

## **Preparing for the New Year**

As 2006 winds down, MBI is gearing up for the beginning of 2007. Marie Goins, our credentialing specialist, is gearing up for our Medicare updates.

Marie will be sending notices out about updating your 2007 Ohio Pharmacy Board License. Medicare requires your department to submit an updated copy of your drug license annually. Once you receive your 2007 drug license, please forward it to Marie as soon as possible. Failing to provide Medicare with the new license will result in all EMS transport to be paid at the BLS base rate, thus reducing your department's revenue.

MBI has been awaiting report of the 2007 Ambulance Inflation Factor (AIF). CMS has released an advanced copy of the AIF and the AIF for 2007 has been set at 4.3%. Sometime throughout November we expect to send your department a Rate Suggestion Sheet for the authorized individual to sign and return to our office. As always these are only suggestions from MBI. Each department may elect to accept the rates, maintain their current rates, or set new rates for 2007. MBI advises all departments to take advantage of the AIF and raise your department's rate accordingly.

To allow us to better serve you and to comply with Medicare guidelines we need to know when any of your department information changes. These changes may affect payments processed by Medicare. Changes that need to be reported to our office immediately throughout the year are:

- Department Chief and Contact Information Changes
- Department Physical Address Changes
- Department Pay to Address Changes
- State Pharmacy Board License Changes
- Addition/removal of EMS transport units to your department

For any further information or to report changes please call Marie Goins at 937-619-3064 or 800-875-0136 extension 3064.