

BCBSF Response
St. Pete Times Action Line Inquiry
April 9, 1996

According to Lydia Rogers, manager of Medical Policy and Review for Medicare Part B, all revisions for Medicare Part B Medical Policy Procedures are sent to physicians 30 days before the policy is implemented. It is a rule that procedures are published at least 30 days prior to implementation.

New procedures for 24-Hour Electrocardiographic Monitoring (EKG) were revised on January 31, 1996. Physicians received notice of the revision by December 31, 1995.

With reference to the statement about the physician sending appeal letters for payment of these tests, Medicare Part B reports that letters now being received for payment appeal would be for procedures that occurred approximately six to nine months ago. This policy procedure revision was not in effect at that time.

We have sent to you the revised guidelines for 24-hour EKG monitoring and for Patient Demand Single or Multiple Event Recording for your review. The patient demand event policy was revised in May, 1995.

If the physician has further questions about Medical Policy Procedures for Medicare Part B, he should contact Provider Customer Service at 904-634-4994.

