

Part B Insider (Multispecialty) Coding Alert

Which Specialties Are Billing Improperly?

The government's CERT report not only identifies the types of errors that practices make—it also profiles which specialties had the highest Part B error rates. Keep in mind that the error rate for all providers is 10.5 percent, so we've listed all Part B specialties that had higher rates than that average, as follows:

Specialty Error Rate

Chiropractic	51.4%
Private practice occupational therapist	32.2%
Vascular surgery	29.4%
Clinical laboratory	24.4%
Psychiatry	22.1%
Clinical social worker	21.6%
Private practice physical therapist	18.7%
Pulmonary disease	18.1%
Clinical psychology	17.8%
General practice	15.8%
Internal medicine	15.3%
Critical care (intensivists)	15.0%
Infectious disease	13.8%
Gastroenterology	13.7%
Family practice	13.7%
Independent diagnostic testing facility (IDTF)	13.6%
Neurology	12.4%
Diagnostic radiology	12.3%
Physician assistant	12.1%
Cardiology	11.8%
Obstetrics/gynecology	11.0%
Allergy/immunology	10.9%



Emergency medicine 10.9%

Among the specialists with the lowest error rates were CRNAs at 1.4 percent, dermatologists at 2.4 percent, and hematology/oncology at 3.6 percent.