Certification and Ongoing Responsibilities

1

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Certification and Ongoing Responsibilities:Certification

Topic #2181

A Comprehensive Overview

BadgerCare Plus and Medicaid home health services refer to policies for the following services provided by home health agencies:

- Home health skilled nursing services.
- PDN (private duty nursing) services.
- Home health aide services.
- Home health therapy services.
- DME (durable medical equipment).
- DMS (disposable medical supplies).

Home health agencies also certified to provide personal care services also are required to follow the policies and procedures as stated in the Personal Care service area.

Topic #196

Border Status Providers

A provider in a state that borders Wisconsin may be eligible for border-status certification. Border-status providers need to notify ForwardHealth in writing that it is common practice for members in a particular area of Wisconsin to seek their medical services.

Exceptions to this policy include:

- Nursing homes and public entities (e.g., cities, counties) outside Wisconsin are not eligible for border status.
- All out-of-state independent laboratories are eligible to be border-status providers regardless of location in the United States.

Providers who have been denied Medicaid certification in their own state are automatically denied certification by Wisconsin Medicaid unless they were denied because the services they provide are not a covered benefit in their state.

Certified border-status providers are subject to the same program requirements as in-state providers, including coverage of services and PA (prior authorization) and claims submission procedures. Reimbursement is made in accordance with ForwardHealth policies.

For more information about out-of-state providers, refer to DHS 105.48, Wis. Admin. Code.

Topic #3969

Categories of Certification

Wisconsin Medicaid certifies providers in four billing categories. Each billing category has specific designated uses and restrictions. These categories include the following:

- Billing/rendering provider.

- Rendering provider.
- Group billing that requires a rendering provider.
- Group billing that does not require a rendering provider.

Providers should refer to their certification materials or to service-specific information in the Online Handbook to identify what types of certification categories they may apply for or be assigned.

Billing/Rendering Provider

Certification as billing/rendering provider allows providers to identify themselves on claims (and other forms) as either the provider billing for the services or the provider rendering the services.

Rendering Provider

Certification as a rendering provider is given to those providers who practice under the professional supervision of another provider (e.g., physician assistants). Providers with a rendering provider certification cannot submit claims to ForwardHealth directly, but have reimbursement rates established for their provider type. Claims for services provided by a rendering provider must include the supervising provider or group provider as the billing provider.

Group Billing

Certification as a group billing provider is issued primarily as an accounting convenience. This allows a group billing provider to receive one reimbursement, one RA (Remittance Advice), and the 835 (835 Health Care Claim Payment/Advice) transaction for covered services rendered by individual providers within the group.

Group billing providers may not have more than one group certified by Wisconsin Medicaid, WCDP (Wisconsin Chronic Disease Program), or WWWP (Wisconsin Well Woman Program) with the same ZIP+4 address, NPI (National Provider Identifier), and taxonomy code combination. Providers at the same ZIP+4 address are required to differentiate their certification using an NPI or taxonomy code that uniquely identifies their group.

Group Billing That Requires a Rendering Provider

Individual providers within certain groups are required to be Medicaid certified because these groups are required to identify the provider who rendered the service on claims. Claims indicating these group billing providers that are submitted without a rendering provider are denied.

Group Billing That Does Not Require a Rendering Provider

Other groups (e.g., rehabilitation agencies) are not required to indicate a rendering provider on claims.

Group billing providers should refer to their certification materials or to service-specific information in the Online Handbook to determine whether or not a rendering provider is required on claims.

Topic #467

Certification Application

To participate in Wisconsin Medicaid, providers are required to be certified by Wisconsin Medicaid as described in DHS 105, Wis. Admin. Code. Providers certified by Wisconsin Medicaid may render services to members enrolled in Wisconsin Medicaid, BadgerCare Plus, and SeniorCare.

Providers interested in becoming certified by Wisconsin Medicaid are required to complete a provider application that consists of the following forms and information:

- General certification information.
- Certification requirements.
- TOR (Terms of Reimbursement).
- Provider application.
- Provider Agreement and Acknowledgement of Terms of Participation.
- Other forms related to certification.

Providers may submit certification applications by mail or through the ForwardHealth Portal.

General Certification Information

This section of the provider application contains information on contacting ForwardHealth, certification effective dates, notification of certification decisions, provider agreements, and terms of reimbursement.

