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TO: Orthopaedic Practice Managers
FROM: Diane Przepiorski, Executive Director
SUBJECT: Medicare Posts List of PECOS-Enrolled Physicians Online

Medicare physicians who have not updated their enrollment information in the past five years may need to fill out another application or face payment problems for ordered or referred services. The new rules, which take effect April 5, 2010 authorize Medicare to reject claims if an ordering or referring provider is not identified in Medicare's PECOS enrollment system. Thus, it is important to make sure that not only your physicians are in the PECOS database, but also providers who refer to you must be in PECOS in order for you to be reimbursed for services rendered to Medicare patients that are referred from the provider.

If you are not sure if you are already in the PECOS system, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services has posted a list of all physicians enrolled in PECOS on its website. Be aware that this is an enormous document, containing over 13,000 pages, and as such it will take time to download. To see if you are on the list, go to”
http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MedicareProviderSupEnroll/06_MedicareOrderingandReferring.asp#TopOfPage

If you do not appear on this list, you will need to revalidate your enrollment with Medicare. This list will be updated periodically so applications currently being processed can be added to the list.

If you determine that you do need to submit a new enrollment form, you can do so online using the web-based PECOS system at: <https://pecos.cms.hhs.gov/pecos/login.do> or by filling out the appropriate paper enrollment form(s) (CMS-855I and CMS-855R, if appropriate) and mailing the forms, along with any required additional supplemental documentation to Palmetto, who will enter your information into PECOS and process your enrollment application. If you enroll online, be sure to also mail to Palmetto the signed and dated Certification Statement within seven days.

If you or the referring provider are not in the PECOS system, as of April 5, you will likely see remittance advice remark code N264 (missing/incomplete/invalid ordering

provider name) or N265 (missing/incomplete/invalid ordering provider primary identifier). Recommended actions to take if you see these error codes can be found at: <http://www.palmettogba.com/palmetto/providers.nsf/vMasterDID/823LAX7865?opendocument>

If you have any questions, contact COA at 916-454-9884.