

Denti-Cal Bulletin



Volume 25, Number 6, March 2009
www.denti-cal.ca.gov

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Billing Providers Must Ensure Their Rendering Providers Are Enrolled

Billing providers **MUST** ensure that all their rendering providers are enrolled in the Denti-Cal program prior to treating Medi-Cal patients. Payments made to billing providers for services performed by their unenrolled rendering providers will be subject to payment recovery. Title 22 Section 51458.1(a)(6) states:

(a) The Department shall recover overpayments to providers including, but not limited to, payments determined to be:

(6) For services prescribed, ordered or rendered by persons who did not meet the standards for participation in the Medi-Cal program at the time the services were prescribed, ordered or rendered.

Instructions about enrolling in the Denti-Cal program are found in the Provider Handbook, Section 3: Enrollment Requirements.

To obtain an application packet, contact Denti-Cal at (800) 423-0507 or visit the Denti-Cal Web site to download the application forms:

<http://www.denti-cal.ca.gov/WSI/Prov.jsp?fname=ApplicationForms>

Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) National Provider Identifier (NPI) Are You Registered?

NPI is a part of HIPAA legislation establishing unique 10-digit identifiers for each health care provider across the United States. Billing providers who check eligibility via a Point of Service (POS) device or the Internet **must** obtain and use an NPI, as must all rendering/treating providers who are employed by a covered billing provider. HIPAA regulations require providers who submit claims via EDI to use their NPI. Enrolled providers who submit paper documents are strongly encouraged to obtain and register an NPI number as well. NPI numbers can be obtained from the National Plan and Provider Enumeration System (NPPES) Web site found at <https://nppes.cms.hhs.gov>.

NPI numbers replace the older Denti-Cal billing and rendering provider numbers (legacy IDs). Billing and rendering providers must register their NPI(s) with Denti-Cal in order to establish the NPI with Denti-Cal. There are two easy ways for enrolled providers to register an NPI(s):

- ◆ **Online:** Enrolled providers can use the Denti-Cal NPI Collection System found on the Denti-Cal Web site at www.denti-cal.ca.gov. From the Denti-Cal home page, click the National Provider Identifier (NPI) link to be taken to the NPI Introduction Page to obtain more information on how to register NPI numbers online.

- ◆ **Hard copy:** Enrolled providers can fill out the NPI Registration Form DHS 6218, which is found on the Denti-Cal Web site at www.denti-cal.ca.gov. From the Denti-Cal home page, click the National Provider Identifier (NPI) link to be taken to the NPI Introduction Page to find more information on how to download and fill out the DHS 6218 form.

Note: After registering with Denti-Cal, providers should not use NPI numbers until a confirmation letter from Denti-Cal is received. Confirmation letters can take up to 15 days to receive. Using unregistered NPI numbers will result in claims being denied with Adjudication Reason Code 319A, which reads as follows:

319A The submitted rendering provider NPI is not registered with Denti-Cal. Prior to requesting re-adjudication for a dated, denied procedure on a Claim Inquiry Form (CIF), the rendering provider NPI must be registered with Denti-Cal.

REMINDER

Upon obtaining beneficiary eligibility verification, providers cannot charge the beneficiary for all or part of the fee of a Medi-Cal covered service except to collect the Medi-Cal copayment or Share of Cost (SOC).

For questions, please contact the Denti-Cal Telephone Service Center at (800) 423-0507.