



NEWS RELEASE

(For Immediate Release)

NCN Presents a Strong Market Alternative to Ingenix

IRVING, TEXAS (January 26, 2009) – This week, NCN launches the newest component in its Data *iSight* family of out-of-network cost containment services. NCN's Data *iSight* for Physician Bills manages out of network provider charges by calculating a generally-reimbursed amount that presents a timely alternative to payers who may have previously relied on Ingenix data for usual and customary provider calculations.

Like other Data *iSight* products, NCN's Physician module uses nationally-recognized components and national comparison data. Because cost of care data is not available for physician charges, as is facility cost information, the Data *iSight* physician module is based on the amounts generally accepted by the provider as payment in full for services rendered, coupled with the AMA's relative value system.

The NCN Data *iSight* physician module does not utilize Ingenix data. In fact, the methodology was developed as an alternative to Ingenix which has been under public scrutiny since investigated and sanctioned by New York State Attorney General Andrew Cuomo. Findings from the Office of the Attorney General (OAG) cite Ingenix and its parent company, United HealthCare, for manipulating its data through a variety of stratagems to keep customary rate calculations in its Ingenix usual and customary data inappropriately low. Acting as the people's attorney, Mr. Cuomo criticized Ingenix and the system in general, for the lack of public transparency about the data, the data manipulations and the possible impact on the consumer.

NCN presents a strong market alternative to Ingenix. Key differences between our Data *iSight* methodology and Ingenix include:

- NCN's use of Relative Value Units (RVU) endorsed by the AMA and utilized by CMS.
- NCN's conversion factor, which converts the RVU to an allowed amount, is based on a robust data base of billing data from over 3 billion transactions from 90 healthcare plans and represents more than 55 million unique geographically diverse patients.
- NCN's provider payment adjustment is transparent and uses nationally-recognized geographical wage indexes, medical inflation factors and provider specialty adjustments.

Like all Data *iSight* products, NCN's physician payment methodology is transparent to the payer, provider, and consumer through dedicated communication and Web portals.

About NCN

NCN is the national leader in cost management for out-of-network claims. We use cost-based data and transparent reporting to maximize savings on healthcare claims. At NCN, we claim a better way for payers, providers and patients with transparent, repeatable, defensible data. Visit www.ncnelink.com for more information.

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