Certification Requirements

Wisconsin Administrative Code contains requirements that providers must meet in order to be certified with Wisconsin Medicaid; applicable Administrative Code requirements and any special certification materials for the applicant's provider type are included in the certification requirements document.

To become Medicaid certified, providers are required to do the following:

- Meet all certification requirements for their provider type.
- Submit a properly completed provider application, provider agreement, and other forms, as applicable, that are included in the certification packet.

Providers should carefully complete the certification materials and send all applicable documents demonstrating that they meet the stated Medicaid certification criteria. Providers may call Provider Services for assistance with completing these materials.

Terms of Reimbursement

Wisconsin Medicaid certification materials include Wisconsin Medicaid's TOR, which describes the methodology by which providers are reimbursed for services provided to BadgerCare Plus, Medicaid, and SeniorCare members. Providers should retain a copy of the TOR in their files. TOR are subject to change during a certification period.

Provider Application

A key part of the certification process is the completion of the Wisconsin Medicaid Provider Application. On the provider application, the applicant furnishes contact, address, provider type and specialty, license, and other information needed by Wisconsin Medicaid to make a certification determination.

Provider Agreement and Acknowledgement of Terms of Participation

As part of the application for certification, providers are required to sign a provider agreement with the DHS (Department of Health Services). Providers applying for certification through the Portal will be required to print, sign and date, and send the provider agreement to Wisconsin Medicaid. Providers who complete a paper provider application will need to sign and date the provider agreement and submit it with the other certification materials.

By signing a provider agreement, the provider certifies that the provider and each person employed by the provider, for the purpose of providing services, holds all licenses or similar entitlements and meets other requirements specified in DHS 101 through DHS 109, Wis. Admin. Code, and required by federal or state statute, regulation, or rule for the provision of the service.

The provider's certification to participate in Wisconsin Medicaid may be terminated by the provider as provided at DHS 106.05, Wis. Admin. Code, or by the DHS upon grounds set forth in DHS 106.06, Wis. Admin. Code.

This provider agreement remains in effect as long as the provider is certified to participate in Wisconsin Medicaid.

Topic #2180

Certification for Private Duty Nursing for Ventilator-Dependent Members

To be eligible for reimbursement from Wisconsin Medicaid for PDN (private duty nursing) services provided to ventilator-dependent members residing at home, home health agencies are required to indicate in their request for certification their interest in providing this service. Providers are also required to submit the Wisconsin Medicaid Program Respiratory Care Services Affidavit, which can be found in the certification packet for home health agency providers.

Topic #190

Completing Certification Applications

Health care providers are required to include their NPI (National Provider Identifier) on the certification application.

Note: Obtaining an NPI does not replace the Wisconsin Medicaid certification process.

Portal Submission

Providers may apply for Medicaid certification directly through the ForwardHealth Portal. Though the provider certification application is available via the public Portal, the data are entered and transmitted through a secure connection to protect personal data. Applying for certification through the Portal offers the following benefits:

- Fewer returned applications. Providers who apply through the Portal are taken through a series of screens that are designed to guide them through the application process. This ensures that required information is captured and therefore reduces the instances of applications returned for missing or incomplete information.
- Instant submission. At the end of the online application process, applicants instantly submit their application to ForwardHealth and are given an ATN (application tracking number) to use in tracking the status of their application.
- Indicates documentation requirements. At the end of the online process, applicants are also given detailed instructions about what actions are needed to complete the application process. For example, the applicant will be instructed to print the provider agreement and any additional forms that Wisconsin Medicaid must receive on paper and indicates whether supplemental information (e.g., transcripts, copy of license) is required. Applicants are also able to save a copy of the application for their records.

Paper Submission

Providers may also submit provider applications on paper. To request a paper provider application, providers should do one of the following:

- Contact Provider Services.
- Click the "Contact Us" link on the Portal and send the request via e-mail.
- Send a request in writing to the following address:

  ForwardHealth
  Provider Maintenance
  6406 Bridge Rd
  Madison WI 53784-0006

Written requests for certification materials must include the following:

- The number of provider applications requested and each applicant's/provider's name, address, and telephone number (a provider application must be completed for each applicant/provider).
- The provider's NPI (for health care providers) that corresponds to the type of application being requested.
- The program for which certification is requested (Wisconsin Medicaid).
- The type of provider (e.g., physician, physician clinic or group, speech-language pathologist, hospital) or the type of services the provider intends to provide.

