



### **Transcript for audio podcast: Anesthesia Service Payments**

Lori Ahlstrand, Regional Inspector General for Audit Services in San Francisco, speaking with Kristin Scully, an auditor from the San Diego field office. Let's talk about your involvement with the anesthesia services investigation, which led to a \$1.2 million dollar settlement. [Read More](#)

### **Sunshine rule**

A number of new resources are available to help practices prepare for implementation of the Physician Payments Sunshine Act, which was included as part of the Affordable Care Act. Final regulations spelling out the details of the program, which the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) now refers to as "OPEN PAYMENTS," were released earlier this year. [Read More](#)

### **HHS Ups the Ante for Reporting Fraud**

A federal proposed rule would increase substantially the percentage and maximum of rewards paid to Medicare beneficiaries and other individuals whose tips about suspected fraud lead to the successful recovery of funds. [Read More](#)

### **Study Shows Employer-Sponsored Insurance Coverage Declined Steadily Over Decade**

The percentage of Americans who receive health insurance through employers has fallen significantly over the last decade—from 69.7 percent nationwide in 2000 to 59.5 percent in 2011, according to a report by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. [Read More](#)

### **Study: Slowdown in Health Spending Growth Linked to the Economy**

The slower growth rate in the nation's healthcare spending in recent years stems mainly from economic factors beyond the healthcare system, according to a study by the Kaiser Family Foundation and the Altarum Institute. [Read More](#)

### **Anderson's AnMed shows biggest financial loss in state report**

AnMed Health Medical Center in Anderson lost \$95.7 million between 2008 and 2011, by far the biggest red ink showing among 60 South Carolina hospitals, a state report shows. [Read More](#)

### **Oregon Experiment Studies Effects of Medicaid on Clinical Outcomes**

A study of data from Oregon's expansion of Medicaid coverage through a lottery in 2008 shows that the state's expanded Medicaid coverage generated no significant improvements in measured physical health outcomes in the first two years, but increased the use of healthcare services and almost eliminated out-of-pocket catastrophic medical expenditures. [Read More](#)

### **Patient Satisfaction Not an Indicator of Quality Surgical Care**

Although patient satisfaction is an important indicator of a hospital's service quality, satisfaction scores from the Hospital Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and Systems (HCAHPS) survey do not necessarily reflect the quality of surgical care that patients receive, according to a study published in *JAMA Surgery*. [Read More](#)

### **Industry Behind on ICD-10 Readiness**

The healthcare industry is not making the needed amount of progress for a smooth transition to ICD-10 in October 2014, according to an ICD-10 industry readiness survey from Workgroup for Electronic Data Interchange (WEDI). [Read More](#)

