



Physicians Committed
to Quality

monthly memo mvma ipa

An important announcement from Richard B. Toll, M.D., MVMA President

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Fee Increase

The MVMA Board of Directors has approved a fee increase for our physicians, effective July 1, 2004. The MVMA fee schedule, with few exceptions, will be based on a conversion factor of \$48.34 utilizing 2004 regionally adjusted Medicare Relative Value Units (RVU). This is essentially a 4 percent fee increase in the aggregate. Withhold exposure will remain at 10 percent.

Chlamydia Screening Statistics

In the summer of 2003 a letter was mailed to all physicians who perform Pap smears to encourage increased Chlamydia screening. This initiative was based on the United States Preventive Services Task Force (USPSTF) strong recommendation that routine Chlamydia screening be performed for all sexually active women aged 25 years and younger, and other asymptomatic women at increased risk for infection. The USPSTF found good evidence that screening women at risk for Chlamydia infection reduces the incidence of pelvic inflammatory disease.

At the time of the mailing, performance statistics for our IPA region for females age 15-25 showed a rate of 30 percent for the year 2002. We are pleased to report that in the first six months of 2003, this rate rose to 34 percent, and in the second half of 2003 increased to 44 percent. These statistics indicate to us that Chlamydia screening appears to be incorporated as a routine part of the preventive health care offered to MVP members cared for by our physician network. Please help us achieve our goal of reducing the incidence of Pelvic Inflammatory Disease and infertility by screening all sexually active women under the age of 26 for Chlamydia.

Enclosure: Updated MVMA In-Office Radiology List