

2026 Hospice Compliance Network (HCN) – Webinar Series

Month	Webinar Topic	Presenter(s)	Course Description
January 21	Documentation Fatigue: Strategies to Create a Win-Win for your Hospice Team and your Clinical Record Documentation	Colleen O'Keefe	Over the years, hospice organizations have adopted a “more is better” mindset with clinical record documentation; however, “more” is not always better – more is just more and often leads to documentation fatigue. Weatherbee will share the strategies we developed to alleviate documentation fatigue and replace the “more is better” documentary practices with intentional, strategic, and value-added documentation to demonstrate high quality hospice care and support payment.
February 25	<u>Audit Series: Course #1:</u> Introduction to Pre-Billing Clinical Record Audits	Carrie Cooley	<p><u>Note:</u> <i>This Course Description will apply to the courses for February, March, May, June, July, August, and October 2026.</i></p> <p>A robust pre-billing clinical record audit program to assess the Conditions for Coverage/Payment prior to billing is the #1 way for hospices to mitigate payment-related scrutiny. Weatherbee’s 7-part series will include step-by-step instructions on developing a pre-billing clinical record audit program and the 4 primary auditing focus areas, as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assessing technical eligibility for payment; • Assessing clinical eligibility for payment; • Assessing payment for the General Inpatient (GIP) and Continuous Home Care (CHC) levels of care; and • Assessing hospice physician documentation sufficiency <p>Weatherbee will also discuss the billing implications when deficiencies are identified during the pre-billing audit and how to “close the loop” to address any identified trends that impact payment-related compliance.</p>
March 25	<u>Audit Series: Course #2:</u> Pre-Billing Clinical Record Audits – Assessing Technical Eligibility for Payment	Colleen O'Keefe	

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April 29	FY2025 PEPPER Report (<i>Tentative</i>)	Carrie Cooley	CMS has indicated the new and improved Hospice PEPPER Report will return in Fall 2025 or 2026. In hopes the new PEPPER Report is released at its normal time (annually in April), Weatherbee is planning take a deep dive into the new Hospice PEPPER Report (as soon as it is released) and share strategies to use the PEPPER Report to mitigate payment-related and possibly other compliance-related risk areas.
May 20	<u>Audit Series: Course #3:</u> Pre-Billing Clinical Record Audits – Assessing Clinical Eligibility for Payment	Carrie Cooley, Colleen O’Keefe, & Dr. Lauren Templeton	
June 17	<u>Audit Series: Course #4:</u> Pre-Billing Clinical Record Audits – Assessing Payment Eligibility for the Continuous Home Care (CHC) and General Inpatient (GIP) Levels of Care	Colleen O’Keefe	
July 22	<u>Audit Series: Course #5:</u> Pre-Billing Clinical Record Audits – Assessing Physician Documentation for Payment Sufficiency	Dr. Lauren Templeton	
August 19	<u>Audit Series: Course #6:</u> Pre-Billing Clinical Record Audits – Audit Deficiencies and Billing Implications	Carrie Cooley & Colleen O’Keefe	
September 23	FY2027 Hospice Final Rule: Discussion of Regulatory Updates and Recommendations for Operationalization	Carrie Cooley, Colleen O’Keefe, & Dr. Lauren Templeton	
October 21	<u>Audit Series: Course #7:</u> Pre-Billing Clinical Record Audits – “Closing the Loop” on Audit Findings to Ensure Future Compliance and Payment	Colleen O’Keefe	
November 18	To be determined		
December 16	To be determined		