

The Office of the Inspector General (OIG), Department of Defense (DoD), announced today that on May 3, 2001, a Federal grand jury in New Orleans, LA, returned a 1-count indictment against Suman Dewan M.D., for health care fraud.

The indictment is the result of an investigation which disclosed Dewan billed TRICARE, Medicare and the Federal Employee Health Benefits Program \$449,113 for adjacent tissue transfer procedures (a form of skin graft), when she actually performed excisions of lesions with simple non-layered closures (removal of moles or warts). The reimbursement rates for the skin graft procedures are significantly higher. Dewan owns and operates Dewan Dermatology Clinic with locations in Hammond and Slidell, LA.

If convicted, Dewan faces a maximum sentence of 10 years in prison and fines up to \$250,000.