



Weekly Auditing and Compliance Tip

National Alliance of Medical Auditing Specialists | 877-418-5564 | namas.co | namas@namas.co

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Big Data & Facility Audit Complex Reviews

Big data and its use in the healthcare spectrum has proven to be an incredible source of the knowledge and has rapidly abetted progress in seemingly all areas of healthcare.

These areas include better patient outcomes, lowered costs, and identification of problematic processes which have resulted in improved patient flow and care. For instance, the identification of both positive and negative correlation factors has greatly enhanced research with multiple diseases, assisted with the identification of new treatments and, in some cases, cures of numerous conditions. Analyzation of large clinical data has essentially empowered researchers and healthcare providers with the constant identification of factors previously unknown to medicine, which has led to new techniques that have led to better patient care while continuing to grow at a seemingly staggering pace.

However, on the same token is the fact that large data analytics is now the driving force of many government and private payer audits. Payers now

have the capability to reject thousands of facility based claims at a time. Their utilization of big data

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Train to Become a Medical Auditor

and how they choose to use it for claim rejection and/or payment decreases has enabled payers to quickly overwhelm a hospital revenue cycle department and greatly impact the overall reimbursement.

This type of automated procedure is based on data mining methodologies which can rapidly analyze thousands of claims in a short period of time. These methods use special algorithms created to identify "incorrect" claims based on the correlation of specific diagnoses, comorbidities, and corresponding procedures related to the reported Diagnosis Related Group (DRG) code. These types of denials are growing at a staggering rate. Given that, there is no better time than the present to insure your facility is audit resistant.

The cost of denial management in these cases can be enormous. Therefore, it is essential that facilities have a strong internal quality control program in place. It is equally important that coding and billing systems are updated quarterly with information derived from Coding Clinic ICD-10-CM and ICD-10-PCS updates and audit feedback. One method of defense is a strong Clinical Documentation Improvement Department (CDI). Providers and healthcare coding and billing personnel should receive constant education and feedback while implementing a strong system of checks and balances, especially with conditions which have been under a lot of scrutiny (i.e., sepsis).

Another area of defense is to have an ongoing familiarization with the region's RAC (Recovery Audit Contractor). As with provider based issues, the RAC will post audit issues found in recent facility audits regarding specific MS-DRG (Medicare Severity Diagnosis Related Group) code sets and can be a strong reference for identification of potential problem areas.

Not only are the resulting rejections from automated algorithms problematic to the revenue stream, it's also important to remember that with multiple rejections, there is also a strong possibility of consequential audits. While the automatic denial/rejection process does not fall into the true definition of an audit since clinical documentation is not reviewed during this process, large amounts of denials can pose a red flag for payers to specific problem areas and also lead to a focused DRG audit.

For more information regarding the CMS RAC process visit: <https://www.cms.gov/Research->



Our **Medical Auditing Bootcamp** will train you to become a medial auditor. Learn the principles of auditing, compliance regulations, and how to perform the daily duties of an auditor.

Our **2-day ONSITE** Medical Auditing Bootcamps are scheduled as follows:

November 16 & 17: Tallahassee, FL
December 4 & 5: Orlando, FL

We also offer this bootcamp as a **5 week LIVE ONLINE Saturday course**. Each class is 3 hours and 15 minutes in length. Our next online course begins November 11, 2017!

Click Here to Learn More & View Our Medical Auditing BootCamp Schedule



Our **2- Day E&M Auditing Bootcamp** is an accelerated auditing training specific to E&M auditing. Learn about audit policies, get clarity on documentation guidelines, medical decision making, medical necessity and more. Plus, during this training program you will have the opportunity **earn our NEW CREDENTIAL - Certified Evaluation and Management Auditor (CEMA)!**

Our 2-Day E&M BootCamps are scheduled as follows:

October 10 & 11: Phoenix, AZ
November 7 & 8: Cincinnati, OH
November 28 & 29: Salt Lake City, UT

We're also offering the E&M BootCamp online! October 30, 31, & Nov 1 from 1pm - 5pm EST each day!

process visit: <https://www.cms.gov/research-statistics-data-and-systems/monitoring-programs/medicare-ffs-compliance-programs/recovery-audit-program/>

For more information regarding Coding Clinic updates and newsletters visit: <http://www.ahacentraloffice.org/aboutus/what-is-icd-10.shtml>

This Week's Audit Tip Written By:

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NAMAS 9th Annual Auditing & Compliance Conference Speaker Spotlight



Speaker Spotlight



Betty Stump, MHA, RHIT, CPC, CCS-P, CPMA, CDIP
CDI Senior Consultant,
Optum360 Consulting

During the NAMAS 9th Annual Auditing & Compliance Conference, Betty Stump will be presenting the following sessions:

- CDI in the Outpatient Environment
- Updating Your Audit Action Plan: Short Stay Inpatient Services

Each week, we will spotlight a conference speaker and the session(s) he/she will be presenting.

