

BARRY'S UPDATES

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WELCOME TO 2010!!!

There are a number of changes in the law that I will highlight in coming newsletters.

Today I would like to discuss changes to the Medicare law. Medicare has the right, under federal law, to be reimbursed when medical bills are paid by them for injury related medical expenses, when someone else is the cause of the injury. By law, every attorney must repay Medicare when a case is settled, or the client and/or attorney can be liable for financial penalties.

The new law requires early reporting of the injury to Medicare. The new change to the law creates a much longer response time from Medicare once they are notified of the pending case. If they are not notified by the patient's attorney shortly after the injury, as we do in our office, it could delay obtaining the amount owed to Medicare and, therefore, delay the ability to settle the claim and disburse payment to medical providers and the clients.

I hope everyone reading this newsletter has a happy, healthy 2010.

Sincerely,

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