

**THOT 340B Call: October 17, 2016**

**JW modifier and documenting waste**

High Level Summary:

Harris, JPS and Parkland use EPIC billing. Epic is working on to provide a fix. Under this fix, when a nurse documents this in the system, Epic software will put this in the system. The fix is supposed to be available by November 8th (end of October or first week in November). That timeline is a concern because the Epic update will need to be tested within hospitals’ IT systems before it can be implemented for January 1. Also, the holidays in end of November and December could contribute to delays. Starting on January 1 is also a challenge.

UMC El Paso and UMC Lubbock do not use EPIC. Both use Cerner and each uses a different billing system. Both will use a manual process. UMC Lubbock will use a “hold bill” which pends or holds claims while they can verify or check the billing.

Nationally – Texas’ experience seems to be similar to other providers regarding concerns on timelines for implementing, and shared concerns by providers using Epic solution.

On applying the JW modifier to Medicare as well as non-Medicare, UMC Lubbock will apply only to Medicare, Parkland will have it in the system across all payers but will suppress it for non-Medicare payers.

Go forward actions:

* THOT to schedule another call for mid-end of November to touch base.
* THOT to reach out to vendor drug at HHSC and see if they will support us in reaching out to CMS through Medicaid with the timeline concern. This is a particular issue for providers using Epic, if that solution won’t be available until beginning of November. See if there is any option for an additional delay in the implementation date.
* Epic users – might be helpful to reach out to Epic and emphasize importance of receiving the update asap.
* Please share with the group any updates before our next call.