

# Future Trend: Fighting Fraud and Abuse with “transparency”



LEONARD J. CHABERT MEDICAL CENTER

## What’s up Doc? case management news

**Watch out when it comes to receiving gifts!** Many physicians receive or even expect gifts from home health agencies, private duty agencies, home medical equipment companies, and hospice agencies to which they make referrals.

### The Rules Read:

- No cash
- No cash equivalents, including gift cards and gift certificates
- Non-cash items of nominal value are permitted so long as the value of such items does not exceed approximately \$350.00 per calendar year.

- Non-cash items of nominal value given cannot induce referrals.

Physicians, as well as the agencies, may be suspended or excluded from participating in federal and state health care programs.

Large penalties or fines may be imposed, as well as the potential loss of licenses or even the risk of imprisonment.

According to regulators, providers and physicians may be required to publicly disclose all of the gifts they give and receive. The purpose of disclosing publically may deter physicians from violating the law.

Regulators are now requiring a growing number of providers and manufactures to post publicly all of the payments they have made to doctors, as a result of settlements of alleged violations. Corporate Integrity Agreements (CIA’s) entered into between alleged violators and the Office of Inspector General (OIG) of the U.S. department of Health and Human Services may also require such disclosures.

In Gardiner Harris’ article entitled *Prosecutors Plan Crackdown on Doctors Who Accept Kickbacks*, which appeared in the New York Times on March 4, 2009, Dr. David Rothman, President of the Institute on Medicine at Columbia University was quoted as saying: “The rules of the game have changed...You’ve got to presume that anything you take from a company is going to be on a Web Site. Your colleagues will know; your patients will know. That’s going to stop a lot of doctors from pocketing their gifts and funds.” Doctors whose financial arrangements have already been made public are horrified.



### Get more information

- To obtain more information about fraudulent claims in a book entitled : [Medicare/Medicaid Fraud and Abuse: a Practical Guide for Providers](#), send a check for \$30 to Elizabeth E. Hogue, Esq. to: Fulfillment, 107 Guilford, Summerville, SC 29483.



### Special points of interest:

- *It is your responsibility to know the rules!*

Questions? Contact Debbie Picou, RN 873-1833

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## Inside Story Headline

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This story can fit 150-200 words.

One benefit of using your newsletter as a promotional tool is that you can reuse content from other marketing materials, such as press releases, market studies, and reports.

While your main goal of distributing a newsletter might be to sell your product or service, the key to a successful newsletter is making it useful to your readers.

A great way to add useful content to your newsletter is to develop and write your own articles, or include a calendar of upcoming events or a special offer that promotes a new product.

You can also research articles or find “filler” articles by accessing the World



Caption describing picture or graphic.

publication. So, when you're finished writing your newsletter, convert it to a Web site and post it.

Wide Web. You can write about a variety of topics but try to keep your articles short.

Much of the content you put in your newsletter can also be used for your Web site. Microsoft Publisher offers a simple way to convert your newsletter to a Web

## Inside Story Headline

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This story can fit 100-150 words.

The subject matter that appears in newsletters is virtually endless. You can include stories that focus on current technologies or innovations in your field.

You may also want to note business or economic trends, or make predictions for your customers or clients.

If the newsletter is distributed internally,

you might comment upon new procedures or improvements to the business. Sales figures or earnings will show how your business is growing.

Some newsletters include a column that is updated every issue, for instance, an advice column, a book review, a letter from the president, or an editorial.

You can also profile new employees or top customers or vendors.

*“To catch the reader's attention, place an interesting sentence or quote from the story here.”*

## Inside Story Headline

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This story can fit 75-125 words.

Selecting pictures or graphics is an important part of adding content to your newsletter.

Think about your article and ask yourself if the picture supports or enhances the message you're trying to convey. Avoid selecting images that appear to be out of context.

Microsoft Publisher includes thousands of clip art images from which you can choose and import into your newsletter. There are also several tools you can use to draw shapes and symbols.

Once you have chosen an image, place it close to the article. Be sure to place the



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caption of the image near the image.

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*Caption describing picture or graphic.*



# Organization

## LEONARD J. CHABERT MEDICAL CENTER

Primary Business Address  
Your Address Line 2  
Your Address Line 3  
Your Address Line 4

Phone: 555-555-5555  
Fax: 555-555-5555  
E-mail: someone@example.com

***Your business tag line here.***

*This would be a good place to insert a short paragraph about your organization. It might include the purpose of the organization, its mission, founding date, and a brief history. You could also include a brief list of the types of products, services, or programs your organization offers, the geographic area covered (for example, western U.S. or European markets), and a profile of the types of customers or members served.*

*It would also be useful to include a contact name for readers who want more information about the organization.*

**We're on the Web!**  
**example.microsoft.com**

## Back Page Story Headline

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This story can fit 175-225 words.

If your newsletter is folded and mailed, this story will appear on the back. So, it's a good idea to make it easy to read at a glance.

A question and answer session is a good way to quickly capture the attention of readers. You can either compile questions that you've received since the last edition or you can summarize some generic questions that are frequently asked about your organization.

A listing of names and titles of managers in your organization is a good way to give your newsletter a personal touch. If your organization is small, you may want to list the names of all employees.

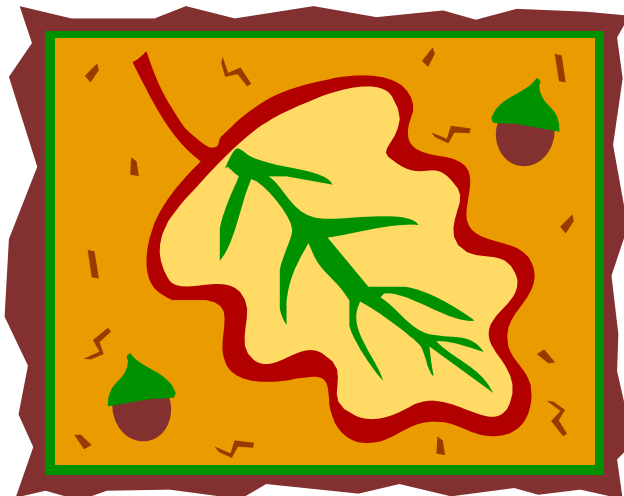
If you have any prices of standard products or services, you can include a listing of those here. You may want to refer your readers to

any other forms of communication that you've created for your organization.

You can also use this space to remind readers to mark their calendars for a regular event, such as a breakfast meeting for vendors every third Tuesday of the

month, or a biannual charity auction.

If space is available, this is a good place to insert a clip art image or some other graphic.



*Caption describing picture or graphic.*