Attention Pharmacies: Update Regarding Implementation of Claims Adjudication Process to Validate Ordering, Prescribing and Referring (OPR) Practitioners

In order for Medicaid to reimburse for services or medical supplies that require a provider’s order, prescription or referral, the Affordable Care Act (42 CFR Parts 405, 447, 455, 457 and 498) requires that the ordering, prescribing or referring provider be enrolled in Medicaid. Compliance with this requirement necessitates future changes to Nevada Medicaid claims and provider enrollment processes. The Division of Health Care Financing and Policy (DHCFP) will implement this new requirement on October 29, 2014.

How will this affect you?

The practitioner writing a prescription for a Medicaid Fee-for-Service recipient needs to be enrolled as a full Medicaid service provider or an OPR-only provider by October 29, 2014.

To comply with these provisions, Nevada Medicaid, with the implementation of the OPR claims adjudication process, will verify both the presence of a valid practitioner National Provider Identifier (NPI) and the practitioner’s enrollment in Nevada Medicaid as either a full Medicaid service provider or an OPR-only provider. Pharmacy claims will post a soft edit 45 days prior to October 29, 2014, informing the billing provider if the NPI for the prescriber is not present or if the prescriber is not enrolled in Nevada Medicaid. Effective on and after October 29, 2014, if the prescriber does not have prescriptive authority or if the prescriber is not enrolled as a full Nevada Medicaid service provider or an OPR-only provider, then the edit will result in a claim denial. There will be a 30-day override period starting October 29, when the pharmacist may choose to override a denied claim for OPR. If a claim hits the soft edit, pharmacies should notify the recipient to contact their prescriber because after implementation their claims will deny.

Regarding the use of NPIs: Every prescriber must include their personal NPI on each prescription. Every pharmacy must accurately submit this prescriber NPI with each prescription claim. If a provider intentionally submits a claim with a prescriber NPI which they know to be inaccurate, they are committing a fraudulent act, and may be subject to administrative, civil and/or criminal actions.

For more information about the changes to billing and the new OPR provider enrollment category, call the Catamaran Technical Call Center at (866) 244-8554.