

**Health Reform Fraud and Abuse Recommendation:
Quarterly meetings of regulatory agencies and providers
For discussion on 15 March 2011**

The Health Reform Fraud and Abuse Workgroup recommends that the state regulatory agencies (DMA, DSHR, DMHDDSAS) be required to meet regularly (quarterly) and share information regarding fraud and abuse with providers. The goal of these meetings is open communication to facilitate early identification of payment error trends, review procedures for incident reporting and response, and identify system challenges and inconsistencies with the goal of improving operational performance of Medicaid at the state and provider level.

Meetings would consist of a closed session and an open session. The closed session would allow confidential sharing of information between licensing board, law enforcement, and state regulatory agencies (DMA, DMHDDSAS, DSHR). Evaluation of what information may be shared with and by whom is required, and may result in legislation or rule changes. The open session would provide an opportunity for sharing of trends (e.g., top ten problems seen on provider audits, trends identified through new software analytics), survey concerns (e.g., differences between surveyors), and clarification of rules between licensing boards, state regulatory agencies, insurers, and provider associations. Participants in the open meetings would include state regulatory agencies (DMA, DSHR, DMHDDSAS), provider associations and boards (e.g., NC Adult Day Services Association, NC Board of Chiropractic Examiners, NC Board of Dental Examiners, NC Health Care Facilities Association, Association for Home Care and Hospice of NC, NC Hospital Association, NC Medical Board, NC Medical Society, NC Board of Nursing, NC Board of Occupational Therapy, NC Board of Examiners of Optometry, NC Board of Pharmacy, NC Board of Physical Therapy Examiners, NC Psychology Board, NC Board of Examiners for Speech and Language Pathologists and Audiologists), and other provider representatives (e.g., pharmacy benefit managers, professional coders, billing agencies, practice managers).

Meeting will be announced widely, including through DMA bulletins, and provider association websites and newsletters. *Other suggestions?*