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Thread: Undercoding

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06-02-2010,	03:02 PM		#1
 LilMissCoder Contributor	Join Date: Apr 2007 Location: Cactus Coders Posts: 22		
 Undercoding			
<p>I have a doctor that is not on board with the rest of us. He states that undercoding is not as serious as overcoding and you cannot be penalized for undercoding. He is now wanting actual documentation of a case where a provider was penalized for undercoding. Does anyone have any documentation of this that you would be willing to share? If not, any help in pointing me in the right direction would be great. Thanks in advance for you help.</p> <p>Tracy</p>			
Reply With Quote			
06-02-2010,	03:43 PM		#2
 mitchelde True Blue	Join Date: Apr 2007 Location: Columbia, MO Posts: 11,786		



I have always read that you can be penalized for undercoding because it is still a fraudulent submission, and it violates the false claims act. So I would start the search there, that is so a search using key words false claims act and work it from there.

Debra A. Mitchell, MSPH, CPC-H 🙄

Reply With Quote

06-02-2010, 04:22 PM

#3

crystallena ◉
Guest

Join Date: Apr 2007
Posts: 3



As a former fraud investigator, and a current compliance auditor, I can tell you that intentionally undercoding a service IS considered fraud. Undercoding can create an unfair market advantage. Honestly, as a consumer, wouldn't you choose the less pricier option? Also, when CMS or OIG (and many private third party payers) are conducting audits, they pick samples to audit. Whether or not they proceed with a full-scale audit depends on the error rate within that sample. If only 10 records are selected for audit, and 8 of them turn out to be undercoded, the provider automatically has an error rate of 80%. The physician may then be responsible for the cost of an IRO (Independent Review Organization) or could face other penalties. Some good places to get information about fraud are oig.hhs.gov (Office of Inspector General) and NHCAA.org (National Health Care Anti-Fraud Association.)

Reply With Quote

06-02-2010, 04:42 PM

#4

LilMissCoder ◉
Contributor

Join Date: Apr 2007
Location: Cactus Coders
Posts: 22



Thanks for your responses...I'll check out the sites that you've listed.

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06-10-2010, 09:23 AM

#5

Mjones7 ◉
Networker

Join Date: Apr 2007
Location: Atlanta
Posts: 81



Here is a link to a good article

<http://www.chiroeco.com/news/chiropr...382§ion=63>
<http://medbillingncoding.com/proper-...and-cpt-coding>

Mjones7 😊

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09-24-2013, 02:27 PM

#6

maryanneheath ◊

Guru



Join Date:

Apr 2007

Posts:

166

Undercoding

Does anyone have more recent documentation/guidelines/articles that I can look at? I currently have a provider who thinks the same way.....

Thanx!

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04-09-2014, 09:55 PM

#7

drtomgrant ◊

New



Join Date:

Apr 2007

Posts:

1

couldn't get to these links, can you verify and repost?

couldn't get to these links, can you verify and repost?

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By la_0922 in forum Auditing General Discussion

Replies: 0

Last Post: 01-08-2014, 03:09 PM

[penalties for undercoding](#)

By vhaysom in forum Compliance General Discussion

Replies: 0

Last Post: 04-12-2012, 02:33 PM

[Not coding vs. undercoding](#)

By rbynmnk in forum Medical Coding General Discussion

Replies: 1

Last Post: 11-30-2010, 01:50 PM

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