



First Health Services Corporation®

A Coventry Health Care Company



May 2007

Alaska Medical Assistance Newsletter

Volume 2, Number 5

First Health Services Corp.
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State of Alaska and FHSC offices will be closed on

Memorial Day
Monday, May 28, 2007

NPI Contingency Plan
Effective Date May 23, 2007

Useful Fax numbers:

PA: (907) 644-6831

PI/Enrollment: (907) 644-8127

EPS: (907) 644-8122

Finance: (907) 644-8120

Watch for NPI Updates



First Health Services, in conjunction with the Department of Health & Social Services, publishes this monthly newsletter to offer providers useful information, monthly reminders, and tips on how to make billing easier.

BREAKING NEWS!

NPI CONTINGENCY PLAN

Last month the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) announced that it is implementing a contingency plan for covered entities who will not meet the May 23, 2007 deadline for compliance with the National Provider Identifier (NPI) regulations under the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) of 1996.

The CMS guidance clarifies that covered entities that have been making a good faith effort to comply with the NPI provisions may implement contingency plans that could include accepting legacy provider numbers on HIPAA transactions in order to maintain operations and cash flows.

Alaska Medical Assistance announces the following NPI Contingency Plan for health care providers submitting HIPAA-compliant electronic transactions:

1. **Share Your NPI With Alaska Medical Assistance:** Submit NPI information updates to your provider enrollment records no later than June 1, 2007. If you have not already completed and returned your NPI verification form, that form is due no later than June 1, 2007. Please follow the instructions included in the NPI Verification Packet previously provided when completing the form. A copy of the verification form can also be found at <https://alaska.fhsc.com>. Providers who have not yet obtained NPIs need to do so immediately and use the NPIs in HIPAA transactions as soon as possible. Providers can apply for an NPI online at <https://nppes.cms.hhs.gov> or can call the NPI enumerator to request a paper application at (800) 465-3203.

2. **Use It—Dual Use:** Submit both your Medicaid Provider ID number (MCI) and NPI number on electronic transactions. After May 23, 2007, continue to submit both your Medicaid Provider ID number (MCI) and NPI number on electronic transactions

a. Each electronic biller will be tested for appropriate NPI crosswalk outcomes before converting to sending only the NPI number on their claims. First Health will notify you about your conversion date after your testing produces successful crosswalk outcomes. First Health will work with you to accommodate unique provider issues.

b. Pharmacy claim billers will receive a separate notice outlining the requirements and effective dates for submitting NPI on pharmacy claims.

NPI CONTINGENCY PLAN (continued)

3. Full NPI compliance:

a. Full NPI compliance will be assessed on an individual provider basis. As providers successfully test and are approved to convert to billing with only the NPI number, NPI edits will be applied to their claims.

b. Alaska Medical Assistance will announce the sunset of the dual use period at a future date. Alaska Medical Assistance will be assessing health care provider submission of NPIs on claims. As soon as the number of claims submitted with an NPI for primary provider fields is sufficient to do so, Alaska Medical Assistance will issue a notice of Full NPI Compliance and the sunset date for accepting Medicaid provider ID (MCI) numbers. In August 2007, Alaska Medical Assistance will conduct the first analysis of the number of submitted claims containing an NPI. If the analysis shows a sufficient number of submitted claims contain an NPI, a sunset date announcement will be issued no later than August 31, 2007. If a sufficient number of claims do not contain NPIs in the August analysis, Alaska Medical Assistance will assess compliance again in November, 2007. Alaska Medical Assistance will provide advance notice to providers of the date when a decision has been made to implement Full NPI compliance.

The Alaska Medical Assistance NPI Contingency Plan is intended to enable our trading partners to continue to move toward compliance in a manner that reduces the potential for operational and cash flow impacts.

