

August 2007 • Bulletin 34

Contents

Medi-Cal Now Conference

Opt Out Enrollment Form

Third-Party Biller Software Testing Delayed 1

Reminder: POS Updates Coming For NPI Implementation 1

Third-Party Biller Software Testing Delayed

Testing for billers using third-party billing software has been delayed. The new date to begin testing third-party billing software is August 27, 2007. Billers will be able to submit test transactions with the National Provider Identifier (NPI) and appropriate qualifier through the Medi-Cal system test environment (<https://sysdev.medi-cal.ca.gov/Eligibility/Login.asp>).

The Medi-Cal system test environment will continue to be available through October 19, 2007. More beta testing can be performed between October 22 and November 18, 2007 on a case-by-case basis. For details, billers may call the Point of Service (POS) Help Desk at 1-800-541-5555 and select option 16 from the main menu and option 16 from the submenu.

Reminder: POS Updates Coming for NPI Implementation

To prepare for Medi-Cal’s NPI implementation on November 26, 2007, the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) is updating the Point of Service (POS) system to process the 10-digit NPI in all transactions and expanding the Share of Cost (SOC) Spend Down Procedure Code field from 11 characters to 19 characters.

Note: Providers not eligible for an NPI will continue to use the nine-digit Medi-Cal provider number.

Modifications are being made to the following:

- POS device software
- Internet software
- Mainframe supportive software

Real-time processing transactions included are:

- Internet transactions
- Point of Service (POS)
- Automated Eligibility Verification System (AEVS)
- Supplemental Automated Eligibility Verification System (SAEVS)

POS Device Download

Beginning August 25, 2007, messages will appear on POS devices announcing an automatic software update download. No action is required by providers except to leave the device on at the end of the day. The software will download automatically.

This software update accommodates the 10-digit NPI in preparation for Medi-Cal’s implementation on November 26, 2007. Providers must continue to enter the Medi-Cal provider number until the NPI implementation date. If an NPI is entered before November 26, 2007, the POS device will return an error message.

*Please see **Reminder**, page 2*

Reminder *(continued)***October 19, 2007 Test Transaction Deadline**

Once the software is downloaded, a test transaction is required. Test transactions must be completed by October 19, 2007 and include the NPI and appropriate qualifier. Instructions for executing a test transaction are included in the *Assembly and Installation* section of the *POS Device User Guide* available on the Medi-Cal Web site (www.medi-cal.ca.gov). From the home page, click “User Guides” (under “Provider Resources”), then “POS Device User Guides” and, finally, click the “Assembly and Installation” link.

Providers also may call the POS Help Desk at 1-800-541-5555 and choose option 16 from the main menu and option 16 from the submenu for further instructions, or to request a hard copy of the *POS Device User Guide*.

Eligibility

On November 26, 2007, Medi-Cal will accept only the NPI for eligibility transactions, Medi-Services reservations and SOC spend down dial-up or leased-line transmissions. Information about sending and receiving data via leased-line and dial-up submissions is available in the *ASC X12N 270/271 Version 4010A1 Health Care Eligibility Benefit Inquiry and Response* companion guide located on the Medi-Cal Web site (www.medi-cal.ca.gov).

Providers can access the guide by clicking the “HIPAA” link under “Provider Resources,” then the “ASC X12N Version 4010A1 Companion Guides and NCPDP Technical Specifications” link. On the following page, click “ASC X12N 270/271 Version 4010A1 Health Care Eligibility Benefit Inquiry and Response (Real-Time and Batch)” to download the *270/271 Overview for Leased-Line, Dial-Up and Batch Submissions* section of the guide.

New: Providers who tested 270/271 v.4010A1 eligibility transactions using their Medi-Cal provider numbers do not need to retest using NPI numbers.

Pharmacy

On November 26, 2007, Medi-Cal will accept only the NPI for all National Council for Prescription Drug Programs (NCPDP) Version 5.1 dial-up and leased-line transmissions. NCPDP Version 5.1 technical publications will be available on the Web page referenced above at a future date. Future *Medi-Cal Updates* will include more information. Test data for NCPDP transactions using the NPI are detailed in the NCPDP 5.1 specifications.

Instructions for Manual Replacement Pages

August 2007

CHDP Bulletin 34

**This *Medi-Cal Update* does not contain CHDP
Billing and Policy provider manual pages.**