


The Toiyabe Group, Inc.

Colorado Mesa

Understanding the Audit Process


November 2, 2012



Agenda

- What is an Audit?
- Types of Audits
- Why is an audit important?
- TTG's audit process
 - Required documents
 - The Audit
 - Recommendations
- Getting your audit started

2



What is an Audit?

A process to verify that services billed are supported by the provider documentation in the medical record.

"If it is not documented, it didn't happen!"

3

Types of Audits

- Recovery Audit Contractors (RAC)
- Medicaid Integrity Contracts (MIC)
 - Medicaid Integrity Program (MIP)
- Other government entities
 - ZPIC
 - CERT
 - PERM
- Commercial Payors
- **Internal Audits**

4

Why an Internal Audit?

- Individual physician review
 - Documentation issues
 - Methods and styles
 - Coding trends (ICD-9-CM, CPT)
 - Charge capture
- Identify weaknesses
 - Place of service
 - EHR/EMR
 - Dictated notes
- Education opportunities

5

TTG Audit Process

- Random selection vs. focused selection
- Consistent audit criteria
 - E/M documentation guidelines (1995 or 1997)
- Audit focus
 - E/M coding: History, Exam, Medical Decision Making
 - Procedures and other billable items
 - Diagnoses

Does the documentation reflect the conditions and services billed?

6

TTG Audit Process cont.

- Recommendations
 - Audit report
 - Missed coding/billing opportunities
 - Documentation improvements
 - Compliance issues
 - Education opportunities
 - Follow-up conference call for Q & A


7

Audit Tips

- Each date of service: medical record must stand on its own
 - Don't bill for diagnoses that were not treated or evaluated as this is considered upcoding
 - Procedures and services billed must be included in the audit documentation
- Clear, complete and accurate – must document what you did for the patient or **IT DID NOT HAPPEN and YOU MAY NOT CODE IT!**

8

Documentation



Accurate documentation is key to any provider's success!

- Supports medical necessity
- Leads to accurate coding
- Accurate coding leads to billing efficiency
- Billing efficiency leads to increased reimbursement potential

Documentation, Documentation, Documentation

9

Getting Started

- Physician Practice
 - Five notes per physician
- Documents required
 - Medical record for applicable date of service
 - CMS 1500
 - Encounter form or "superbill"
- Contact person
 - Name and information

10

**THANK YOU FOR
YOUR TIME!**



11
