

The New York Eye & Ear Infirmary PHO Newsletter
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NYEE PHO Newsletter disseminates articles of interest and classifieds to participating physicians only.

HIP/ Vytra Merger

On March 14, 2006 Vytra Health plans formally merged with HIP Health Plan of New York. If you have questions now, please call the Provider Relations Service Team toll free at 1-800-447-8386.

CMS Clarifies Use of Modifier 25

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services has clarified the documentation and policy requirements for the use of CPT modifier – 25 used with E/M services.

To view the entire update, please go to
www.cms.hhs.gov/MLNMArticles/downloads/MM5025.pdf

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OPTOMETRIC BILL DEFEATED IN COMMITTEE!!!

Good News, the optometric bill was defeated in the Assembly Higher Education Committee by a vote of 14-10. Thanks to all Ophthalmologists who took the time out to fax letters voicing medicine's strong opposition to this bill.

CarePlus – New Claims Address

Please update your records to reflect the following:
Effective May 15, 2006, the address for submission of Medicaid, Child Health Plus and Family Health Plus Claims is:

CarePlus Health Plan
ATTN: Claims Department
Post Office Box 61020
Virginia Beach, VA 23466-1020

All services billed must be submitted on a CMS-1500 Form or CarePlus Encounter Form. Please contact the Provider Services Department at 1-800-563-5581 if you have any questions regarding these changes.

Medicare Now Allowing Coverage for AVASTIN for Macular Degeneration:

After discussions between the Society and senior staff at the Medicare carriers, they are now allowing coverage of Avastin for macular degeneration only. The effective date was June 1, 2006. Physicians are urged to check the carrier web sites for the official policy.

Empire Medicare – ww.empiremedicare.com/nynews06/05186cov.htm

GHI Medicare – Pending. Please check the carrier web site

Upstate Medicare Division – Pending. Please check the carrier web site

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To post your classified for the NYEE PHO Newsletter e-mail to: jnamwila@nyee.edu, or fax to: 212-353-5959