

2017 Billing Integrity Program Sample of Health Care Practitioner Audit Results

1. HCPA-17, Midwife

Health Care Practitioner HCPA-17 is a midwife who was practicing in a suburban setting. This midwife came to the attention of the Billing Integrity Program as a result of complaints from colleagues.

An on-site audit found that the most significant error in this practice was that a high number of services billed were not provided by HCPA-17, but were provided by other individuals.

After the on-site audit, it became clear that HCPA-17 was involved in a group practice involving physicians and other midwives. The Midwifery Payment Schedule differs from other provincial payment schedules in that a single billing claim may reflect a group of services provided over several months by several different practitioners. It was clear that although HCPA-17 had every intention of providing comprehensive shared care, the billing and payment of services within the group was disorganized.

A settlement was reached with HCPA-17 which included a Pattern of Practice Order. Further, the Billing Integrity Program will be working with the College of Midwifery of BC to educate midwives about correct billing procedures in group practices.