Paper provider applications are assigned an ATN at the time the materials are requested. As a result, examples of the provider application are available on the Portal for reference purposes only. These examples should not be downloaded and submitted to Wisconsin Medicaid. For the same reason, providers are not able to make copies of a single paper provider application and submit them for multiple applicants. These policies allow Wisconsin Medicaid to efficiently process and track certifications and assign effective dates.

Once completed, providers should mail certification materials to the address indicated on the application cover letter. Sending certification materials to any other Wisconsin Medicaid address may cause a delay.

Topic #191

Effective Date of Medicaid Certification

When assigning an initial effective date, ForwardHealth follows these regulations:

1. The date the provider submits his or her online provider application to ForwardHealth or contacts ForwardHealth for a paper application is the earliest effective date possible and will be the initial effective date if the following are true:
   - The provider meets all applicable licensure, certification, authorization, or other credential requirements as a prerequisite for Wisconsin Medicaid on the date of notification. Providers should not hold their application for pending licensure, Medicare, or other required certification but submit it to ForwardHealth. ForwardHealth will keep the provider's application on file and providers should send ForwardHealth proof of eligibility documents immediately, once available, for continued processing.
   - ForwardHealth received the provider agreement and any supplemental documentation within 30 days of submission of the online provider application.
   - ForwardHealth received the paper application within 30 days of the date the paper application was mailed.
2. If ForwardHealth receives the provider agreement and any applicable supplemental documents more than 30 days after the provider submitted the online application or receives the paper application more than 30 days after the date the paper application was mailed, the provider's effective date will be the date the complete application was received at ForwardHealth.
3. If ForwardHealth receives the provider's application within the 30-day deadline described above and it is incomplete or unclear, the provider will be granted one 30-day extension to respond to ForwardHealth's request for additional information. ForwardHealth must receive a response to the request for additional information within 30 days from the date on the letter requesting the missing information or item(s). This extension allows the provider additional time to obtain proof of eligibility (such as license verification, transcripts, or other certification).

4. If the provider does not send complete information within the original 30-day deadline or 30-day extension, the initial effective date will be based on the date ForwardHealth receives the complete and accurate application materials.

Group Certification Effective Dates

Group billing certifications are given as a billing convenience. Groups (except providers of mental health services) may submit a written request to obtain group billing certification with a certification effective date back 365 days from the effective date assigned. Providers should mail requests to backdate group billing certification to the following address:

ForwardHealth
Provider Maintenance
6406 Bridge Rd
Madison WI 53784-0006

Request for Change of Effective Date

If providers believe their initial certification effective date is incorrect, they may request a review of the effective date. The request should include documentation that indicates the certification criteria that were incorrectly considered. Requests for changes in certification effective dates should be sent to Provider Maintenance.

Medicare Enrollment

ForwardHealth requires certain types of providers to be enrolled in Medicare as a condition for Medicaid certification. This requirement is specified in the certification materials for these provider groups.

The enrollment process for Medicare is separate from Wisconsin Medicaid's certification process. Providers applying for Medicare enrollment *and* Medicaid certification are encouraged to apply for Wisconsin Medicaid certification at the same time they apply for Medicare enrollment, even though Medicare enrollment must be finalized first. By applying for Medicare enrollment and Medicaid certification simultaneously, it may be possible for ForwardHealth to assign a Medicaid certification effective date that is the same as the Medicare enrollment date.

Topic #2179

Home Health Agency Certification Requirements

A home health agency is required to be certified by Wisconsin Medicaid to be eligible for reimbursement by Wisconsin Medicaid for providing services. A certification packet for home health services providers may be obtained on the ForwardHealth Portal.

