



How to Find Out More About THE OIG MODEL COMPLIANCE PLAN

Since the February 1997 release of the government's Model Compliance Plan for Clinical Laboratories (MCP), much has been written on how laboratories should implement anti-fraud measures.

COLA published this Fast Facts to help you find some of the resources available to you on this topic.

It's important to remember that the MCP's guidelines are not limited to independent clinical laboratories. Laboratories of all sizes and configurations are expected to enact voluntary compliance programs to correct and prevent fraud and abuse.

Fraud prevention in your laboratory may have a different look than that of your colleagues. COLA encourages you to thoroughly investigate what works for your particular situation. There are a multitude of trained consultants, attorneys, and educators who can advise you in appropriate anti-fraud measures.

For more comprehensive information on OIG Model Compliance Plan for Clinical Laboratories, you may wish to consult the following resources:

✓ Washington G-2 Reports has published several articles, including Question and Answer forums on the OIG Model Compliance Program. Back issues can be purchased directly from the publisher by calling 1-800-LAB-REGS. When ordering, refer to the issue title and date.

✓ *Washington Insider's Focus* (Supplement to *National Intelligence Report*),

- "A New Code of Conduct For Labs," February 25, 1997 (includes a copy of the MCP).
- "What Should You Know About Medicare Compliance: Key Q&As to Get You Started-Part 1," March 26, 1997.
- "Get The Lowdown On Medicare Lab Compliance: More Q&As To Help With Your Program-Part 2," April 14, 1997.

✓ *Physician Office Testing* (Supplement to *Medical Office*

Report), "Medicare Compliance: OIG's Model Lab Plan Offers Pointers for POLs," March 1997.

✓ Washington G-2 also publishes more comprehensive guides on Medicare compliance and reimbursement issues that may be purchased directly.

For example, *Medicare Compliance for Clinical Laboratories*, published by Washington G-2 Reports, provides detailed information about the OIG Model Code of Conduct and Medicare billing compliance. Single copy, \$95. *Medical Office Report* newsletter subscribers; \$79. To order, call the Washington G-2 Reports Order Line at (800) LAB-REGS.

✓ The Clinical Laboratory Management Association at (610) 995-9580 (www.clma.org) has published articles and put together educational conferences on Medicare compliance and billing.

✓ *Vantage Point* (CLMA), "A Different View of Laboratory Compliance," May 19, 1997, is an excellent article on the general issues of laboratory compliance.

✓ For a copy of the OIG Model Compliance Plan for Clinical Laboratories, call the HHS Office of Inspector General at (202) 619-1142. You can also obtain the plan on-line at <http://www.sbaonline.sba.gov/ignet/internal/hhs/cpl.html>.

The American Medical Association, College of American Pathologists, American Academy of Family Physicians, and American College of Physicians-American Society of Internal Medicine continue to monitor the government's efforts with respect to laboratory compliance. You may contact your national medical association for more information.

Finally, be sure to read all correspondence from your local Medicare carrier. Your carrier may be able to provide you with specific educational guidance on proper billing practices.

 WWW.COLA.ORG



For information about COLA services or for technical inquiries, call our Information Resource Center at (800) 981-9883.