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Alaska's Medicaid billing error rate lowest for FFY2008 claims

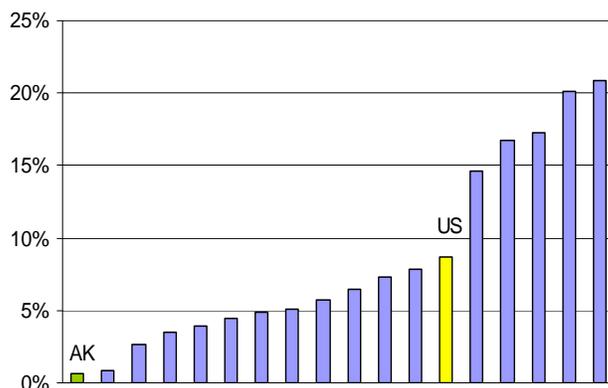
National review finds Alaska has less than 1 percent billing error rate

(Anchorage) — A national review of how accurately providers bill Medicaid found Alaska had an error rate of less than 1 percent.

The Payment Error Rate Measurement (PERM) review examines states' Medicaid billing procedures and provider compliance. Groups of states are measured every three years in the staggered review. The round of the review that included Alaska and 16 other states looked at Medicaid claims paid between Oct. 1, 2007, and Sept. 30, 2008. The average error rate for this group was 8.71 percent; Alaska's rate was 0.59 percent.

"I want to thank our Medicaid service providers for their conscientious work that resulted in Alaska's excellent rate," said Department of Health and Social Services Commissioner Bill Hogan. "I also congratulate our Program Integrity staff for their support of Alaska's provider community."

Medicaid Billing Error Rates for Federal Fiscal Year 2008



Caption: The PERM review for federal fiscal year 2008 measured 17 states. Alaska's error rate is 0.59 percent (green bar.) The national average is 8.71 percent (yellow bar.)

Medicaid pays more than \$1 billion in medical costs for low-income and vulnerable Alaskans annually. The joint state and federal medical assistance program covers equipment and services from dental care to elders' medical care.

For more information, see the Alaska Payment Error Rate Measurement Web site, www.permaudit.alaska.gov.

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