To obtain Wisconsin Medicaid certification, a home health agency is required to meet all of the following as stated in DHS 105.16, Wis. Admin. Code:

- Be certified to participate in Medicare as a home health agency.
- Be licensed pursuant to DHS 133, Wis. Admin. Code.
- Provide part-time, intermittent skilled nursing services performed by a RN (registered nurse) or LPN (licensed practical nurse) and home health aide services. Agencies may also provide other home health services such as PT (physical therapy), OT (occupational therapy), SLP (speech and language pathology), DMS (disposable medical supplies), and DME (durable medical equipment).
- All home health services must be provided in the member's home. Services may not be provided in a hospital or nursing home.
- All home health services must be provided in accordance with orders from the member's physician in a written POC (plan of care) that the physician reviews, dates, and signs at least every 62 days or when the member's medical condition

changes, whichever occurs first.

In addition, home health agency responsibilities, as specified in DHS 105.16, Wis. Admin. Code, must be followed in order to maintain Wisconsin Medicaid certification.

Home health agencies with multiple locations also have additional certification responsibilities.

No separate certification is necessary for a Medicaid-certified home health agency to provide PDN (private duty nursing), DME, DMS, or enteral nutrition products. The DME service area, the DMS service area, and the Enteral Nutrition Products service area contain more information about covered services, PA (prior authorization) guidelines, and billing instructions.

Medicaid program requirements may not be construed to supersede the provisions for registration or licensure under s. 50.49, Wis. Stats. Refer to the Wisconsin DRL (Department of Regulation and Licensing) Web site and the Department of Health Services Licensing and Permitting Web site for more information about registration and licensure requirements.

Topic #193

Materials for New Providers

On an ongoing basis, providers should refer to the Online Handbook for the most current BadgerCare Plus and Medicaid information. Future changes to policies and procedures are published in *ForwardHealth Updates*.

Certain providers may opt not to receive these materials by completing the Deletion from Publications Mailing List (F-11015 (10/08)) form in the certification materials. Providers who opt out of receiving publications are still bound by ForwardHealth's rules, policies, and regulations even if they choose not to receive *Updates* on an ongoing basis. *Updates* are available for viewing and downloading on the ForwardHealth Portal.

Topic #3410

Multiple Locations

The number of Medicaid certifications allowed or required per location is based on licensure, registration, certification by a state or federal agency, or an accreditation association identified in the Wisconsin Administrative Code. Providers with multiple locations should inquire if multiple applications must be completed when requesting a Medicaid certification application.

Topic #654

Multiple Services

Providers who offer a variety of services may be required to complete a separate Medicaid certification packet for each specified service/provider type.

Health care providers who are federally required to have an NPI (National Provider Identifier) are responsible for obtaining the appropriate certification for their NPI.

If a Medicaid-certified provider begins offering a new service *after* he or she has become initially certified, it is recommended that he or she call Provider Services to inquire if another application must be completed.

Topic #194

Noncertified In-State Providers

Wisconsin Medicaid reimburses noncertified in-state providers for providing emergency medical services to a member or providing services to a member during a time designated by the governor as a state of emergency. The emergency situation or the state of emergency must be sufficiently documented on the claim. Reimbursement rates are consistent with rates for Wisconsin Medicaid-certified providers rendering the same service.

Claims from noncertified in-state providers must be submitted with an In-State Emergency Provider Data Sheet (F-11002 (10/08)). The In-State Emergency Provider Data Sheet provides ForwardHealth with minimal tax and licensure information.

Noncertified in-state providers may call Provider Services with questions.

Topic #4449

Notice of Certification Decision

Wisconsin Medicaid will notify the provider of the status of the certification usually within 10 business days, but no longer than 60 days, after receipt of the complete application for certification. Wisconsin Medicaid will either approve the application and issue the certification or deny the application. If the application for certification is denied, Wisconsin Medicaid will give the applicant reasons, in writing, for the denial.

Providers who meet the certification requirements will be sent a welcome letter and a copy of the signed provider agreement. Included with the letter is an attachment with important information such as effective dates and assigned provider type and specialty. This information will be used when conducting business with BadgerCare Plus, Medicaid, or SeniorCare.

The welcome letter will also notify non-healthcare providers (e.g., SMV (specialized medical vehicle) providers, personal care agencies, blood banks) of their Medicaid provider number. This number will be used on claim submissions, PA (prior authorization) requests, and other communications with ForwardHealth programs.

Topic #1619

Out-of-State Providers

Out-of-state providers are limited to those providers who are licensed in the United States (and its territories), Mexico, and Canada. Out-of-state providers are required to be licensed in their own state of practice.

