

New York State SMP MONTHLY

ISSUE NO. 20 | AUG 2021 |



REMINDERS



Join us for the
SMP Volunteer Meeting
on August 20, 11:00 AM
with the Pennsylvania
SMP volunteers

- To join by computer
Click [HERE](#).
- To join by phone dial
646-558-8656, Meeting
ID: 533 682 2516

SAVE THE DATES

9/17, 11 AM: Sept. SMP
Volunteer Meeting

10/12-10/14:
NY StateWide Senior
Action Council Virtual
Convention



Hello!

We all love to be social, and as SMP volunteers, we know how much we like to share information with others in our community. Staying socially connected is so important to one's mental health and well-being, a lesson learned from the pandemic.

That's why this month we invited Rebecca Nurick, Pennsylvania SMP Program Manager and the PA SMP Volunteers.

A few months ago, volunteers Alan Bay, Barb McBurnie and I attended the PA SMP's annual meeting, and were able to meet, share and discuss SMP activities happening in our states.

Now, we are looking forward to hearing from our PA neighbors on Friday August 20th at 11:00 am so please plan on attending!

I hope that you are enjoying the summer weather and able to get out, have some fun, and remember to take photos so we can share them in our newsletter!

Beth Nelson, *Director*, NYS SMP



Medicare Fraud Helpline 800-333-4374

What is Cardiovascular Genetic Testing Fraud?

This fraud occurs when Medicare is billed for a cardio type of test or screening that was not medically necessary and/or was not ordered by a beneficiary's treating physician.

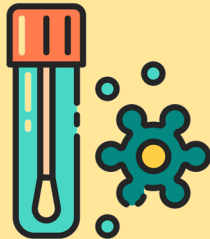
If Medicare denies the cardiovascular genetic test claim, you could be responsible for the entire cost of the test averaging \$9,000 to \$11,000.

Remember these tips:

- Do not give out your personal information to anyone over the phone. Even someone calling claiming your cardiologist requested the testing.
- Always read your Medicare Summary Notice (MSN) or Explanation of Benefits (EOB) and look for words like "gene analysis", "molecular pathology", or "laboratory" which may indicate questionable testing has occurred.
- Call your NYS SMP at **800-333-4374** to report your concerns about billing errors or if you have any questions about this type of fraud.

Read the latest SMP news stories and press releases on Genetic Testing Fraud -

- [Couple Indicted for Genetic Testing Scheme \(7/28/21\)](#)
- [Lab Owner Charged in Fraud Scheme \(7/14/21\)](#)



Meet StateWide Outreach Counselor Gene Dumlao

Gene joined the staff in February, 2011 and is one of the **staff experts** that responds to the Patients Rights Hotline calls. He provides

counseling on Medicare benefits and the EPIC program to help enrollees make informed choices. He is a certified HIICAP (Health Insurance Information Counseling & Assistance Program) counselor. Prior to that, Gene assisted seniors for five years at EPIC as an Outreach Field Representative and worked for IBM in Dallas, TX serving as a Customer Fulfillment Professional.

Outside of the office, Gene enjoys cooking, baking, and taking care of Alfie, a 4 year old Yorkie, rescued by him and his wife Melanie.

If you have a question about health insurance, a billing issue or what services may be covered by your health insurance plan, **call Gene Dumlao at 800-333-4374.**

If you follow our StateWide FB page, you'll see our [NEW Volunteer Spotlight Campaign](#), featuring **Ken Luft (Aug), Bonnie Bortz (Sept) & Elizabeth Campbell (Oct)**. Please like, share and follow us: [@NYStateWide](#).



STATE WIDE

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