



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services – Region IV

Sam Nunn Atlanta Federal Center
61 Forsyth Street, SW, Suite 4T20
Atlanta, Georgia 30303 - 8909

October 15, 2001

Ms. Lisa Rawlins Maurer
Legislative Analyst
House Committee on Health Regulation

Sent via e-mail to LisaM@leg.state.fl.us

Dear Ms. Maurer:

This e-mail is in response to your inquiry dated 8/15/01, regarding the End Stage Renal Disease (ESRD) Florida House of Representatives Interim Report. The following information has been prepared to address the questions you sent and it is based on Medicare regulations. Any questions about Medicaid need to be addressed by the state of Florida.

As you may know, Medicare uses contractors to determine payment for services. While Part B providers use the respective carrier for their state, Part A Medicare providers may select a fiscal intermediary of their choice. Questions relating to data trends and the like must be requested from the appropriate fiscal intermediary through the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA).

To find more information about the certification of those facilities that intend to provide ESRD services you will want to review Title 42 Section 405.2100 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* at www.access.gpo.gov/nara/cfr/cfr-retrieve.html#page1. This particular citation will initially direct you to more specific passages about qualifying information.

Our Medicare manuals are available online at www.hcfa.gov/pubforms/p2192toc.htm. The publication that references ESRD information is the *Medicare Renal Dialysis Facility Manual* (Publication 29). General information including disclosure guidelines and cost report data are given in chapter 1. Coverage of services including caps on lab test is listed in chapter 2. Billing directions such as documentation are given in chapter 3, and reimbursement rules are covered in chapter 4.

To obtain information about the cap on lab test fee payments, you may access the Information for Health Plans and Providers page on our web site at www.hcfa.gov/audience/planprov.htm. The Clinical Lab Diagnostic Fee Schedule (Public Use File) is a file that may be downloaded and used to identify payment caps.

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For more information about Medicare fraud and abuse in the state of Florida, you may contact Jacqueline Proctor in our Miami satellite office. Her phone number is 305/536-6540.

Your list of questions included one about "Operation Restore Trust (ORT)." ORT is a demonstration which is evaluating the benefits of a multi-agency approach to detecting and prosecuting providers who are defrauding the Medicare and Medicaid Trust Funds. For further information, you may contact Jim Bossenmeyer at 410-786-7196.

I hope this information is helpful as you learn more about the Medicare program and End Stage Renal Disease (ESRD). Please call me directly at 404/562-7365 if you have any questions relating to this response.

Sincerely,

Lana Dennis
Health Insurance Specialist
Division of Health Plans and Providers

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