



FLORIDA SOCIETY OF MEDICAL ASSISTANTS, INC

December 15, 2008

TO: Theresa Errante-Parrino, CMA (AAMA)
FSMA President
FSMA Executive Council

FROM: Deniece Jozefiak, CMA (AAMA)
AAMA Delegates Report

RE: Winter Seminar Report

It was an honor to serve as a delegate for FSMA and a privilege to watch our own Kathryn Panagiotacos, CMA (AAMA) be installed as AAMA President. Congratulations to Betty Springer, CMA-C (AAMA) as she is the new Vice Speaker of the House.

This member attended many CEU sessions and am to report on CPT Coding, Reimbursement, and Compliance in the Physician's Office. Documentation is the best defense an office can have. If it is not documented then you must consider that it wasn't done. Proper documentation from the chief complaint to the physician's evaluation of the patient and his/her diagnosis is how the patient/insurance should be billed. You must have everything in your medical record to back up what was billed. Additional E&M codes were addressed.

It is totally amazing that Medicare will pay for something preventative. Of course there are loop holes to what they will cover. A physical exam can be done within the first six months of obtaining Medicare. This can include a screening lipid profile and an EKG. If warranted a carotid ultrasound may also be done. Medicare does cover a yearly PSA for men, mammograms for women and a pap smear every two years. Many patients feel that they will not have to pay for the initial physical, but they are responsible for the deductible.

Multiple modifiers were discussed and when to use them. Participants of this session received an updated list of new ICD-9-CM codes. Appeals were discussed and how to handle them. It was a very good session and this member felt good that their office only needed to make a few minor adjustments (of course on the doctors side) to maintain great charting.

AN AFFILIATE OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF MEDICAL ASSISTANTS