

# Denti-Cal Bulletin



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## ***Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) National Provider Identifier (NPI)***

### ***Do Not Submit Claim Inquiry Forms (CIFs) for Claims Denied Due to an Unregistered National Provider Identifier***

To avoid denials on claims, rendering providers *must* register their NPI numbers with Denti-Cal.

There are two ways to register:

- ◆ To expedite your NPI registration, register via the Denti-Cal Web site at [www.denti-cal.ca.gov](http://www.denti-cal.ca.gov) and click on the National Provider Identifier (NPI) link. After you've completed the registration process, please allow 3 business days prior to submitting documents with your NPI. Remember to print the confirmation page from the Web site as a record of your registration. (Please note: Rendering providers who did not submit a Social Security Number to Denti-Cal at the time of enrollment will not be able to register via the Denti-Cal Web site. Such providers will need to register using the Denti-Cal NPI Registration Form.)
- ◆ To obtain the paper NPI Registration Form DHS 6218 and instructions on how to register your NPI, please visit the Denti-Cal Web Site at [www.denti-cal.ca.gov](http://www.denti-cal.ca.gov) and click on the National Provider Identifier (NPI) link. Providers should not use their NPIs when submitting documents for authorization or payment until they have received a confirmation letter from Denti-Cal, which can take up to 15 business days. Remember to retain a copy of the letter received from Denti-Cal for your records.

### ***Point of Service (POS) Updates Coming for 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.

Modifications are being made to the following:

- ◆ POS device software
- ◆ Internet software
- ◆ Mainframe supportive software

Real-time processing transactions affected by changes are:

- ◆ Internet transactions
- ◆ POS
- ◆ Automated Eligibility Verification System (AEVS)

## **POS Device Download/October 19, 2007 Test Transaction Deadline**

Beginning August 25, 2007, messages will appear on POS devices announcing an automatic software update download. The update software accommodates the 10-digit NPI in preparation for Medi-Cal's implementation on November 26, 2007. No action is required by providers except to leave the device on at the end of the day. The software will download automatically. 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*. Providers may call the POS Help Desk at (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*.

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.

## **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 (Real-Time and Batch)* companion guide.

Providers can download the *270/271 Overview for Leased-Line, Dial-Up and Batch Submissions* section of the guide, as follows: [http://files.medi-cal.ca.gov/pubsdoco/npi/articles/npi\\_8508\\_1.asp](http://files.medi-cal.ca.gov/pubsdoco/npi/articles/npi_8508_1.asp). Information about mandatory testing for the 270/271 v.4010A1 eligibility transaction using the NPI is in that section.

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

For POS-related questions, please contact the POS Help Desk at (800) 541-5555.

## ***Dissemination of Data from the National Plan and Provider Enumeration System (NPPES)***

CMS will soon begin releasing FOIA-disclosable health care provider data. The data will be made available in an initial file downloadable from the Internet at the CMS Web site, as follows: <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/default.asp?>

Monthly update files will continue to be made available (also downloadable from the Internet), and in a query-only database whereby users can query by NPI or provider name. The query-only database is known as the NPI Registry. The NPI Registry will operate in a real-time environment. Updates, changes, and deletions will be reflected in the NPI Registry at the same time they are reflected in NPPES.

Denti-Cal providers are encouraged to review their NPPES data to ensure their information is accurate when disclosed. If any of the following information is incorrect, please immediately make any necessary changes and resubmit:

- ◆ Employer Identification Number (EIN)/Tax Identification Number (TIN) - for a group practice that is a corporation or partnership
- ◆ Social Security Number (SSN) - for sole/rendering providers
- ◆ Business Name
- ◆ Billing and Rendering Addresses

For any other information, please contact Denti-Cal toll-free: (800) 423-0507.