

Report on Medicare Compliance Volume 27, Number 41. November 19, 2018

News Briefs: November 19, 2018

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◆ A national, two-part review of Medicare hospital inpatient billing has been added to the Work Plan, the HHS Office of Inspector General said Nov. 15. “The first part will analyze Medicare claims data to provide landscape information about hospital billing. We will determine how inpatient hospital billing has changed over time and describe how inpatient billing varied among hospitals. We will then use the results of this analysis to target certain hospitals or codes for a medical review to determine the extent to which the hospitals billed incorrect codes,” OIG said. OIG already does Medicare compliance reviews, which are comprehensive audits of hospital billing in multiple areas at the same time, and OIG is expanding them to home health agencies and other types of providers. The Work Plan update for the month has other new items, including involuntary transfer and discharge in nursing homes. Visit <https://go.usa.gov/xPGdc>.

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