COMPLIANCE UPDATE

TO: Posted to Compliance Website

FROM: Maryann C. Palmeter, CPC, CPCO, CPMA, CENTC, CHC, AAPC Fellow
       Director, Office of Physician Billing Compliance

SUBJECT: Medicare Payment for Visits in a Patient’s Home

DATE: December 19, 2018

Effective January 1, 2019, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) is removing an existing Medicare Claims Processing Manual provision for home visits (CPT® codes 99341-99350) that requires documentation in the patient’s medical record of the medical necessity of furnishing a visit in the patient’s home in lieu of a physician’s office. The medical necessity for the service in general is still required but the extra requirement of documenting why the visit was performed in the patient’s home will no longer be necessary.

cc: Leon J. Haley, Jr., M.D., MHSA
    Elizabeth Ruszczyk, J.D.