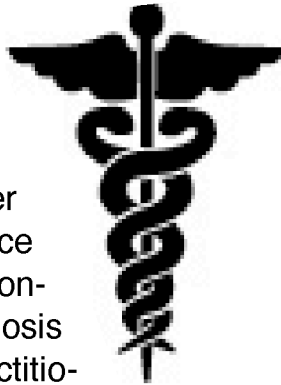




Medicare News

From the October 8, 2004 NHIC bulletin:

"Effective October 1, 2004, Medicare no longer provides a 90-day grace period for the use of discontinued ICD-9-CM diagnosis codes. Physicians, practitioners, and suppliers must bill using the updated codes."



Avanta users can easily check for codes that are no longer recognized (or "obsolete") by running "Check For Obsolete ICD-9 Codes" under the Diagnoses section of Edit Practice Files (From the Home Screen, 8, 4, 5). This feature compares your diagnoses file with the ICD-9 book that is loaded into your system each year and stamps the diagnoses that are in your file as "Obsolete". When a diagnosis is marked as obsolete, it cannot be used (posted) again until you manually remove the obsolete condition. If diagnoses are marked as obsolete, they do remain in the patient's ledger for historical purposes.

If you would like to use this feature, but are a bit unsure of how it works, please call our office and speak to a support representative. They'll be happy to help you.

FREE Avanta Seminar

The next Avanta Seminar will review the Appointment Scheduler as well as the new Appointment Scheduler Report that will be added to your system on your next Avanta update. This new report adds reporting on appointment reasons, resources, locations, and even reports on "no-shows".

For your convenience, Avanta will offer four free sessions at two separate locations over two days. The locations that have been selected for this seminar include our office in Agoura Hills and the Cedars Sinai Medical Office



Building in Los Angeles. Morning and afternoon sessions are available at the Cedars Building on Wednesday, November 17th and back at our office on Thursday, November 18th. Morning sessions are 9:00am to 12:00pm, with afternoon sessions from 2:00pm to 5:00pm.

Please contact an Avanta Support Specialist to RSVP. As space is limited, a 48-hour cancellation notice is required.