

## **Steve Azia Comments in HME News on Proposed Rule That Would Expand Medicare's Authority to Revoke Billing Privileges**

The Department of Health and Human Services published a proposed rule in the Federal Register April 29 that contains a provision that would expand Medicare's authority to revoke billing privileges to cases where the provider "has a pattern or practice of billing for services that do not meet Medicare requirements." According to Steve Azia, if the proposed rule goes into effect, it could mean that providers with high error rates could lose their billing privileges. "This is not revocation for fraud," said Mr. Azia. "A provider could lose billing privileges based on an error rate that's often overturned."

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