



**060110 NEWS BLAST**

## **21.3% MEDICARE CUT STILL SCHEDULED FOR JUNE 1**

The House of Representatives passed legislation (HR 4213) on May 28<sup>th</sup> establishing a 2.2% Medicare physician payment update for June 1 – December 31, 2010. HR 4213 also establishes a 1% update for 2011. In 2012, Medicare will revert to the Standard Growth Rate (SGR) methodology. As under previous physician fixes, the legislation delays (i.e., does not eliminate) the cuts schedule for 2010 and 2011. Subsequently, in 2012, physicians will reportedly face a projected cut of 33%.

The Senate must now take up the House-passed legislation when they resume business after the Memorial Day recess.

CMS has instructed its contractors to hold claims containing services paid under the Medicare Physician Fee Schedule (MPFS) (including anesthesia services) for the first 10 business days of June to avoid disruption in the delivery of health care services to beneficiaries and payment of claims for physicians, non-physician practitioners, and other providers of services paid under the MPFS. This hold will only affect MPFS claims with dates of service June 1, 2010 and later.

**Urge your senators and representatives to repeal the SGR!**

U.S. Senate: [http://www.senate.gov/general/contact\\_information/senators\\_cfm.cfm](http://www.senate.gov/general/contact_information/senators_cfm.cfm)

U.S. House of Representatives: <http://www.house.gov/>