

ASO Program Integrity Newsletter Winter 2014

ValueOptions Maryland Program Integrity

We are committed to ensuring all staff in the Maryland Engagement Center understands and complies with all state and federal regulatory standards including COMAR, HIPAA, HITECH and others. We receive potential fraud & abuse tips, develop provider outlier reports and conduct provider audits. Mr. Guy Reese, LCSW-C, CFE is the ASO's Program Integrity Manager.

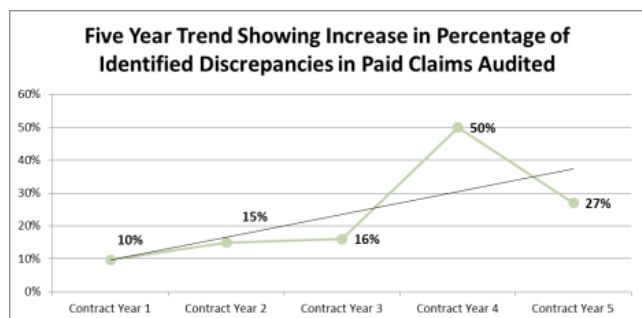
A Look Forward

ValueOptions Maryland will conduct at least 300 provider audits per year beginning January 2015. Audits will include mental health and substance use providers across multiple levels of care. Under review will be the provider's staffing, quality of documentation and billing. All audit tools are based on COMAR, Behavioral Health Administration (BHA) memorandums and other regulatory standards.

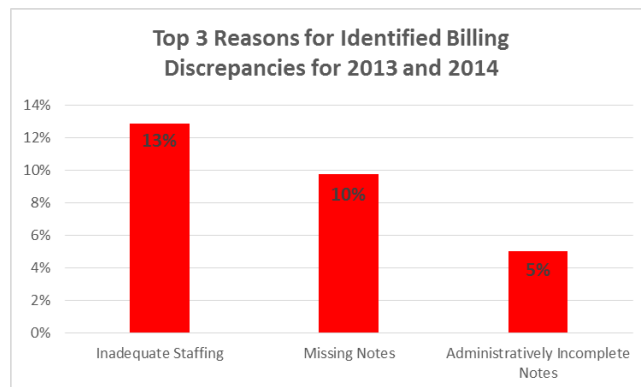
Providers may find that they are audited more frequently by the ASO than in years past. All audits will continue to be approved by BHA. Keep in mind that COMAR allows for announced and unannounced audits.

A Look Back

From September 2009 through August 2014 ValueOptions conducted 350 provider audits reviewing over **\$14.2M** in paid claims. Through effective data mining techniques developed over the first two years of the contract a strong trend of high percentages in identified billing discrepancies emerged.



Over the last two years thirty-nine cents of every dollar reviewed was identified as a billing discrepancy.



Data Mining

Mr. Guy Reese was recognized by ValueOptions as being a leader in the company for developing best practices in data mining techniques. Mr. Reese is now leading the company's national Data Mining Workgroup. In Maryland he leads the local workgroup which develops and reviews provider metrics to identify early outlier trends.

Provider Education Events

Regional Forums in 2010 and 2013 were utilized to re-train hundreds of providers on standards for quality of documentation and billing practices. Strategies were discussed to increase compliance and decrease potential billing discrepancies that could lead to a retraction. The eight (8) statewide trainings were well attended.

ValueOptions presenters included:

- Program Integrity Manager
- Quality Management Director
- Provider Auditors

Resources

The following resources and more are available at:

http://maryland.valueoptions.com/provider/prv_info.htm

- Audit Tools
- Audit Procedures
- Common Quality of Documentation Findings