Miami-Dade Doctors Found Guilty of Medicare Fraud

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Walter Proano and Manuel Barbeite, MD, were found guilty of prescribing unnecessary HIV medication and scamming Medicare out of $19.5 million, *The Miami Herald* reports.

According to prosecutors, both physicians worked for a Southwest Miami-Dade clinic that billed the government health care program for obsolete HIV infusion treatments that were never given to the patients. The clinic received almost $16 million from Medicare after the false claims were submitted from 2003 to 2006.

Barbeite faces a potential prison term of up to 20 years for two counts of fraud and one count of conspiracy. Meanwhile, Proano could go to jail for 15 years for one charge of fraud and one charge of conspiracy. Their sentencings are scheduled for October 29.

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