



AVANTA
MEDICAL INFORMATION SYSTEMS

FAX

October 02, 2003

HIPAA Deadline

The Electronic Transaction Standards section of HIPAA requires that all electronic transmissions be submitted in the ANSI 4010 format by October 16, 2003. Avanta was approved and is now a NHIC Southern and Northern California approved vendor six months ahead of the HIPAA deadline. With this upcoming deadline there are several billing related issues that your office should be aware of.

As a covered entity under HIPAA, you must procure a signed agreement recognizing ProxyMed as one of your Business Associates if you use them for 3rd party claims. In this role, they will be responsible for converting your current claims format (IMS 4.0) to the HIPAA compliant format (ANSI 4010). For no charge, you may download the ProxyMed BA Agreement from the ProxyMed website (www.proxymed.com), which has already been executed. This will allow you to continue transmitting claims to them in the current format.

As the deadline approaches, Medicare and ProxyMed continue to make changes to their systems to accommodate the new format requirements. As a result some claims are being rejected and even deleted as changes are made and standards are tightened. Regardless of what caused the error in your electronic or paper billing, there are several steps that can be taken to verify that your claims are being processed. Electronic billing provides several reports to track your transmitted claims, and for paper billing there are several Avanta reports which can alert you of unpaid and unprocessed claims.

To help you with all these billing issues, make sure to attend our next free seminar, *Maximizing Insurance Billing Results*, to be presented on October 28th and 29th, 2003. The seminar will help streamline and add effectiveness to your office's billing process. Please contact Jennifer at Avanta to RSVP.

FREE SERVER SPEED COMPARISON REPORT

Is your office idle while you run reports, process insurance billing, and run statements? Are you having to wait while one job finishes before you can begin another? A new server offers the blazing speed and reliability of a new Intel® or Xeon processor along with many other new standard and optional features.

Computer technology advances significantly every year and the reliability of computer hardware also continues to improve. Though infrequent, the most common failures in servers continue to be the hard drive and power supply.

To ensure your practice is always up and running, all new Avanta Systems are sold with RAID. RAID is where an extra disk drive is installed in your system so you can continue operating on one disk if the other disk has failed. You also have the option of adding a redundant power supply, where an extra power supply is installed in your system so you can automatically continue operating in the event one fails.

If you are interested in upgrading your old server, Avanta can provide a free server speed comparison report. This report will graph the amount of time it takes to process reports, billing, practice maintenance, etc. on your existing system compared to the fraction of time it takes on a new upgraded server. If you have any questions about upgrading your old Avanta server or receiving a free server speed comparison report, please call Avanta and ask for Chip.

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