

Congress Overrides Bush Medicare Veto

July 15, 2008: President Bush on July 15 vetoed the Medicare Improvements for Patients and Providers Act of 2008. The House and Senate the same day overwhelmingly **overrode the veto**.

The bill, now to become law over Bush's objections, **makes several changes in Medicare provisions, including authorizing financial incentives for the use of electronic prescribing technology.**

The bill calls for Medicare **incentive payments for e-prescribing of 2% in fiscal 2009 and 2010, 1% in 2011 and 2012, and 0.5% in 2013.**

Beginning in 2012, Medicare payments to physicians not electronically prescribing would be **reduced by 1%, then 1.5% in 2013 and 2% in subsequent years.** The legislation also requires reporting of any e-prescribing quality measures established under Medicare's physician reporting system. While the provisions pertain only to Medicare, **other health insurers often follow Medicare and implement similar policies.**

Excerpted from Health Data Management, July 15, 2008

e-Prescribing - a *built in feature* of our 2007 CCHIT CertifiedSM e-Medsys EHR - provides exactly the type of functionality needed to issue electronic prescriptions: from the patients e-Medsys EHR record directly to the pharmacy's system (and not by auto-fax).

But e-Prescribing is only one of the many features available with e-Medsys EHR, which include:

- Electronic Superbill...posting procedures / diagnoses electronically during the encounter;
- Automated lab orders and results directly from and to the patient's record;
- E / M Coding to ensure maximum reimbursements;
- Health Watcher for health maintenance management;
- Supporting Voice and Handwriting recognition for quick entry of notes and elimination of costly and time-consuming transcription
- Document Management, reduced files, quick retrievals;
- Access to patient records securely

These and so many other capabilities are available through e-Medsys EHR.

Visit www.practiceone.com/EHR for details on how the system, and our entire e-Medsys Solutions Suite can help automate your practice.

877-eMedsys (363-3797), Extension 2922

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