Wisconsin Medicaid reimburses out-of-state providers for providing emergency medical services to a BadgerCare Plus or Medicaid member or providing services to a member during a time designated by the governor as a state of emergency. The emergency situation or the state of emergency must be sufficiently documented on the claim. Reimbursement rates are consistent with rates for Wisconsin Medicaid-certified providers providing the same service.

Out-of-state providers are reimbursed for services provided to eligible BadgerCare Plus or Medicaid members in either of the following situations:

- The service was provided in an emergency situation, as defined in DHS 101.03(52), Wis. Admin. Code.
- PA (prior authorization) was obtained from ForwardHealth *before* the nonemergency service was provided.

Claims from noncertified out-of-state providers must be submitted with an Out-of-State Provider Data Sheet (F-11001 (10/08)). The Out-of-State Provider Data Sheet provides Wisconsin Medicaid with minimal tax and licensure information.

Out-of-state providers may contact Provider Services with questions.

Topic #2178

Personal Care Services Certification

Home health agencies planning to bill personal care services in addition to home health services are required to request certification for both service areas. Providers should refer to the Personal Care service area for further information about providing personal care services.

Topic #4457

Provider Addresses

ForwardHealth interChange has the capability of storing the following types of addresses and related information, such as contact information and telephone numbers:

- *Practice location address and related information (formally known as physical address).* This address is where the provider's office is physically located and where records are normally kept. Additional information for the practice location includes the provider's office telephone number and telephone number for member's use. With limited exceptions, the practice location and telephone number for member's use are published in a provider directory made available to the public.
- *Mailing address.* This address is where ForwardHealth will mail general information and correspondence. Providers should indicate concise address information to aid in proper mail delivery.
- *PA (prior authorization) address.* This address is where ForwardHealth will mail PA information.
- *Financial addresses (formally known as payee address).* Two separate financial addresses are stored in ForwardHealth interChange. The checks address is where Wisconsin Medicaid will mail paper checks. The 1099 mailing address is where Wisconsin Medicaid will mail IRS Form 1099.

Providers may submit additional address information or modify their current information through the ForwardHealth Portal or by using the Provider Change of Address or Status (F-1181 (10/08)) form.

Note: Providers are cautioned that any changes to their practice location on file with ForwardHealth may alter their ZIP+4 code information required on transactions. Providers may verify the ZIP+4 code for their address on the U.S. Postal Service Web site.

Provider addresses are stored separately for each program (i.e., Medicaid, WCDP (Wisconsin Chronic Disease Program), and WWWP (Wisconsin Well Woman Program)) for which the provider is certified. Providers should consider this when supplying additional address information and keeping address information current. Providers who are certified for multiple programs and have an address change that applies to more than one program should provide this information for each program. Providers who submit these changes on paper need to submit *one* Provider Change of Address or Status form if changes are applicable for multiple programs.

Topic #1931

Provider Type and Specialty Changes

Providers who want to add a certification type or make a change to their certification type should call Provider Services.

Topic #1932

Reinstating Certification

Providers whose Medicaid certification has ended for any reason other than sanctions or failure to be recertified may have their certification reinstated as long as all licensure and certification requirements are met. The criteria for reinstating certification vary, depending upon the reason for the cancellation and when the provider's certification ended.

If it has been less than 365 days since a provider's certification has ended, the provider is required to submit a letter or the Provider Change of Address or Status (F-1181 (10/08)) form, stating that he or she wishes to have his or her Medicaid certification reinstated.

If it has been more than 365 days since a provider's certification has ended, the provider is required to submit new certification materials. This can be done by completing them through the ForwardHealth Portal or submitting a paper provider application.

Topic #2177

Termination of Provider Certification

A provider's Wisconsin Medicaid certification may be terminated for failure to comply with the certification and covered services requirements specified in the following:

- DHS 105.16, Wis. Admin. Code.
- DHS 107.11, Wis. Admin. Code.
- DHS 107.113, Wis. Admin. Code.
- DHS 107.12, Wis. Admin. Code.

In addition, a provider's Medicaid certification may be terminated for any of the reasons described in DHS 106.06, Wis. Admin. Code.