Health Care Fraud

Examples Of Fraud Schemes In Health Care:

- ✘ Billing for services not rendered
- ✘ Billing for higher level of services than actually performed
- ✘ Billing for more services than actually performed
- ✘ Charging higher rates for services to Medicaid than others
- ✘ Coding billings to get more reimbursement
- ✘ Providing and billing for unnecessary services
- ✘ Misrepresenting an unallowable service in a Medicaid billing
- ✘ Falsely diagnosing so Medicaid will pay for more services

Reporting suspected Medicaid fraud or abuse has never been easier. Call our Fraud Hotline at (800) 256-0930 (in-state toll free).

NPI: Care Coordination

Have you obtained your NPI? Care Coordinators and Care Coordination Agencies need to obtain separate NPI numbers. The NPI numbers of the rendering Care Coordinator, as well as the Care Coordination Agency, will need to be indicated on the claim when billing Alaska Medical Assistance. More information on the NPI can be obtained on the First Health Services' website at <https://alaska.fhsc.com> under the heading "NPI" and on the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services' website at <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/NationalProvdentStand>.

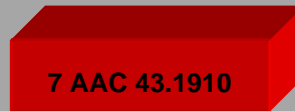
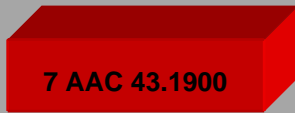


Eligibility Verification System (EVS)

Providers can access information by calling First Health Service Corporation's EVS at (800) 884-3223. By following the computerized prompts it is possible to receive automated information concerning eligibility, most recent remittance advice, recipient date of birth, prior authorization, and service limits. You are allowed to make up to 20 such inquiries per telephone call.

Advantages of EVS:

1. Verifies recipient's month of eligibility.
2. Provides recipient's Medical Assistance identification number by use of recipient's Social Security Number.
3. Identifies any third-party liability (i.e., insurance).
4. Accessible 24 hours, 7 days a week.



Requesting a Higher Allowable (DME)

When requesting a higher allowable on an already priced HCPC code in accordance with 7 AAC 43.1900 and 7 AAC 43.1910, the Division of Health Care Services is requiring that you provide your "supplier's cost." The medical necessity and any additional information substantiating the need for the DME item and higher allowable request continue to be required. An invoice for the cost of shipping will be required to be reimbursed at cost only.

If you have questions, please call FHSC's Provider Inquiry Unit at (907) 644-6800 or (800) 770-5650 (in-state toll free).

Synagis®



Synagis® is covered for the 2006-2007 season when a prior authorization is obtained. The effective coverage dates include October 1, 2006 through May 31, 2007.

The Prior Authorization criteria for Alaska Medicaid and the First Health Pharmacy Help Desk at (800) 884-7387 for Synagis NDC's 60574411101; 60574411201; 60574411301; 60574411401 indicates a first date of use for October 1, 2006 and end date of May 31, 2007. A recipient may start Synagis® between the ages of 0-2. During this time period, a recipient may receive a total of eight injections and the recipient may receive these after two years of age until the treatment is completed.

Dosing for Synagis® is calculated on the basis of weight at 15mg/kg. Synagis® is authorized to be used for patients from 0-2 years old who were born premature less than or equal to 32 weeks or have Chronic Lung Disease or Congenital Heart Disease. Prophylaxis with Synagis® for those infants born between 32 and 35 weeks should be reserved for those who are at the greatest risk of severe infection and who are younger than six months. In the premature patient, Synagis® may be authorized for patients born between 32 and 35 weeks if two or more of the following risk factors are present:

- Child care attendance
- School-aged siblings
- Exposure to environmental air pollutants (tobacco smoke)

Congenital abnormalities of the airways

Synagis® (continued)

- Severe neuromuscular disease
- Household crowding (seven or more household members)
- Multiple births—recipient is a part of twins, triplets, etc.
- Birth weight less than 2,500 gm
- Lack of running water

If patients do not meet the listed criteria, the provider may fax a paper PA with medical justification to First Health Services at (907) 644-8131, for further review.

To learn more about Synagis®, go to <http://www.synagis.com/hcp/index.aspx>.

