

Senate passes one-year SGR patch, ICD-10 delay bill

The Senate approved a bill Monday evening that prevents steep cuts to Medicare physician payments from going into effect for one year and delays the conversion to ICD-10 diagnostic and procedure codes for at least one year.

The Senate voted 64-35 in favor of the Protecting Access to Medicare Act of 2014, which the House approved last Thursday. Assuming the president signs the legislation, it will be the 17th such patch that Congress has enacted since the so-called Medicare sustainable growth-rate formula became law in 1997.

The House passed the same bill last Thursday by voice vote.

CMS Releases "Road to 10" Online ICD-10 Resource for Small Practices

CMS has released "Road to 10," an online resource at built with the help of health care professionals in small practices. This tool is intended to help small medical practices jumpstart their ICD-10 transition. "Road to 10" includes specialty references and gives physicians the capability to build ICD-10 action plans tailored for their practice needs.

For more information on "Road to 10" and additional ICD-10 resources from CMS, please visit: <http://www.roadto10.org/>

Source: MSD

Model Notices of Privacy Practices

The HIPAA Privacy Rule requires health plans and health care professionals to develop and distribute a notice that provides a clear, user friendly explanation of individual's rights with respect to their personal health information and the privacy practices of health plans and health care professionals. The Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) provides options for meeting the requirement to create notices of privacy practices (NPP).

DHHS developed model NPPs and provides guidelines to help improve the patient experience and understanding. These models use plain language and approachable designs.

For instructions and NPP files, please visit
<http://www.hhs.gov/ocr/privacy/hipaa/modelnotices.html>

Source: MSD

About United Medical, LLC

Founded in November 2005 by Kemal Erkan, United Medical is a turnkey solution for the medical industry. Our mission is to raise the standards expected by today's physicians and practice groups; striving to increase the profitability for their practice while supplying state of the art technology for flawless patient care.

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