The Calendar Review and Analysis Office was developed to assure compliance with Medicare reporting requirements for Clinical Research. This resulted from President Clinton who signed an executive memorandum on June 7, 2000 directing the Secretary of Health and Human Services to "explicitly authorize (Medicare) payment for routine patient care costs ...and costs due to medical complications associated with participation in clinical trials". (CMS Transmittal AB-00-89)

As a result the Billing Calendar (BC) was born! The billing calendar is a tool used to represent who is responsible for paying for each item/service (I/S) provided to research subjects in a clinical trial. The BC lists I/S expected at each visit and categorizes billable events that a subject will receive during a research visit. CRAO reviews the BC in conjunction with the Protocol, Consent, Budget etc. to ensure all items are captured for billing purposes. This helps reduce legal consequences of non-compliant billing. On overall result of this helps to establish a process ensuring accurate patient care billing for clinical research and standardization across the organization.

We are here to help!!

Who we are........

CRAO currently consist of nine staff members with a broad range of expertise in the health care field. Our Director Gina Vuocolo-Branch oversees all operations of the department including education, process development, policies, procedures etc. just to name a few things. Our Project Manager Pauli-na Radenbaugh leads the MBECT project and our Research Support Specialist Collin Boyd assist with all MBECT Training. The Administrative Assistant Paula Greene maintains all office functions and scheduling. There are currently three Analyst Cindy Benedict, Tina Beli and Wendi Schumacher they assist in processing all studies by a review and approval process. Finally we have two Coding and Auditing Analyst DeLynn Forman and Brigette Myers who assist with procedure code selections and perform departmental auditing.
**Tips and Tidbits**

When you have common items/services for your billing calendar:

*Save time*—Create a Work Group (favorites) list and add all items at one time, then you can remove specific items to customize for each study. Follow this link to see how……

http://www.med.umich.edu/ummedschool-crao/06CTWorkgroups.pdf

MBECT Technical Items/Services are pre-loaded with 80% research discount rate. Professional fees are discounted to the amount of the Medicare fee schedule. This will help determine costs when creating your billing calendar budget.

**REMEMBER:** When selecting items/services for your study, it is important to use appropriate billing codes. If you require assistance contact

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**MBECT Subject Enrollment**

As of 2/3/12 Revenue Cycle Research Billing (RCRB) is not accepting the enrollment sheet. Please refer to these guidelines to determine how to proceed with subject enrollment:

1. Study with a final approved Billing Calendar (BC) created in MBECT
   *Enroll subjects in MBECT

2. Study with a final approved BC in eResearch (eRRM) but study is not in MBEC
   *Create a MBECT skeletal study and then enroll subjects in MBECT

3. Study with no final approved BC because study was migrated before requirement of BC
   *Create BC in MBECT  *Submit an Amendment to IRBMED  *Upload BC to eRRM
   *Upon CRAO/IRB approval you may begin enrolling subjects into MBECT

4. Study is exempt from the BC due to STM responses in eResearch application
   *Study is observational, prospective chart review, surveys/questionnaires, or performed in dedicated research space and performed by research staff.
   *Subject enrollment is NOT needed in MBECT.

In the near future, MiChart Research Application Coordinators (RAC) will be able to create research study accounts (RSH) in MiChart and then enter subject enrollment for these particular type of studies in MiChart

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**MBECT Training and Workshops!**

MBECT Workshops are held frequently at NCRC building 200, typically in room 266. Please contact MBECT-Help@umich.edu to register or please call 734-764-KNOW (5669) to discuss training days or times.

**MBECT Training**

[Training Registration page!](#) (hold Ctrl key and click mouse)

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**MBECT Feedback Survey**

Coming this month, you will receive a short survey from the MBECT Team to complete. Your feedback is very important to us and we will funnel back the feedback to the Vendor as a means of improving the usability of the tool. In addition, we will ask for feedback regarding the on-going training sessions.

**What is the shortest word in the English language that contains the letters: abcd?** FEEDBACK!

Don't forget that feedback is one of the essential elements of good communication.
MBECT USERS

In order to align the MBECT application with MiChart (new billing system for the Institution) we have uploaded the new billing codes with the research discounted fee amounts for Technical (facility) and Professional (profee) into the MBECT application.

How will this affect you?

The old version of facility 5-6 digit CDM numbers are no longer in MBECT (e.g., CDM 23298 CR-Specimen Collect ea. tube). The bundles were also converted to the MiChart numbers on 2/13/12.

What will the codes look like?

The new MiChart EAP numbers (previously called CDM#s) are 9 digit codes (e.g., Procedure Code # 030000089 CR-Specimen Collect ea. tube).

Other things to know

* A crosswalk from the old CDMs to the new EAP codes has been developed by the MiChart Team and is working behind the scenes.

* If no fee is listed in MBECT for a particular item/service such as Anesthesia professional fee, please contact the Margo Douthat at margod@umich.edu in the Anesthesia department for pricing information.

* Pricing for pharmacy items are not listed in MBECT so, please contact CRBIssues-help@umich.edu for pricing information

The New Research Medical Record Number

To obtain a Research Medical Record Number (formerly known as 7000 Account Number) for a new study, please complete a request form located at www.med.umich.edu/medshool-crao/index.htm and follow the directions on the form. You will be contacted with your new (MiChart generated) Research Medical Record Number. Prior to this request, you should already have an IRB approval, an approved Billing Calendar, a HUM number, and a shortcode. For studies that already have a 7000 Account Number, you do not need a new number as your 7000 Account Number has been migrated into MiChart.

Billing and Coding Corner

Clinical Research Billing Guidance

If a research study requires specific items and services to be completed at a greater frequency for study participants than required for non-participants, those items and services may not be considered reasonable and necessary and may not be covered by health plans.

Research Venipuncture

As of February 1, 2012 the Department of Pathology changed the rate for research venipuncture to $0.00! However, this item must still be added to your billing calendar and a requisition must be completed at the time of the request.