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Hunt et al.

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[54] COMPUTER SOFTWARE FOR PROCESSING MEDICAL BILLING RECORD INFORMATION

[57] ABSTRACT

[75] Inventors: **William A. Hunt; Elizabeth F. Yauch; Mark Denovich**, all of Pittsburgh, Pa.

A computer-coded software instructions capable of being executed by a conventional computer microprocessor to perform information processing on pre-existing medical billing record information, preferably consisting of hospital or individual doctor Medicare billing records. The software contains at least one set of instructions for receiving, converting, sorting and storing input information from the pre-existing medical billing records into a form suitable for processing. The software contains at least one set of instructions for processing the input medical billing record information, preferably to identify potential Medicare "72 hour billing rule" violations. This processing is preferably performed by comparing each input medical billing record containing dates of medical inpatient admission and discharge to each input medical billing record containing a date of medical outpatient service. The inpatient and outpatient billing records are first compared to determine if they contain matching patient identification codes to identify all the records originating from the same patient. If matching patient identification codes are found the inpatient and outpatient billing records are further compared to determine if the date of outpatient service fell within a preselected time period, preferably 72 hours, prior to the date of inpatient admission. If so, the matching inpatient and outpatient billing records are distinguished and stored separately for further processing. If not, the matching inpatient and outpatient billing records are compared to determine if the date of outpatient service fell between the inpatient admission and discharge dates. If this is the case, the matching inpatient and outpatient billing records are again distinguished and stored separately for further processing. If not, the program proceeds to the next set of billing records to repeat the sequence.

[73] Assignee: **Medcom Solutions, Inc.**, Pittsburgh, Pa.

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[51] Int. Cl.⁶ **G06F 159/00**

[52] U.S. Cl. **705/3; 705/2**

[58] Field of Search **705/2, 3, 4, 17; 395/200.15**

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28 Claims, 3 Drawing Sheets

