

# MEDICARE PART A BULLETIN

January 14 , 1997

Hospital Medicare Bulletin H-73  
CMHC Medicare Bulletin M-08

TO: All Medicare Hospital and Community Mental  
Health Center (CMHC) Providers

FROM: Andy DePirro, Director, Program Relations

SUBJECT: **BILLING FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES UNDER THE  
PARTIAL HOSPITALIZATION PROGRAM (PHP) BENEFIT**

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

During September 1996, the Health Care Financing Administration (HCFA) issued revisions to both the Medicare Hospital Manual (HCFA Publication 10 - Transmittal No. 699 - Section 452) and the Medicare Outpatient Physical Therapy and Comprehensive Outpatient Rehabilitation Facility Manual (HCFA Publication 9 - Transmittal No. 126 - Section 324) regarding billing for professional services under the partial hospitalization program (PHP) benefit.

The purpose of this bulletin is to ensure that all Medicare hospital and CMHC providers are aware of HCFA's manualized instructions. Therefore, this bulletin attachment provides copies of the manual transmittal text (HCFA Publication 10 and HCFA Publication 9) published by HCFA.

Essentially, HCFA's instructions reiterate that certain professional services are not "bundled" into the PHP benefit, which means they are billed separately to the Medicare Part B Carrier (via the HCFA-1500 billing format), specifically:

- Physician services that meet the criteria for payment on a fee schedule basis;
- Physician assistant services as defined; and
- Clinical psychologist services as defined.

The services of other practitioners (including clinical social workers) are "bundled" when furnished to patients by hospitals and CMHCs under the PHP benefit. Hospital and CMHC providers bill the Medicare Part A Intermediary (via the HCFA-1450/UB-92 billing format) for these bundled PHP services.

**NOTE: THE MANUAL TRANSMITTAL TEXT (HCFA PUBLICATION 10 AND HCFA PUBLICATION 9) ATTACHMENTS ARE NOT AVAILABLE IN THIS FORMAT. CONTACT THE CUSTOMER SERVICE DEPARTMENT (904/355-8899) TO REQUEST A COMPLETE COPY OF THIS BULLETIN.**