

Health Care Provider Sentenced To 75 Months For \$2.5 Million Health Care Fraud

CHICAGO – A former owner and operator of Selectcare Health, Inc., a provider of outpatient physical and respiratory therapy located in Park Ridge and Skokie, was sentenced to federal prison for engaging in a \$2.5 million health care fraud scheme. **Ankur Roy**, 38, of Miami Beach, Florida, was sentenced last Friday to 75 months in prison followed by 3 years of supervision after his release by U.S. District Court Judge Gary Feinerman. Roy was also ordered to forfeit more than \$2.5 million in proceeds he and his codefendants gained by defrauding Medicare and Blue Cross Blue Shield of Illinois. Roy was ordered to surrender to the Federal Bureau of Prisons on July 15, 2015. Roy was charged in 2013 with two co-defendants who both pled guilty; Dipen Desai, who was sentenced to 27 months' imprisonment in December 2014, and Akash Patel, who is scheduled to be sentenced in July. Roy was convicted of five counts of the indictment by a jury in July 2014.

Between March and May 2011, Roy and his co-defendants submitted false and fraudulent health insurance claim forms to Medicare and Blue Cross Blue Shield for respiratory therapy services that they knew were never provided to patients. Roy, who proposed the scheme to his co-defendants as a means to extricate themselves from debt, designed the scheme to avoid raising red flags with Medicare and Blue Cross Blue Shield's fraud detection systems. As a result of these false claims, Medicare and Blue Cross Blue Shield paid defendants over \$2.5 million. Defendant took over \$600,000 of that sum and used it for his own personal purposes, including for personal expenses, paying off credit card bills and repaying his student loan.

“Defendant Roy's fraud deprived Medicare and Blue Cross Blue Shield of over \$2.5 million, a substantial sum of money that should have gone to pay for medical services for senior citizens, and not to line his and his partners' pockets,” Assistant U.S. Attorney Maureen Merin argued at sentencing.

The sentence today was announced by Zachary T. Fardon, United States Attorney for the Northern District of Illinois, Robert J. Holley, Special Agent in Charge of the Federal Bureau of Investigation Chicago; Lamont Pugh III, Special Agent in Charge of the Chicago Regional Office of Health and Human Services, Office of Inspector General; and James Vanderberg, Special Agent-in-Charge of the U.S. Department of Labor Office of Inspector General in Chicago.

The government was represented by Assistant U.S. Attorney Maureen Merin.