



AVANTA[®]

MEDICAL INFORMATION SYSTEMS

FAX

March 12th, 2001

Keep Your Office Up And Running



The recent electrical power shortages and threats of rolling blackouts raise concerns for all businesses that rely on telephones, computers and other electrical devices to serve their customers and patients. Avanta has also been concerned about these blackouts and we have recently installed long-run battery back-up power supplies to ensure that our telephone system and server computers are up and running so that we can serve you even if the lights are out.

Some of our clients have also expressed an interest in purchasing the necessary power backups (often called a long-run UPS—Uninterruptible Power Supply) that will provide emergency power to their phone systems and server computers. With one of these quiet, relatively compact devices, you can run your phone system or Avanta server for several hours while electricity is not being delivered by your local power utility.

Please note that your Avanta server already has a short-run UPS that will keep it running just long enough to ensure an orderly shutdown. This may be upgraded to a long-run UPS, and your existing UPS can be used for an individual user's workstation or other office equipment.

Also, because of their high power requirements, laser printers should not be connected to a UPS.

If you are interested in receiving a quote for long-run UPS power backup for your phone system or Avanta server, please call Chip or Dan at 818-706-9191. Please call soon if you want to be protected before this summer's anticipated power shortages, as the long-run UPS's are in very high demand this year.

CPT/ICD- 9 Book On- Line

The 2001 CPT and ICD-9 books on-line will be included in your next Avanta update. An Avanta representative will be contacting your office soon to schedule your update.

Please note we have moved. Our new information is below.

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Attn: Ophthalmologists

HCFA recently announced that their bundling (i.e. payment reduction) of codes for evaluation/management services with certain diagnostic tests will temporarily be suspended.

This means that your reimbursements will be adjusted upwards for current and past charges. The primary concern for ophthalmologists is that (E/M) exam reimbursements will no longer be bundled with A-scans and B-scans. Although HCFA may reinstate some of the bundling edits later this year, they will not implement the bundles affecting codes 92002-92014 at this time. This suspension is retroactive to Oct. 30, 2000, so you can resubmit claims and receive retroactive reimbursement if you were previously denied due to the bundling edits.

Seminar Correction

The upcoming Practice File Cleanup seminar has been moved from March 27th, 28th and 29th to Wednesday, April 25th and Thursday, April 26th. This seminar will review the organization of the practice files in your Avanta system, and how to reorganize them for greater efficiency and ease of use. The files that will be

reviewed include the treatment, diagnosis, and insurance company files.

There will be morning sessions from 9:00am to 12:00pm, and afternoon sessions from 2:00pm to 5:00pm. If you are a practice manager or otherwise responsible for the practice files, please call Alyson at 818-706-9191 to schedule your place.

Automatic Medicare EOB Posting is Here!

The Medicare electronic EOB posting feature is now here! Your next Avanta update will allow you to receive your Medicare EOB information electronically over the modem and have the payment, write-off and deductible information automatically posted to patients' ledgers.

Medicare requires all submitters who want their EOB information received electronically to complete and sign an authorization form. This form is available from Avanta and can be faxed to you upon request. After the authorization form has been filled out and sent to Medicare/NHIC, and your Avanta update completed, you're ready to go!

An Avanta representative will be contacting your office soon to schedule your update, but if you have any questions regarding this new feature or would like the Medicare authorization form faxed to your office, please call us at 818-706-9191.

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