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August 2009

Alaska Medical Assistance Newsletter

Location

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Training: 644-9845
Attachments: 644-8122 or
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Enrollment Requirements and Rules for Billing Group Services Changes

Affiliated Computer Services, Inc. (ACS) previously mailed out flyers which outlined changes to enrollment requirements and rules for billing group services for the Alaska Medical Assistance Program. Both flyers have been revised recently and have been posted to the ACS Website at <http://www.medicidalaska.com/providers/provupdates.shtml>.

The flyer, "New Enrollment Requirements," was originally mailed to providers on May 28, 2009 but has been amended to remove the requirement:

"Physician Assistant enrollment requires that the supervising physician be enrolled in the same professional group."

Though the supervising physician is not required to be a member of the same Alaska Medicaid billing group as the physician assistant, the physician assistant must be supervised by a physician that is actively enrolled in the Alaska Medical Assistance program.

This enrollment flyer also includes the following points:

- a reminder that physician assistants, certified registered nurse anesthetists, physical therapy assistants, occupational therapy assistants, and speech-language pathology assistants must now enroll with Alaska Medicaid to be reimbursed for services
- the valid servicing providers for GR/MDG/MPG Groups
- provider types that cannot bill as individuals

The flyer "New Rules for Billing Group Services" was initially mailed to providers on July 10, 2009 but has been revised to include trigger events and claims resolution information for two new edits, 918 and 919. Both edits will look for duplicate claims by comparing new claims to previously paid claims, each using different criteria. The specific trigger events and claims resolution facts can be found on the revised flyer which is available on the ACS Website at <http://www.medicidalaska.com/providers/provupdates.shtml>.

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This billing flyer also contains the details listed below:

- the valid therapy center servicing providers
- where to place the NPI on the CMS-1500
- the modifier “SA” is no longer required or needed for nurse practitioners, audiologists, nurse midwives, speech-language pathologists, physical therapists or occupational therapists who previously worked as collaborators in physician’s offices as they are now required to enroll individually
 - the “SA” modifier is allowed only for nurse practitioners’ claims and use of this modifier by any other servicing provider will result in a denial
- the modifiers “QX” and “QZ” are valid for certified registered nurse anesthetists only
- the new edits impacting group billers

If you need additional information, please contact the ACS Provider Inquiry Unit at (907) 644-6800 or (800) 770-5650 (toll-free in Alaska) or visit the ACS Website at

<http://www.medicaidalaska.com/providers/provupdates.shtml> to view the flyers.

Complex Billing Question? Issue Requiring Extensive Research? NO PROBLEM!

Complex matters and unique or difficult situations may require assistance beyond the role of Provider Inquiry. The Enhanced Provider Services (EPS) Department is a team of specialists ready to assist providers with the complicated and difficult problems. Please refer to the following designated EPS team member for their specialty, as listed (but not limited to):

Chandra: (907) 644-6898	DME, Behavioral Health
James: (907) 644-6899	Transportation
Misty: (907) 644-6893	Waiver

Provider Inquiry will continue to assist all providers with claim status and eligibility related questions. Remember that for escalated calls related to Waiver, Behavioral Health, DME and Transportation, the Provider Inquiry representative will gladly assist you by transferring your call to the appropriate EPS team member listed above. If the designated EPS team member is not available at the time of your call, you may be assisted by another team member, or you will have the option to leave a message.

The Enhanced Provider Services staff looks forward to assisting you.

Dental Rate Increase

The Alaska Medical Assistance Program is pleased to announce that a legislative appropriation was received to increase Medicaid reimbursement rates for some commonly billed dental codes. The increased rates are effective for services provided on and after July 1, 2009.

A new dental fee schedule has been published to reflect this increase and is available from Alaska Medicaid's fiscal intermediary, Affiliated Computer Service (ACS), at <http://medicaidalaska.com/providers/FeeSchedule.asp>. If you do not have internet access and would like to receive a copy of the new fee schedule by mail, please contact ACS Provider Inquiry at (907) 644-6800 or (800) 770-5650 (toll-free in state), option 1.

The Training Advantage

Saving time and money is important to everyone. Provider training is free! Providers are invited to send new employees to training to establish a solid foundation in determining recipient eligibility. Veteran employees can benefit from these trainings as well, both to refresh their knowledge and to keep them abreast of recent changes in Alaska Medicaid policies and procedures.

Training schedules are located at <http://medicaidalaska.com> under *Training*, then *Schedule*. Provider training sessions are offered in a variety of locations to suite everyone's need. Upcoming sessions include:

September

Teleconferences: September 4, 22, 23, 24, 25

Anchorage: September 1, 2, 3, 15, 16

Kenai: September 14, 15, 16, 17, 18

Valdez: September 29, 30, October 2

October

Teleconferences: 6, 8, 20, 21, 22, 23

Anchorage: 27, 28, 29, 30

Mat-Su Valley: 12, 13, 14, 15, 16

For future classes, check the online schedule at <http://medicaidalaska.com> for classroom location, address, and start times.

Remember: To guarantee your seat, please register at <http://medicaidalaska.com>; choose *Training*, then *Online Registration*. You will receive an online response confirming that you are registered for the class(s) you choose.

You may also complete the registration form and return it to ACS via fax – (907) 644-9845, by email - anctraining@acs-inc.com, or mail:

Affiliated Computer Services, Inc.
Attention: Training Unit
P.O. Box 240808
Anchorage, Alaska 99524-0808

If you are unable to access the ACS website to obtain the registration information, please contact a provider trainer at (907) 644-6800, or (800) 770-5650 (toll-free in Alaska).

Do you know what has changed since YOU last attended training?