

SCMA News Briefs

The monthly newsletter of the
Sonoma County Medical Association
Executive Director: Cynthia Melody
Newsletter Editor: Steve Osborn
707-525-4325
sosborn@scma.org

Special Edition
4/15/2009

STATE AND NATIONAL NEWS

Physicians need to comply with identity theft rules by May 1

Physicians who bill their patients for services, including copays, only have until May 1 to comply with the federal government's new "Red Flag Rules" for identity theft detection and prevention. According to the FTC, physicians who bill their patients are "creditors" and are thus subject to the new rules.

CMA and SCMA are offering two important resources to help physicians comply with the new rules:

First, CMA has prepared a free 26-page **Red Flag Rules Toolkit** that includes recommendations for designing and implementing an identity theft detection and prevention program. The toolkit is available on the CMA website at <http://www.cmanet.org>, or you can contact SCMA for a free copy at 525-4375 or rpandolfi@scma.org.

The second resource is a **CMA Webinar** on the Red Flag Rules from 12:30 to 1:15 p.m. on Thursday, April 16. The webinar will focus on how physicians can comply with the new rules. To register, visit <http://cmanet.org>.

ABOUT SCMA

The Sonoma County Medical Association, a 501(c)(6) nonprofit association, supports local physicians and their efforts to enhance the health of the community. Founded in 1858, SCMA is affiliated with the California Medical Association and the American Medical Association.

© SCMA 2009
3033 Cleveland Ave. #104
Santa Rosa, CA 95403