In accordance with DHS 106.065(1)(c), Wis. Admin. Code, providers terminated for failure to comply with these requirements have 30 calendar days from the date of termination of certification to make alternative care arrangements for BadgerCare Plus and Medicaid members under their care prior to the effective date of termination. After the 30-day period, payment for services will stop, except for payments to providers terminated in situations where the member's health and/or safety is in immediate jeopardy.

At least 15 working days advance notice of termination is required to be provided to the provider, except in situations where the member's health and/or safety is in immediate jeopardy. In these situations, at least five calendar days advance notice is provided to the provider, as specified in DHS 106.065(1)(b), Wis. Admin. Code. As determined by BadgerCare Plus and Medicaid, alternative care arrangements may also be made in order to provide continuity of care and protect the member, as stated in DHS 106.065(1)(c), Wis. Admin. Code.

Topic #4448

Tracking Certification Materials

Wisconsin Medicaid allows providers to track the status of their certification application either through the ForwardHealth Portal or by calling Provider Services. Providers who submitted their application through the Portal will receive the ATN (application tracking number) upon submission, while providers who request certification materials from Wisconsin Medicaid will receive an ATN on the application cover letter sent with their provider application. Regardless of how certification materials are submitted, providers may use one of the methods listed to track the status of their certification application.

Note: Providers are required to wait for the Notice of Certification Decision as official notification that certification has been

approved. This notice will contain information the provider needs to conduct business with BadgerCare Plus, Medicaid, or SeniorCare; therefore, an approved or enrolled status alone does not mean the provider may begin providing or billing for services.

Tracking Through the Portal

Providers are able to track the status of a certification application through the Portal by entering their ATN. Providers will receive current information on their application, such as whether it's being processed or has been returned for more information.

Tracking Through Provider Services

Providers may also check on the status of their submitted application by contacting Provider Services and giving their ATN.

Documentation

Topic #6277

1099 Miscellaneous Forms

ForwardHealth generates the 1099 Miscellaneous form in January of each year for earnings greater than $600.00, per IRS (Internal Revenue Service) regulations. One 1099 Miscellaneous form per financial payer and per tax identification number is generated, regardless of how many provider IDs or NPIs (National Provider Identifier) share the same tax identification number. For example, a provider who conducts business with both Medicaid and WCDP (Wisconsin Chronic Disease Program) will receive separate 1099 Miscellaneous forms for each program.

The 1099 Miscellaneous forms are sent to the address designated as the "1099 mailing address."

Topic #1640

Availability of Records to Authorized Personnel

The DHCAA (Division of Health Care Access and Accountability) has the right to inspect, review, audit, and reproduce provider records pursuant to DHS 106.02(9)(e), Wis. Admin. Code. The DHCAA periodically requests provider records for compliance audits to match information against ForwardHealth's information on paid claims, PA (prior authorization) requests, and enrollment. These records include, but are not limited to, medical/clinical and financial documents. Providers are obligated to ensure that the records are released to an authorized DHCAA staff member(s).

Wisconsin Medicaid reimburses providers $0.06 per page for the cost of reproducing records requested by the DHCAA to conduct a compliance audit. A letter of request for records from the DHCAA will be sent to a provider when records are required.

Reimbursement is not made for other reproduction costs included in the provider agreement between the DHCAA and a provider, such as reproduction costs for submitting PA requests and claims.

Also, state-contracted MCOs (managed care organizations), including HMOs (Health Maintenance Organizations) and SSI (Supplemental Security Income) HMOs, are not reimbursed for the reproduction costs covered in their contract with the DHS (Department of Health Services).

The reproduction of records requested by the PRO (Peer Review Organization) under contract with the DHCAA is reimbursed at a rate established by the PRO.

Topic #200

Confidentiality

ForwardHealth supports member rights regarding the confidentiality of health care and other related records, including an applicant or member's billing information or medical claim records. An applicant or member has a right to have this information safeguarded, and the provider is obligated to protect that right. Therefore, use or disclosure of any information concerning applicants and members for any purpose not connected with program administration, including contacts with third-party payers that are necessary for pursuing third-party payment and the release of information as ordered by the court, is prohibited unless

authorized by the applicant or member.

To comply with the standards, providers are required to follow the procedures outlined in the Online Handbook to ensure the proper release of this information. ForwardHealth providers, like other health care providers, are also subject to other laws protecting confidentiality of health care information including, but not limited to, the following:

- s. 146.81-146.84, Wis. Stats., Wisconsin health care confidentiality of health care information regulations.
- 42 USC s. 1320d - 1320d-8 (federal HIPAA (Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996)) and accompanying regulations.

