



Fast Facts

CMS' Fraud, Waste, and Abuse Sprint Strategy

CMS is taking decisive action to **combat suspected fraud and improper payments** by implementing key program integrity initiatives through the end of 2025. These initiatives will **save taxpayers billions while protecting beneficiary care**.

The Fraud Defense Operations Center

CMS established the Fraud Defense Operations Center (FDOC) pilot, also known as the **Fraud War Room**, to integrate cross-functional expertise through a specialized team of data analysts, investigators, health policy experts, legal advisors, and law enforcement. This pilot tested an innovative approach to **safeguard beneficiaries and protect taxpayer resources by using rigorous data analysis to identify investigative leads for prompt engagement with subject matter experts and key stakeholders**.

The FDOC Pilot Halted Financial Loss

The FDOC **leveraged data-driven analytics to proactively detect, address, and prevent fraud, waste, and abuse** in real time. Using this approach, the team **coordinated timely interventions to ensure that improper payments were halted before financial loss was incurred by Medicare**. The FDOC pilot ran from March 31 - May 1, 2025.

FDOC efforts resulted in **\$105M in payments suspended** during the pilot*



Assessed 106 providers, over four per business day



Suspended payment to 50 providers due to suspected fraud



Implemented **pre-payment review on 40 providers**



Revoked Medicare billing privileges of **two providers**

Examples of egregious behavior caught by the FDOC



A dermatologist billed \$16M for a blanket's worth of skin substitutes to a single beneficiary who had no supporting medical history



A Texas lab billed Medicare \$2.2M for genetic tests that the beneficiaries confirmed they never received



A lab submitted \$10M in claims, averaging \$1M in services per day, to beneficiaries whose Medicare beneficiary identifiers (MBIs) were likely deceitfully acquired through malicious means

*Numbers are based on the pilot dates of March 31 - May 1, 2025 and are therefore subject to change.