

Physician Consultations

The release of the *Medicare Benefit Policy Manual* on January 1, 2010, increased the physician's responsibility in the inpatient rehabilitation unit or hospital. Rehabilitation physicians are challenged to confirm that a patient's admission to the acute inpatient rehabilitation unit or hospital is reasonable and necessary for the treatment of the patient's condition. As part of this process, they must demonstrate management of the patient's medical and functional progress and must document their agreement with all decisions made by the interdisciplinary team.

UDSMR has collaborated with experienced rehabilitation physicians to develop several personalized consultation opportunities for rehabilitation physicians.

- **Documentation review:** An experienced rehabilitation physician will conduct an in-depth review of all rehabilitation physician documentation in your medical records, including your facility's pre-admission screening tools, the post-admission physician evaluation/H&P, the plan of care, team conferences, daily progress notes, and physician discharge summaries. After conducting the review, the rehabilitation physician will make recommendations for improving your physicians' clinical practices.
- **One-on-one consultation:** An experienced rehabilitation physician will shadow your facility's medical director and physicians in the inpatient rehabilitation setting and provide education about their responsibilities. Topics include the *Medicare Benefit Policy Manual* rules and regulations, compliance with all PPS physician responsibilities, and physician documentation strategies.
- **Physician workshop:** This lecture focuses on the recent *Medicare Benefit Policy Manual* changes, including those related to the physician's documentation responsibilities. Topics include the 60% rule, CMGs, documentation that supports CMS's guidelines for the patient's admission and continued stay, impairment group coding, etiologic diagnoses, comorbid conditions, and complications. Particular attention is given to areas of need identified by the documentation review. This highly interactive workshop is followed by a Q&A period.*

All three physician consultation opportunities are available as standalone sessions. They can also be combined as part of a dynamic, multi-faceted program that helps ensure efficient compliance with CMS's regulations. If you want more information or want to schedule a consultation, contact Carol Harper at 716-817-7823 or charper@udsmr.org.



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* *The physician workshop is also available in a webinar format.*