



Child Health and Disability Prevention Program Gateway to Health Coverage

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Important NPI Dual-Use Period Changes

In an effort to ensure National Provider Identifier (NPI) implementation success for participating Medi-Cal providers, the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) is extending the current dual-use period, which began on May 23, 2007, to continue beyond the NPI implementation date. **Effective November 26, 2007, the NPI implementation date, a Medi-Cal provider number will continue to be required, even though the NPI is also being requested.** Failure to include the Medi-Cal provider number beyond the NPI implementation date could result in delay or denial of payment.

Providing both sets of provider numbers will assist DHCS in its continuing effort to provide prompt and accurate claims payment to Medi-Cal providers. As a result, until post-implementation NPI evaluations occur, use of the Medi-Cal provider number on all transactions will continue to be mandatory to achieve optimal success. Medi-Cal providers must continue using their Medi-Cal provider numbers until instructed otherwise.

The only exception to the dual-use rule is for those transactions where both sets of provider identifiers are not supported, such as the electronic pharmacy claims (NCPDP 5.1/1.1 standard). Where both sets of provider identifiers are not supported, providers must continue to use the Medi-Cal provider number beyond the November 26, 2007 NPI implementation date. Providers defined by the HIPAA final rule and Medi-Cal policy as “atypical” will also continue to use only their Medi-Cal provider numbers.

Please note that the following exceptions apply after the November 26, 2007 implementation date. For these exceptions, only the Medi-Cal provider number can be used during the dual-use period. Below is a partial list:

- Electronic pharmacy claims (NCPDP 5.1/1.1 standard)
- All proprietary Medi-Cal forms, including the *Payment Request for Long Term Care* form (25-1), *Pharmacy Claim Form* (30-1), *Compound Drug Pharmacy Claim Form* (30-4), *Treatment Authorization Request* (TAR), *Claims Inquiry Form* (CIF, 60-1) and *Appeal Form* (90-1)
- Direct Data Entry (DDE) applications, including Internet Professional Claim Submission (IPCS), Real-Time Internet Pharmacy (RTIP) and the Point of Service (POS) network

Register Your NPI

Registration of an NPI is a requisite to payment when the dual-use period ends. Furthermore, early registration, along with dual-use of an NPI and Medi-Cal provider identifier, permits DHCS to validate NPI registrations and prevent delays in payment after the cutover. Providers can register their NPI by visiting the online NPI registration tool on the Medi-Cal Web site (www.medi-cal.ca.gov) and clicking the “NPI” link.

2008 ICD-9-CM Code Updates Delayed

Medi-Cal providers are asked not to bill for services using 2008 ICD-9-CM codes until notified to do so in a future *Medi-Cal Update*. The Medi-Cal program has not yet adopted the 2008 updates for ICD-9-CM for Volume 1 (disease diagnoses) and Volume 3 (inpatient procedure codes) of the *2008 International Classification of Diseases, 9th Revision, Clinical Modification, 6th Edition*.

Note: Updates to the 2008 ICD-9-CM codes for Volume 1 and Volume 3 will be effective for Medicare on October 1, 2007.

Medi-Cal Web Site Redesign

On November 1, 2007, the Medi-Cal Web site (www.medi-cal.ca.gov) will feature a new “look-and-feel” to comply with state-mandated policy and design standards for all California government agency and department Web sites. The goal of this policy is to allow the public, businesses and other visitors to more easily access all information on any state-developed Web site.

Only the look-and-feel, as well as the navigational framework of the Web pages available to the general public, will change. The informational content of the Web site will not be affected, nor will the Transaction Services pages that are accessed via a provider’s logon ID.

Instructions for Manual Replacement Pages

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