

# MEDICARE PART A BULLETIN

May 5, 1997

SNF Medicare Bulletin S-16

TO: All Medicare Skilled Nursing Facilities

FROM: Andy DePirro, Director, Program Relations

SUBJECT: **FRAUD ALERT: FRAUD AND ABUSE IN THE PROVISION OF SERVICES  
IN NURSING FACILITIES (OIG 96-18)**

**ATTENTION MEDICARE BUSINESS OFFICE:** Please distribute to all appropriate health care facility personnel.

The Medicare Fraud Unit has shared the Medicare National Fraud Alert (MNFA - OIG 96-18) to promote communication to the Medicare Part A Skilled Nursing Facility (SNF) provider community. The Office of the Inspector General (OIG) fraud alert (OIG 96-18) details fraud and abuse in the provision of services in nursing services.

Although this Fraud Alert has been widely circulated by the Fraud Unit, this bulletin distribution is an attempt to ensure that all Medicare Part A SNF providers are aware of this potential fraudulent activity. Educated consumers and providers are less likely to become victims of fraud scams. Therefore, educational endeavors of this nature are intended to enhance our provider community's ability to protect themselves and, in the process, protect our Medicare beneficiaries and the Medicare Trust Fund.

Questions regarding the attached Fraud Alert (OIG 96-18) may be addressed to the Debra Fulton of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Florida Medicare Fraud Unit by calling 904/791-6966.

**NOTE: THE OIG 96-18 ATTACHMENT IS NOT AVAILABLE IN THIS FORMAT.  
CONTACT THE CUSTOMER SERVICE DEPARTMENT (904/355-8899) TO REQUEST A  
COMPLETE COPY OF THIS BULLETIN.**