Aetna’s policies on atherectomy and intravascular ultrasound (IVUS)
On Nov 27, in collaboration with the Society for Cardiovascular Angiography & Interventions, the Society for Vascular Surgery, the American College of Cardiology, and the Outpatient Endovascular and Interventional Society, SIR sent two letters requesting that Aetna update their clinical policies on atherectomy and IVUS to reflect current standards of practice.

Aetna has partnered with eviCore to require prior authorization on several peripheral vascular procedures, including atherectomy. Aetna will review our request as part of their clinical policy update process in early 2024.

Retirement of yttrium-90 microspheres local coverage articles
Effective Nov 1, 2023, Noridian Healthcare Solutions retired its local coverage article for treatment with yttrium-90 microspheres for Medicare Part A and Part B medical claims for Medicare fee-for-service beneficiaries and covers the following states:

JE A54072: California, American Samoa, Guam, Hawaii, North Mariana Islands, Nevada

Have you received the AMA Physician Practice Information Survey?
The American Medical Association (AMA) Physician Practice Information (PPI) Survey is underway, and we urgently need all selected physicians to actively engage in this effort. These data have not been updated since last collected over 15 years ago, and it is critically important to update these data to ensure accurate payment. We urge you to speak with your practice management colleagues to determine if they have received these communications and ask them to complete this critical survey. SIR strongly encourages all recipients to participate to ensure IR data is well-represented. For more information, contact economics@sirweb.org.