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By Nina Youngstrom

◆ **Central Coast Inpatient Consultants Inc. in California has agreed to pay \$750,000 in a civil monetary penalty settlement with the HHS Office of Inspector General (OIG).** The settlement stemmed from a self-disclosure by Central Coast, which was accepted into OIG's Self-Disclosure Protocol in 2017. OIG alleged that Central Coast "submitted claims for services provided to Medicare beneficiaries at a hospital when those physicians were not properly enrolled as Medicare Part B providers and when the names and National Provider Identifier numbers of physicians who did not furnish the services were used on claims submitted to and paid by the Medicare program for the services furnished by those non-enrolled physician[s]." The settlement states that the \$750,000 is restitution. The attorney listed on Central Coast's settlement didn't respond to RMC's requests for comment. Central Coast didn't admit liability in the settlement.

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