HEALTH INSURANCE PORTABILITY AND ACCOUNTABILITY ACT (HIPAA)
National Provider Identifier (NPI) and Current Dental Terminology (CDT) Update

NPI: Get It. Register It. Use It!

♦ If you are a billing provider (i.e. group practice, corporation, partnership) who also has a rendering provider number (i.e., D12345), you should apply for <u>at least</u> one Organizational (Type 2) NPI; **AND** an Individual (Type 1) NPI for your rendering provider number. All rendering providers on staff must also obtain an Individual (Type 1) NPI.

  Important NPI Note: A sole proprietor/sole proprietorship is an Individual and is eligible for a single NPI. The sole proprietor must apply for the NPI using his or her Social Security Number (SSN), even if he/she has an Employer Identification Number (EIN). Because a sole proprietor/sole proprietorship is an Individual, he/she cannot be a subpart and cannot designate subparts. Therefore, if you are a sole proprietor and have both a billing and a rendering provider number for Denti-Cal, you will need to register a single NPI for both Denti-Cal provider numbers.

♦ To apply for your NPI(s), visit http://nppes.cms.hhs.gov or call (800) 465-3203.

♦ Once you have received your NPI(s) from NPPES, **you must register ALL NPIs with Denti-Cal as soon as possible,** in order to ensure appropriate payment of claims in a timely manner. Register your NPI(s) by accessing the NPI Registration Form on the Denti-Cal Web site at www.denti-cal.ca.gov or by calling the Denti-Cal Telephone Service Center at (800) 423-0507 to request a registration form by mail. *A separate NPI Registration Form is required for each existing Denti-Cal provider number.*

♦ Attend a Denti-Cal Basic Seminar for more information on the NPI. For a seminar location near you, visit the Denti-Cal Web site at www.denti-cal.ca.gov.

Preimprinted Inventory

Denti-Cal will be working with the form suppliers to accommodate NPIs on preimprinted claims and Treatment Authorization Request (TAR) forms. Until such time, current Denti-Cal provider numbers will continue to be printed on the forms. Please refer to subsequent Denti-Cal Bulletins for additional information regarding preimprinted forms.

Providers are also reminded not contact the form supplier with NPI-related questions, as they are unable to answer inquiries. For information on NPI, preimprinted forms, and all other Denti-Cal questions, please contact Denti-Cal's Telephone Service Center at (800) 423-0507.

Update Software

In conjunction with the deadline to accept NPIs, providers who submit claims electronically must be prepared to use the HIPAA-compliant 4010A1 claim format on or before May 23, 2007. For more information on conversion to the 4010A1 format, please call your software vendor, clearinghouse, or Denti-Cal at (916) 853-7373 and ask for EDI Support.

Denti-Cal NPI Web Collection Announcement

Denti-Cal is in the process of creating a Web-based NPI registration function. For additional information on the Web-based NPI registration function, you may refer to subsequent Denti-Cal Bulletins, visit the Denti-Cal Web site at www.denti-cal.ca.gov, or attend a Denti-Cal Basic Seminar.

Current Dental Terminology (CDT)

CDT continues to be delayed pending the final approval of Manual of Criteria (MOC) regulations via the State legislative process. CDT codes will not be accepted by Denti-Cal at this time. Any claim service line (CSL) submitted with a CDT procedure code, an invalid procedure code, or a blank procedure code field, will be denied.