Any person violating this regulation may be fined an amount from $25 up to $500 or imprisoned in the county jail from 10 days up to one year, or both, for each violation.

A provider is not subject to civil or criminal sanctions when releasing records and information regarding applicants or members if such release is for purposes directly related to administration or if authorized in writing by the applicant or member.

Topic #201

Financial Records

According to DHS 106.02(9)(c), Wis. Admin. Code, a provider is required to maintain certain financial records in written or electronic form.

Topic #2175

ForwardHealth Review

Home health providers are required to make documentation and financial records available to ForwardHealth for review upon request in accordance with DHS 105.16(9), Wis. Admin. Code. Examples of these types of records include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Clinical notes.
- Personnel files.
- POCs (plans of care).
- PA (prior authorization) requests.
- Progress notes.
- Protocols.
- Timesheets.

As part of a review, ForwardHealth may contact members who have received or are receiving services from a home health provider. Providers are required to provide any identifying information about the member requested by ForwardHealth. ForwardHealth personnel may visit a chosen member with the member's or legal representative's approval. The member has the opportunity to have any person he or she chooses present during the visit. ForwardHealth may investigate any complaint that is received concerning the provision of services by a provider.

Topic #202

Medical Records

A dated clinician's signature must be included in all medical notes. According to DHS 106.02(9)(b), Wis. Admin. Code, a

provider is required to include certain written documentation in a member's medical record.

Topic #8537

Additional Documentation Requirements for Core Plan Home Health Services Following an Inpatient Hospital Stay

In addition to the documentation requirements specified by the Wisconsin Administrative Code and other documentation requirements, providers are required to maintain a copy of the member?s hospital discharge plan when billing for home health services provided to Core Plan members. The hospital discharge plan must include the following detail:

- A clear statement declaring that discharge from the hospital is contingent on the member obtaining medically necessary prescribed home health services.
- The name of the home health agency that has agreed to provide the prescribed home health services and to accept the patient for care immediately after discharge from the hospital.
- The specific prescribed medically necessary services the home health agency is to provide to the member.

Topic #199

Member Access to Records

Providers are required to allow members access to their health care records, including those related to ForwardHealth services, maintained by a provider in accordance with Wisconsin Statutes, excluding billing statements.

Fees for Health Care Records

Per s. 146.83, Wis. Stats., providers may charge a fee for providing one set of copies of health care records to members who are enrolled in Wisconsin Medicaid or BadgerCare Plus programs on the date of the records request. This applies regardless of the member's enrollment status on the DOS (dates of service) contained within the health care records.

Per s. 146.81(4), Wis. Stats., health care records are all records related to the health of a patient prepared by, or under the supervision of, a health care provider.

Providers are limited to charging members enrolled in state-funded health care programs 25 percent of the applicable fees for providing one set of copies of the member's health care records.

Note: A provider may charge members 100 percent of the applicable fees for providing a second or additional set of copies of the member's health care records.

For information regarding fees that may be charged to members for copies of health care records, refer to s. 146.83(3f), Wis. Stats.

Topic #203

Preparation and Maintenance of Records

All providers who receive payment from Wisconsin Medicaid, including state-contracted MCOs (managed care organizations), are required to maintain records that fully document the basis of charges upon which all claims for payment are made, according to DHS 106.02(9)(a), Wis. Admin. Code. This required maintenance of records is typically required by any third-party insurance company and is not unique to ForwardHealth.

Topic #204

Record Retention

Providers are required to retain documentation, including medical and financial records, for a period of not less than five years from the date of payment, except RHCs (rural health clinics), who are required to retain records for a minimum of six years from the date of payment.

According to DHS 106.02(9)(d), Wis. Admin. Code, providers are required to retain all evidence of billing information.

Ending participation as a provider does not end a provider's responsibility to retain and provide access to fully maintained records unless an alternative arrangement of record retention and maintenance has been established.

Reviews and Audits

The DHS (Department of Health Services) periodically reviews provider records. The DHS has the right to inspect, review, audit, and photocopy the records. Providers are required to permit access to any requested record(s), whether in written, electronic, or micrographic form.

