Medicare Electronic Billing Program Update

We are constantly reviewing industry regulations, billing issues, and client suggestions to help your office flow and keep your Avanta system compliant. The Avanta system already checks that all required demographic, ledger, and provider file fields are populated, and strips out many of the illegal characters that may be contained within these fields. In response to an upcoming change and some recent billing issues, programming has added three more checks that will address the items listed below.

1) Reject Messages will now scan the "State" field for patients whose state is incorrectly entered in as a single character, and list violations in the reject report. Previously, some clients had entire batches rejected from Medicare because a patient was missing a single letter from their two letter state.

2) Starting 1/5/04, NHIC will begin rejecting inpatient hospital charges if no date of admission is given. Reject Messages will now scan for this problem, and list violations in the reject report. Only inpatient hospital charges are rejected (POS 1), and only when "Hospitalized (From)" is blank in the Primary Insurance Data screen.

3) Claims are often rejected from Medicare with a "Payor Org. ID Not Numeric" error because there is no Insurance Identifier (OCNA) code in the Insurance Company file, for this Medigap patient. Reject Messages will now scan for this missing identifier and list violations in the reject report.

These three new Medicare EDI checks will automatically be included in the next Avanta update. However if you would like to have the Medicare Electronic Billing Program update sooner, please call an Avanta support specialist so we can send the program to your system via the modem.

Holiday Hours

The end of 2003 is near and would like to thank all of you for your continued support, feedback, and use of the Avanta System. This past year we added a list of new features and continued to improve on the existing functions in your Avanta System. We continue to strive to offer our customers the best in Practice Management Software and Support and always welcome your comments and suggestions.

The Avanta staff is very excited about the upcoming year, as we have a long list of new features and enhancements currently being worked on by our programming team. We look forward to serving you in 2004, and will keep you updated with weekly AvantaFAX faxes, an updated Avanta website, several new FREE Seminars, and unlimited support to address your questions, needs, and concerns.

Avanta will be closed Thursday and Friday, December 25th and 26th, in observance of Christmas Day, and on Thursday, January 1st and 2nd, in observance of New Years Day. However, our automated phone attendant allows software and hardware team members to be paged in the event of an emergency.

Have a fun and safe holiday season!

SLOW Server???

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 speed and reliability of an Intel® Pentium processor along with many other significant and useful features. Please call Chip at Avanta if you have any questions regarding upgrading your Avanta system.