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CrS Report for Congress: Medicare Program Integrity: Activities to Protect Medicare from Payment Errors, Fraud, and Abuse

By Holly Stockdale

BiblioGov. Paperback. Book Condition: New. This item is printed on demand. Paperback. 36 pages. Dimensions: 9.7in. x 7.4in. x 0.1in. In FY2008, Medicare is expected to cover an estimated 44.6 million beneficiaries at a total cost of 456 billion. With an average annual growth rate of 7.0, the Congressional Budget Office (CBO) projects Medicare costs to double over the next 10 years. Because of a number of factors, such as an aging population, overall increases in medical costs, and the new Part D prescription drug benefit, spending on Medicare services is expected to grow more than spending in the U. S. economy. As expenditures continue to rise in the nation's largest health insurance program, efforts to preserve the integrity of the program receive increased attention from policy makers. Program integrity is considered a component of the effective and efficient administration of government programs, which are entrusted with ensuring that taxpayer dollars are spent wisely. Efforts to ensure Medicare program integrity encompass a wide range of activities and require coordination among multiple private and public entities. In general, initiatives designed to fight fraud, waste, and abuse are considered program integrity activities. This includes processes directed at reducing payment errors to...



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