

ORIGINAL: 2542

Gelnett, Wanda B.

From: LI, BWC-Administrative Division [RA-LI-BWC-Administra@state.pa.us]
Sent: Tuesday, July 11, 2006 9:00 AM
To: Wunsch, Eileen; Kupchinsky, John; Howell, Thomas P. (GC-LI); Kuzma, Thomas J. (GC-LI)
Subject: comments on regs. from Karla

-----Original Message-----

From: Karen Raub [mailto:karen.raub@memorialhospital.org]
Sent: Tuesday, July 11, 2006 8:46 AM
To: ra-li-bwc-administra@state.pa.us
Cc: "Pat Koos"; "William Rohrbach"
Subject: amendment comments



ONE HOSPITAL DRIVE
TOWANDA, PA 18848

ONE HOSPITAL DRIVE
TOWANDA, PA 18848

(570) 268-2203
FAX (570) 265-4797
karen.raub@memorialhospital,inc.

July 11, 2006

Dear Ms. Wunsch,

First I would like to introduce myself, my name is Karen Raub I am a billing specialist for Memorial Hospital, Inc. in Towanda, PA. I have recently had to do a lot of fee reviews due to insurance companies taking a PPO discount on top of the fee schedule. I think your amendments are going to be very costly for the providers, the insurers and the third parties. To create the software that will be nationally used for all so that we all come up with the same answer, unless the Labor Board is already taking care of this. There is mass confusion already since there is a fee schedule or 113% of Medicare, which one is who using? I have had denials for fee reviews stating it is denied until I send an explanation on the insurers EOB. Usually you can match things up by the date of service, amount of the charge, or revenue code. The service code is hardly ever on the EOB, so how are the payers going to convert to a system to pick up the description let alone have it show up on the EOB or EOR which ever is correct. I am not very good at politics but someone eventually will have to pay for these changes. There are already too many hands in the pot collecting on people's illness and injury. Now every price will increase in order to pay for these expenses. Just take a moment to think if your parent, spouse, or child were ill or injured and you had a small community hospital just minutes away, or a large city hospital 10 miles away which would you pick? Now think about all of the decreases in revenue and increases in expenses, which do you think will have to shut their doors to the people who need them first? I truly hope that there is a lot of thought in the process that is being looked at and whose expense. If there are a lot of fee reviews now imagine what the number will be with the amendments. How can you make it easier on yourselves? Come out and talk to the facilities, providers and insurers, look at the processes that have to occur already. Try finding ways to make it easier on

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all of us, & I think it would make much less work on your behalf. Thank you for your time and attention to this matter and I hope that you truly consider all comments and suggestions before allowing these changes to take place.

Sincerely,
Karen Raub

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7/12/2006