Join us for this year's conference **December 6-8, 2017 in Orlando, FL** at the Loews Sapphire Falls Resort!
Click the image above to learn more about conference

Click Here to Learn More & View Our E&M Auditing BootCamp schedule

Join NAMAS for the 9th Annual Auditing & Compliance Conference December 2017 in Orlando, FL!



Conference Information

Pre-Conference: Tuesday, December 5
Conference: Wednesday, December 6 - Friday, December 8
Venue: Loews Sapphire Falls Resort
Orlando, FL

[Click Here to View the Conference Agenda](#)

Learn from the best in the industry, network with your peers and visit with our hand picked group of industry relevant exhibitors all in the gorgeous Caribbean inspired backdrop of the Loews Sapphire Falls Resort

Conference Pricing - Available Through September 30, 2017 Only

NAMAS Member

Conference Only: \$1145
Pre-Conference & Conference: \$1395

Non Member

Conference Only: \$1245
Pre-Conference & Conference: \$1595

Plus, Don't Miss Your Opportunity to Be a Conference VIP!

This year, we are proud to offer a limited number of VIP package add-ons available to all attendees at the nominal rate of \$129. Add on the VIP experience to your conference registration today!

As a Conference VIP, you'll receive:



Sample what a NAMAS membership can offer you with our FREE 1-month LITE trial membership!

During your trial, you'll receive access to weekly webinars for a chance to earn up to 4CEUs, weekly auditing and compliance tips, and even an online sample of BCAdvantage magazine!

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Weekly Tip Sponsor



This week's tip sponsor is **Noremac Reimbursement Solutions, LLC.**

Noremac Reimbursement Solutions provides revenue cycle solutions (utilization reviews, reimbursement analysis, fee schedule analysis and EOB analysis) to help organizations run more efficiently. To learn more about Noremac Reimbursement Services, [click here](#).



Upcoming Webinar Sessions

- A VIP registration line for faster check-in
- A VIP branded name badge to wear during conference sessions
- Registration to our EXCLUSIVE VIP Brunch & Session occurring the morning of Wednesday, December 6 before general session begins. This exclusive training will be presented by Frank Cohen
- Admission to our VIP ONLY EVENT - occurring the evening of Thursday, December 7. Enjoy a relaxing evening of entertainment, dancing, food and networking in the Caribbean inspired Sapphire Falls Resort
- Bonus NAMAS Swag
- Additional \$500 in NAMAS Bucks! Use NAMAS Bucks to bid on a variety of prizes available in our exhibit hall

And, as a special added bonus, all VIP attendees will receive a book of printed handouts for all NAMAS pre-conference & conference sessions. As a VIP, there's no need to print handouts before you arrive- Your book will be waiting for you upon your arrival!

There are only a limited number of VIP packages available to be issued on a first come, first served basis. Add on the VIP experience to your conference registration today!

Register Now



NAMAS 2018 Conference Input Survey

Our annual conference is our biggest event of the year, and we understand that many of you travel a great deal to attend our event. We take a great deal of time and consideration to carefully select our conference locations to appeal to the majority of audience.

NAMAS is proud to offer the following webinar in September

Will Your Malpractice Coverage Help Protect You in the Event of a Government Audit? (Auditing Webinar Series)

Speaker: Maxine Collins
October 3, 2017
2pm EST

How to Create a Successful Appeal (How-to Webinar Series)

Speaker: Sean Weiss
October 10, 2017
2pm EST

Dissection of a False Claims Act Case (Compliance Webinar Series)

Speaker: David Glaser, JD
October 17, 2017
2pm EST

Hands On: Auditing Office Based E&M Services (Hands-on Webinar Series)

Speaker: Liz Wilson
October 24, 2017
2pm EST

If you are interested in registering for the webinar above, please email us at namas@namas.co

We invite you to take a brief survey to provide your feedback regarding locations for our annual conference

**Please click the image above to participate
Your feedback is greatly appreciated!**

NAMAS Calendar of Events



Click the image above to view our monthly calendar



Our weekly auditing & compliance tip emails are available to anyone who could benefit from this information.

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