

FRAUD, WASTE AND ABUSE IN HEALTHCARE

What is Fraud?

In general, fraud is defined as making false statements or representations of material facts to obtain some benefit or payment for which no entitlement would otherwise exist. These acts may be committed either for the person's own benefit or for the benefit of some other party. In other words, fraud includes the obtaining of something of value through misrepresentation or concealment of material facts.

What is Waste?

Requesting payment for items and services when there is no legal entitlement to payment. Unlike fraud, the provider has not knowingly and/or intentionally misrepresented facts to obtain payment.

What is Abuse?

Abuse describes practices that, either directly or indirectly, result in unnecessary costs to the Medicare or Medicaid programs. Abuse includes any practice that is not consistent with the goals of providing patients with services that are medically necessary, meet professionally recognized standards, and are fairly priced.

Examples of Healthcare Fraud and Abuse:

- Cash inducements for a beneficiary to join the plan.
- Pharmacies dispensing expired, fake, diluted or illegal drugs.
- Altering a prescription.
- Billing for prescriptions that are not filled or picked up.
- Billing for non-payable services under payable codes.
- Billing for services that were not rendered or more services than were provided.
- Billing for services that are more complex than the actual service provided.
- Providing services that are not medically necessary.

REPORTING SUSPECTED FRAUD AND ABUSE

Suspected fraud and abuse should be reported to any of the below entities. It can be reported anonymously.

Mail: Michigan Department of Health and Human Services
Office of Inspector General
PO Box 30062
Lansing, MI 48909

Online: www.michigan.gov/fraud
Phone: (855) 643-7283 or (855) MIFRAUD
Email: OIG@michigan.gov

Mail: HHS Office of Inspector General
PO Box 23489
Washington DC 20549

Phone: (800) 447-8477 Fax: (800)223-8164 Email: HHSTips@oig.hhs.gov

Mail: Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS)
PO Box 39
Lawrence, KS 66044

Phone: Attorney General's Office- Healthcare Fraud Division
(800) 242-2873

Online: www.michigan.gov/ag
Email: hcf@michigan.gov

Mail: Total Health Care, Fraud & Abuse Coordinator
3011 W. Grand Blvd., Suite 1600
Detroit, MI 48202

Phone: (800) 826-2862 Email: eliminatefwa@thcmi.com



Provider/Member Fraud, Waste & Abuse Submission Form

Please submit to the Special Investigation Unit (SIU)

Submitter: _____

Date received: _____

Fraud, Waste or Abuse Suspicion: _____

Description of incident: _____

SIU Intervention: _____

Resolution: _____

Contacted MDHHS? _____

Date of MDHHS Contact: _____

Date completed: _____