What is the NOTICE Act? Just what is Observation? How is observation different from inpatient admission? To answer these questions and more please come join us in this upcoming Webinar.

**WEBINAR TOPICS**

- Observation Services
  - Types and Levels of Services
  - Organization and Provision of Observation Services
    - Dedicated Units
    - Medical/Surgical Floor Beds
  - Coding, Billing and Payment for Observation
    - Distinguishing Inpatient from Outpatient Observation
    - Physician Supervision
- Documentation for Observation
  - Physician Documentation
    - Justifying Observation Services
    - Interim Visits
    - Discharge from Observation Summary
  - Over 2-Midnights Rule
  - Use and Advantages for an Observation Log
- Nursing and Clinical Documentation
- Care Paths for Observation Services
• Types of Care Paths
  • Documentation Sufficiency
    o Physician Supervision
• Condition Code 44
  o Criteria for Use of Condition Code 44
  o Utilization Review Involvement and Documentation
  o Physician Documentation Requirements
  o Correcting Mistakes
• Auditing Observation Services
  o Developing Audit Guidelines
  o Preparing the Documentation Package for Observation
  o Conducting Mock Audits
• Private Payer Consideration for Observation
  o Changing Inpatient to Observation
  o Documenting Requests From Private Payers to Change Inpatient to Observation
• Special Considerations
  o RAC Audits
  o Coordination With ER Services
  o Coordination With Inpatient Admissions
  o NOTICE Act
• Sources for Further Information

LEARNING OBJECTIVES
• Discuss the concept of observation and associated services
• Review how physicians should document to justify observation services
• Discuss what physicians should document at the time the patient is discharged from observation services
• Review how documentation must support the coding and billing process
• Define how observation differs from inpatient admissions
• Discuss the medical decision making relative to the over 2-midnights rule
• Review the need to track hours of observation including intervening services
• Identify how an Observation Log can assist in reviewing documentation and appropriateness of coding and billing
• Define the use of Condition Code 44 and the documentation requirements surrounding the use of Condition Code 44
• Review the use of standard observation protocols or care paths
• Discuss the documentation requirements that will satisfy auditor requirements
• Explain why Medicare is so concerned about post-surgery observation
• Recognize how Medicare reimbursement is affected by a procedure performed after observation
• Discuss how private payers view and use observation services
• Review the requirements in the NOTICE Act

TARGET AUDIENCE
Outpatient Nursing Staff, Medical/Surgical Nursing Staff, Nurse Managers, ED Nursing Staff, Utilization Review Personnel, Quality Assurance Personnel, Quality Assurance Personnel, Physicians, Non-Physician Practitioners, Coding Personnel, Billing and Claims Transaction Personnel, Chargemaster Coordinators, Financial Analysts, Compliance Personnel, and Other Interested Personnel

FEATURED FACULTY
Duane Abbey A management consultant and president of Abbey & Abbey Consultants, based in Ames, Iowa. For over twenty years Abbey & Abbey, Consultants, Inc. has provided superior healthcare consulting services to hospitals, hospital systems, physicians, medical clinics and integrated delivery systems.

Abbey & Abbey, Consultants, Inc. specializes in healthcare consulting primarily in the areas of:
• Payment systems - reimbursement consulting
• Delivery systems - organization of healthcare delivery
• Compliance - developing compliance programs - emphasis in the coding, billing and reimbursement areas

In addition to his consulting, Dr. Abbey has been an invited presenter for hospital associations, medical societies, and other groups. He has also published both articles and books on health care topics. Dr. Abbey earned his graduate degrees from the University of Notre Dame and Iowa State University.

Can’t make it at the scheduled time? Register anyway and for an extra $50 the recording will be sent right to your inbox after the webinar.