



## Texas Rehab Providers' Council

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# TXRPC News

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## Happy New Year!!!

The Board of Directors of TXRPC would like to wish everyone a happy and prosperous new year. We hope that you were able to enjoy your holidays and spend some time with your families.

With 2007 behind us, we wanted to take a moment and update you on some of the things happening with TXRPC and things on our agenda for 2008.

### Agency Liaison

Your Agency Liaison Committee will be meeting throughout the year with the new division at HHSC dealing with DME policy. Marianna Zolondek is heading this division up. We have had contact with Marianna already, and she has indicated a few very positive things for TXRPC.

First, HHSC wants to present policy changes at our annual conference.

Next, at our annual conference, they want to present status on credentialing.

Finally, she has assured us that they want TXRPC involved with the contractor chosen to develop recommendations regarding credentialing.

Since our contact with Marianna, we have been informed by HHSC that they have partnered with MAXIMUS to conduct policy research regarding DME, supplies and nutritional supplements. As well, MAXIMUS will offer recommendations to HHSC for policy consideration regarding program effectiveness and efficiency. This would take into account credentialing. HHSC has forwarded TXRPC's information to them as a key stakeholder group to be involved in their process.

These are very positive things for TXRPC, and we will keep you updated as more information becomes available.

### Annual Conference...save the date!

TXRPC's annual conference will be held in San Antonio, summer 2008. We are still in the process of ironing out details on the conference. With several of the major equipment manufacturers pulling out of Medtrade this year and refocusing efforts on a local level, we expect to have a lot for everyone...business office personnel, RTS's, and management alike.

### Medicare Accreditation Deadline

Just before Christmas, CMS announced the deadline by which all existing suppliers with a Medicare provider number will have to be accredited. That date is September 30, 2009. CMS states that if you are not accredited by that date; your NSC number/billing privileges will be revoked. TXRPC wants to encourage all of its members to look at their accreditation status and make plans toward this deadline.

