JH Update & Other Clinical Issues

Presentation by Novitas Solutions, Inc.
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Introduction

• **New Novitas CMDs**
  – Debra Patterson, MD – Executive CMD for MACs JH+J12
  – Sidney Hayes, MD – Formerly with Pinnacle

• **JH Overview**
  – Contract awarded to Novitas in November 2011
  – Stop work order lifted March 2012
  – JH transition: Eventually to www.novitas-solutions.com
Overview of Novitas Solutions

- Novitas is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Diversified Service Options (DSO), which is a holding company, wholly-owned by BCBS of FL (Now Florida Blue).
- DSO was established in 1998 for fee-for-service government business, which today includes Novitas, First Coast Service Options (FCSO), and 50% ownership in TriCenturion.
- Novitas and its predecessor organizations have been a Medicare contractor since the inception of the Medicare Program.
- Novitas currently serves as the MAC for J12 (PA, NJ, MD, DE, and DC) and the administrator of the nationwide Section 1011 contract for Federal Reimbursement of Emergency Services Provided to Undocumented Aliens.
- Novitas looks forward to working with CMS, the outgoing contractors, and business partners in a successful implementation of MAC JH.
JH Update

• Novitas is very excited about JH
• Transitioning any MAC is a complex activity
  – JH is broken into various “segments” for transitioning work to Novitas
• LCD consolidation is one element of that process
  – A very important and “high-profile” activity
  – CMS criterion for the consolidation is that Novitas use the “most clinically appropriate” LCD
LCD Changes

LCDs under Pinnacle, Cahaba, and Trailblazer were reviewed

- The CMDs in Novitas went through each of the LCDs.
- They picked applicable LCDs.
- LCDs were not merged among the various contractors.
- One LCD on a given topic was chosen.
- Circulating Tumor Cell (CTC) Assay LCDs require special clarification.
LCD Changes

• On May 11th, the chosen JH LCDs were sent to CMS for approval.
• On June 28th, the LCDs were posted on the Novitas JH website for all to see.
• On the timeline dates, the LCDs and the tested edits will go live in succession, first Pinnacle, then Cahaba and then Trailblazer.
# Segment Timelines

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LCD Changes

• Any reconsiderations to the LCDs will be accepted at any time, and worked on accordingly without having to necessarily wait until a segment transition.

• It will be most important to look at the posting as some LCDs that may have been retired, may reappear due to other contractor ongoing work and policies.
CACs

- Novitas very much values the CAC and has a strong history with CACs in our prior and current business.
- All CACs will be held in a stable pattern for the beginning of the contract.
- Historically, Novitas has looked to CAC members to be active in LCD development.
- CAC members may be asked about what is working and what is not, as well as how to improve the process.
- Any possible future changes to CAC formats will be carefully adherent to these above principles.
Interaction with Oncologists/Conceptual

- Should mirror the above general collaboration noted with respect to the CACs
- The interface of evidence-based medicine with compassionate care is laced with subtleties and the need for continuous clarification … for example,
  - Compendium assessments of new off-label indications
  - What are the most viable approaches to the emergence of so-called personalized medicine?

- What is the significance of the medical home, and what role can oncologists play as this health care delivery model might unfold in the Medicare fee-for-service environment?
Interaction with Oncologists/Operational ...

Local Coverage Article for Approved Drugs and Biologicals; Includes Cancer Chemotherapeutic Agents (A47797):

- As an adjunct to existing LCDs, this J12 article is available at [https://www.novitas-solutions.com/articles/mac-ab/a47797-r18.html](https://www.novitas-solutions.com/articles/mac-ab/a47797-r18.html) with similar JH article having an anticipated posting by October 2012
- Multiple operational areas including, but not restricted, to:
  - Off-label drug coverage & billing, such as –KX modifier attestation modifier for specially requested agents
  - Hydration administration
  - Discarded drugs and biologicals
  - Compounded drugs
  - Coding guidelines