### 1st Assistant Credentialing

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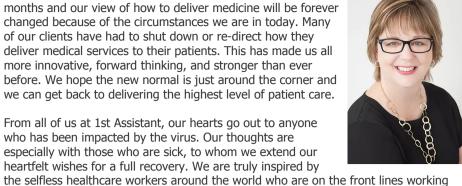
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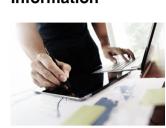
From all of us at 1st Assistant, our hearts go out to anyone who has been impacted by the virus. Our thoughts are especially with those who are sick, to whom we extend our heartfelt wishes for a full recovery. We are truly inspired by

Our lives have changed dramatically in the last couple of

the selfless healthcare workers around the world who are on the front lines working tirelessly to care for people in need. Thank you for all you do.

#### Knowledge Center, Medicare and Medicaid

### 5 Ways to Protect the Privacy of Your Medicare Enrollment Information



**Note From Heidi** 

It's estimated that fraudulent and improper Medicare and Medicaid payments total approximately \$65 billion dollars annually. Keeping personal health and professional information secure is essential. If you use the <u>PECOS</u> electronic Medicare enrollment system you can protect your private information from identity thieves who want to use it to defraud the Medicare program. With PECOS your private information is secure

because only you, authorized surrogates, authorized CMS officials and MACs may enter and view your Medicare PECOS enrollment information. CMS does not disclose your Medicare enrollment information to anyone except when authorized or required by law.

Additional steps to protect your identity and privacy...continue reading>



# **Knowledge Center, Medicare and Medicaid**

### Learn More about NPIs with these 7 Frequently-Asked Questions



If you are a healthcare provider covered under HIPAA, or if you file claims or use a clearinghouse to bill insurance, then you are required to apply for a National Provider Identifier (NPI). This unique, 10-digit identification number is issued by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). Other healthcare providers that are not required to apply for an NPI may do so if they desire.

The NPI system was created to improve the electronic transmission of health information by making it more efficient and effective. Covered healthcare providers and plans are required to use NPIs in their administrative and financial transactions.

Frequently-Asked Questions about NPIs and management of Payer Enrollment and <u>Credentialing Services...continue reading></u>



Heidi Henderson

### **Knowledge Center, Medicare and Medicaid**

## Tips on Getting the New Medicare Beneficiary Identifier (MBI)



To better protect patients' identities, the Medicare Access and CHIP Reauthorization Act of 2015 (MACRA) required CMS to remove SSNs from all Medicare cards and to replace them with a randomly generated Medicare Beneficiary Identifier (MBI). On January 1, 2020 it became mandatory for providers, physicians, and suppliers to use MBIs when submitting claims for services provided to Medicare beneficiaries. Claims

submitted with Health Insurance Claim Numbers (HICNs) will be rejected (with a few exceptions). All eligibility transactions you submit with HICNs will also be rejected.

Proper procedures in obtaining an MBI from your patients...continue reading>

# Food Favorites Named for Famous People



Rockefeller—a creation of the celebrated Antoine's restaurant in New Orleans which features a rich, buttery sauce and spinach (the color of "greenbacks") and so was named after John D. Rockefeller, the richest man in America. Others may be less apparent. Check out this list of foods and where they got their names.

Many foods that we love were created and/or named for famous people. Some may be fairly obvious, such as Oysters

- Kaiser Rolls—the title "Kaiser" means emperor. These tasty rolls were first baked in Austria to honor Emperor Franz Joseph.
- fancy of Queen Margherita of Savoy when chef Raffaele Esposito made 3 special pizzas for her and her husband King Umberto to try in 1889. The Queen's favorite now bears her name.

• Margherita Pizza—the colors of the Italian flag and the fresh flavors of tomato, basil and mozzarella tickled the

mot oil and citrus as a gift. He loved the brew so much that he named it after himself and gave the recipe to the London tea company, Jackson of Piccadilly to produce. • Baby Ruth Candy Bar—there's a sweet story behind this treat. The Curtiss Candy Company during the 1920's

• Earl Grey Tea—tea aficionado, Prime Minister Earl Charles Grey of Britain, received tea leaves made with berga

decided to name its new candy bar after President Grover Cleveland's daughter, Ruth, affectionately known to her family as "Baby." Pavlova—this light and airy dessert made of meringue and fruit was named for the Russian ballerina, Anna

Pavlova who was beautifully light on her feet.

• Granny Smith Apples—believe it or not, there is a real, Granny Smith—her full name was Marie Ana Smith and she invented this tart, green favorite by mistake in Australia in 1868.



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