



What Have You Done for Me Lately? **EDPMA Advocacy Activity & Successes in First 9 Months of 2021**

In the first nine months of 2021, EDPMA:

- Sent 122 letters:
 - * 60 on Down Coding (1 complaint was filed with 50 insurance commissioners)
 - * 7 on Implementation of the No Surprises Act
 - * 7 on Medicare reimbursement
 - * 46 on Medicaid Reimbursement (1 letter was sent to 44 Medicaid directors)
 - * 1 on COVID Provider Relief
 - * 1 on State-Level Surprise Billing
- Held 7 Meetings with Key Decisionmakers:
 - * 4 on Implementation of the No Surprises Act
 - * 3 on Down Coding Based on Diagnosis
- Sent 5 action alerts
 - * 4 on Medicare Sequestration Cuts
 - * 1 on Medicaid Reimbursement

Our advocacy met with some success as noted below. We may see more successes in the last three months of the year when key No Surprises Act rules are issued, the 2022 Medicare Physician Fee Schedule is finalized, the 2022 Medicare OPPS is updated, and Congress passes important end-of-year legislation.

No Surprises Act

- First Interim Final Rule reiterates **Prudent Layperson Standard Prohibition** against denying emergency claims based on diagnosis after we raised concerns.
- First Interim Final Rule provides that **state law does not apply unless it applies to the item or service at issue** as we requested.

Medicare

Early in 2021, the **2% Medicare Sequestration Cut was delayed** through 12/31/21 as requested by EDPMA and others.

Down Coding Policies

UHC delayed its problematic down coding policy (based on diagnosis) for a second time after EDPMA sent a letter and filed complaints with 50 insurance commissioners.

Medicaid Reimbursement

Wisconsin will increase Medicaid emergency reimbursement by 15% after EDPMA worked with coalition partners on an action alert.

Prompt Processing by Veterans Administration

After raising concerns last year regarding processing delays, this year the Veterans Administration opened a portal to **improve processing times for emergency claims**.