs.gov/cert
 -
- ▶ Go to the New Mexico Hospital Association website for more RAC information

<http://www.nmhanet.org/financing/reimbursement/medicare/recovery-audit-contractor-rac-program/september-2009-rac-education-outreach/Combined%20CMS-Connolly%20slides%20-7%2027%2009.pdf>

Disclaimer This RAC Facts was prepared as a service to our members. This notice may contain references or links to statutes, regulations, or other policy materials. The information provided is only intended to be a general summary. It is not intended to take the place of either the written law or regulations. We encourage our members to review the specific statutes, regulations and other interpretive materials for a full and accurate statement of their contents.

