

## **GSA joins MAG third-party payer service**

GSA members may now access the highly-effective third-party payer claims resolution program run by the Medical Association of Georgia (MAG). The GSA Board approved the relationship at its July 2011 meeting.

Here's how the program works:

Participating specialty societies pay MAG a service fee each year. MAG will then charge the physicians who use the service a recovery fee, including 10 percent of the claims that are recovered for members of GSA or MAG. Physicians who are not members will be charged 25 percent of the claims that are recovered.

To get started, go to [www.gsahq.org](http://www.gsahq.org) to access the form.

“GSA constantly seeks to provide additional value to membership,” GSA President Dr. Tim Beeson said. “Members who participate may realize significant compensation that otherwise would remain mired in third-party red tape.”

If a practice that includes both members and non-members submits claims for assistance, the individual physician's claims will serve as the basis for the recovery fee (e.g., if physician A is a member and physician B is a non-member, the recovery fee for physician A will be 10 percent while the recovery fee for physician B will be 25 percent).

MAG's Director of Health Policy Cam Grayson will oversee the program. She stresses that practices must exhaust every contractual remedy and appeal before submitting a claim to MAG, adding that claims information must be submitted to MAG in an electronic format and must also include...

- A record of every attempt to collect the unpaid claims
- A brief synopsis of the issue
- All supporting documentation
- A signed business agreement giving MAG the authority to view information that is covered by HIPPA.

Grayson also emphasizes that MAG will not collect money from patients; it will only do so from public and private payers.

For issues not directly related to the recovery of funds, MAG will provide its members and GSA members with a preliminary consultation of up to one hour of staff time at no charge. MAG will refer practices to an outside attorney for consultations that require more than one hour of staff time – and the practice will be responsible for any fees that are required by the referral attorney. MAG will not charge a fee for referrals.

Contact Grayson at 678.303.9275 or [cgrayson@mag.org](mailto:cgrayson@mag.org) for additional information on MAG's Third-Party Payer Advocacy program.