

## **HIGHLIGHTS OF THE MEDICARE WEBINAR**

On March 24 Kathy Dunphy of National Government Services gave an excellent overview of Medicare for the solo practitioner, answering all questions. Here are the highlights of the presentation, short version:

**PQRS has ended. MIPS will not be required of us until 2019 or 2020.**

**98% of all Medicare claims are electronic and they want us to transition from handwritten paper claims, threatening not to accept them in the near future. Typed claims will be acceptable. Electronic claims are paid after 15 days, paper claims after 30.**

**Revalidation occurs every 5 years. Watch for the letter from Medicare or you could be deactivated. Read your mail!**

**Failing to submit the ASCA Exemption for filing paper claims could also cause you to be denied. Watch for that letter, too.**

**LCSWs are required to accept assignment or else follow the Opt Out procedure on [NGSMedicare.com](http://NGSMedicare.com), and then advise the client in writing to this effect.**

**NGSMedicare.com has many tutorials, a Fee Schedule Lookup on the home page, and a portal, Connex, for free filing of claims. You can confirm coverage or follow up on submitted claims through Connex.**

**Kathy advised us all to avail ourselves of the information on their website.**

The Vendorship Committee stands ready to help you with any Medicare Questions. Email [helenhoffman@verizon.net](mailto:helenhoffman@verizon.net).

**Helen T. Hoffman, LCSW**

**Virginia Lehman, LCSW**

**Vendorship and Managed Care Committee**

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