



Winter 2012

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What Is Medicare Fraud?

Most Medicare payment errors are simply billing mistakes and are not the result of someone such as a physician, provider or supplier trying to take advantage of the Medicare Program.

Fraud occurs when someone intentionally falsifies information or deceives the Medicare Program for the purpose of generating more revenue. A common example of fraud is purposely billing Medicare for services which were never provided or received.

A complaint about the quality of care received from a doctor, other health-care provider, hospital, skilled nursing home facility or home health agency is not considered fraud.

Most physicians, providers and suppliers are committed to providing high-quality care to their patients and to billing Medicare only for the services they have provided. However, Medicare billing codes and processes can be very confusing, and sometimes providers simply make mistakes.

However, there are a few individuals who intentionally abuse or defraud Medicare by cheating the program. They create a negative image for honest providers.

The Hospice Medicare benefit is unique. Patients who elect Hospice Medicare receive all services, medical equipment, medical supplies and medi-

Some Examples Of Possible Medicare Fraud

- A healthcare provider bills Medicare for services never received.
- A supplier bills Medicare for equipment never received.
- Someone uses another person's Medicare card to get medical care, supplies or equipment.
- Someone bills Medicare for home medical equipment after it has been returned.
- A company offers a Medicare drug plan that hasn't been approved by Medicare.
- A company uses false information to mislead you into joining a Medicare plan.

cations at no charge to them. Hospice bills Medicare on a fixed per diem rate based on level of care.

Hospice is required to also report "the value" of nursing, social work and home health aide visits and services which are provided to the patient. The Hospice Medicare bill will reflect both the per diem billing and the value of services provided. Hospice is reimbursed only for the per diem amount. This is very confusing for the Medicare patient.

For answers to your questions or for more information about the Hospice Medicare benefit, call 866.642.0962 or visit www.hospiceofcitruscounty.org or www.hospiceofthenaturecoast.org.



The Health Center of Lake City



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with Anthony Palumbo

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Located in a quiet, established residential area, The Health Center of Lake City is not your average nursing home. On the outside, it offers a setting which is both pastoral and bucolic, featuring immaculately kept grounds.

Inside its walls, this same attention to detail is evident not only in the beautifully decorated surroundings, but also in the quality of care all of its patients receive.

“Our staff takes pride in our facility, and in the care we provide to our residents,” states Administrator Tricia Delrio, pointing out that a significant number of her team members have been at The Health Center for many years.

“We design the plan of care for each patient and their individual needs,” she emphasizes, “and we work to support a lifestyle for our residents which is as

independent as possible and modernized.” And it has been this way since The Health Center opened in 1992, always focused on excellence and providing the best quality resident care available.

As a result of this approach, many will tell you that The Health Center of Lake City has earned the reputation as the premiere nursing home facility in the Lake City area.

Averaging a 94-percent occupancy rate for its 120 beds, The Health Center is proof that a focus on customer service, a dedication to superior clinical abilities and 6-day-a-week therapy opportunities can produce success for its residents and for its operation.

Located at 560 McFarlane Avenue in Lake City, The Health Center accepts Medicare, Medicaid and Veteran’s benefits. It welcomes all to drop by for a visit or call for information (386.758.4777).

Just Some of the Many Amenities, Programs and Resident Services Available at The Health Center of Lake City

Onsite Amenities	Programs	Resident Services
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Restaurant-Style & In-Room Dining ● Private Salon ● Large & Small Resident Rooms with Private Baths 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Large, Spacious Gym ● Busy Activities Program ● Family Visiting Area 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 24-Hour Skilled Nursing Care ● Short-Term & Long-Term Care ● Alzheimer's/Dementia Care ● Behavioral Support
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Rehabilitation Services (Physical, Occupational Speech, Restorative, Respiratory & Nutritional Therapies) ● Wound Care 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Housekeeping ● Laundry Services ● Sunday Services ● Family Night ● Onsite Audiology, Dental, & Eye Care



Hospice Pharmacist Jim Finney Achieves Board Certification

Dr. Jim Finney recently earned board certification in pharmacotherapy from the Board of Pharmacy Specialties, recognized as the single agency which operates across the pharmacy profession to provide specialty certification of

pharmacists.

A graduate of the University of Georgia, Jim has practiced pharmacy in Citrus County for the past 20 years and has been pharmacist for Hospice of Citrus County/Hospice of the Nature Coast since 2004.