Class Location: SEWARD
May 1-4, 2007
Seward Public Library
238 5th Avenue

2007 May Training Schedule

Introductory Classes/In-Depth

SEWARD

Tuesday, May 1, 2007 – Seward

Introduction to Alaska Medical Assistance
8:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Eligibility
1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Guidelines for Recordkeeping and Potential Audits
2:45 p.m. – 3:45 p.m.

Care Management Program
4:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.

Wednesday, May 2, 2007 – Seward

Adjustments and Voids
8:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.

Remittance Advice (RA)
9:45 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.

Resubmission Turnaround Documents (RTDs)
11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Form Completion CMS-1500
1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Form Completion UB-04
2:45 p.m. – 3:45 p.m.

Edit Resolution
4:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.

Thursday, May 3, 2007 – Seward

Electronic Transactions
8:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.

Prior Authorizations (PAs)
9:45 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.

Appeals
11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

2007 May Training Schedule (continued)

SEWARD (con't)

Thursday, May 4, 2007 – Seward

Transportation and Accommodations
1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Dental Services
2:45 p.m. – 4:45 p.m.

TPL Avoidance
5:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.

Friday, May 4, 2007 – Seward

Mental Health/Substance Abuse
8:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

Personal Care Assistant Services
11:15 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. (break for lunch)

1:45 p.m. – 2:45 p.m.

Physicians/Osteopaths/ANPs
3:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.

Class Location: NOME

May 8-11, 2007

200 1st Avenue

NOME

Tuesday, May 8, 2007 - Nome

Introduction to Alaska Medical Assistance
8:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Eligibility
1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Guidelines for Recordkeeping and Potential Audits
2:45 p.m. – 3:45 p.m.

Care Management Program
4:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.

Wednesday, May 9, 2007 – Nome

Adjustments and Voids
8:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.

Remittance Advice (RA)
9:45 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.

Resubmission Turnaround Documents (RTDs)
11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Form Completion CMS-1500
1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Form Completion UB-04
2:45 p.m. – 3:45 p.m.

Edit Resolution
4:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.

2007 May Training Schedule (continued)

NOME (con't)

Thursday, May 10, 2007 – Nome

Electronic Transactions
8:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.

Prior Authorizations (PAs)
9:45 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.

Appeals
11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Transportation and Accommodations
1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Dental Services
2:45 p.m. – 4:45 p.m.

TPL Avoidance
5:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.

Friday, May 11, 2007 – Nome

IHS Billing Manual Overview
8:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

Mental Health/Substance Abuse
10:15 a.m. – 2:15 p.m. (will break for lunch)

Workplace Visitation/Issue Resolution
2:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Class Location: ANCHORAGE

May 15-17 and 23, 2007

First Health Services
1835 S. Bragaw, 3rd Floor
Training Room

ANCHORAGE

Tuesday, May 15, 2007 - Anchorage

Introduction to Alaska Medical Assistance
8:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Eligibility
2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Guidelines for Recordkeeping and Potential Audits
3:15 p.m. – 4:15 p.m.

Care Management Program
4:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.

Wednesday, May 16, 2007 - Anchorage

Adjustments and Voids
8:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.

Remittance Advice (RA)
9:45 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.

Resubmission Turnaround Documents (RTDs)
11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Form Completion CMS-1500
2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Form Completion UB-04
3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

2007 May Training Schedule (continued)

ANCHORAGE (continued)

Wednesday, May 16, 2007 - Anchorage

Edit Resolution
4:15 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.

Thursday, May 17, 2007 - Anchorage

Electronic Transactions
8:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.

Prior Authorizations (PAs)
9:45 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.

Appeals
11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Transportation and Accommodations
2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Dental Services
3:15 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.

Wednesday, May 23, 2007 – Anchorage

Direct Entry Midwife
10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.



Teleconferences

Friday, May 11, 2007 - Teleconference

Electronic Transactions
10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

Thursday, May 24, 2007 – Teleconference

Direct Entry Midwife
10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.