Topic #205

Records Requests

Requests for billing or medical claim information regarding services reimbursed by ForwardHealth may come from a variety of individuals including attorneys, insurance adjusters, and members. Providers are required to notify ForwardHealth by contacting Provider Services when releasing billing information or medical claim records relating to charges for covered services except the following:

- When the member is a dual eligible (i.e., member is eligible for both Medicare and Wisconsin Medicaid or BadgerCare Plus) and is requesting materials pursuant to *Medicare* regulations.
- When the provider is attempting to exhaust all existing health insurance sources prior to submitting claims to ForwardHealth.

Request from a Member or Authorized Person

If the request for a member's billing information or medical claim records is from a member or authorized person acting on behalf of the member, the provider should send a copy of the requested billing information or medical claim records, along with the name and address of the requester, to the following address:

Department of Health Services
Casualty/Subrogation Program
PO Box 6243
Madison WI 53791

ForwardHealth will process and forward the requested information to the requester.

Request from an Attorney, Insurance Company, or Power of Attorney

If the request for a member's billing information or medical claim records is from an attorney, insurance company, or power of

attorney, the provider should do the following:

1. Obtain a release signed by the member or authorized representative.
2. Furnish the requested material to the requester, marked "BILLED TO FORWARDHEALTH" or "TO BE BILLED TO FORWARDHEALTH," with a copy of the release signed by the member or authorized representative. Approval from ForwardHealth is not necessary.
3. Send a copy of the material furnished to the requestor, along with a copy of their original request and medical authorization release to:

    Wisconsin Casualty Recovery — HMS
    Ste 100
    5615 Highpoint Dr
    Irving TX 75038-9984

Request for Information About a Member Enrolled in a State-Contracted Managed Care Organization

If the request for a member's billing information or medical claim records is for a member enrolled in a state-contracted MCO (managed care organization), the provider is required to do the following:

1. Obtain a release signed by the member or authorized representative.
2. Send a copy of the letter requesting the information, along with the release signed by the member or authorized representative, directly to the MCO.

The MCO makes most benefit payments and is entitled to any recovery that may be available.

Request for a Statement from a Dual Eligible

If the request is for an itemized statement from a dual eligible, pursuant to HR 2015 (Balanced Budget Act of 1997) s. 4311, a dual eligible has the right to request and receive an itemized statement from his or her Medicare-certified health care provider. The Act requires the provider to furnish the requested information to the member. The Act does *not* require the provider to notify ForwardHealth.

Topic #1646

Release of Billing Information to Government Agencies

Providers are permitted to release member information without informed consent when a written request is made by the DHS (Department of Health Services) or the federal HHS (Department of Health and Human Services) to perform any function related to program administration, such as auditing, program monitoring, and evaluation.

Providers are authorized under Wisconsin Medicaid confidentiality regulations to report suspected misuse or abuse of program benefits to the DHS, as well as to provide copies of the corresponding patient health care records.

Ongoing Responsibilities

Topic #220

Accommodating Members with Disabilities

All providers, including ForwardHealth providers, operating an existing public accommodation have requirements under Title III of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (nondiscrimination).

Topic #2174

Availability of Records

All providers are required to maintain a member's original medical record or a copy that can be reproduced.

To ensure continuity of care, providers are strongly encouraged to leave a copy of the member's original medical record in the member's home. Providers should also make a copy of the medical record available at the request of the member or the member's legal representative. Members have a right to a copy of their medical records and are not responsible for maintaining the agency's copy of their records.

Topic #215

Change in Ownership

New certification materials, including a provider agreement, must be completed whenever a change in ownership occurs. ForwardHealth defines a "change in ownership" as when a different party purchases (buys out) or otherwise obtains ownership or effective control over a practice or facility. Examples of a change in ownership include the following:

- A sole proprietorship transfers title and property to another party.
- Two or more corporate clinics or centers consolidate and a new corporate entity is created.
- There is an addition, removal, or substitution of a partner in a partnership.
- An incorporated entity merges with another incorporated entity.
- An unincorporated entity (sole proprietorship or partnership) becomes incorporated.

The following provider types require Medicare enrollment and/or DQA (Division of Quality Assurance) certification for Wisconsin Medicaid certification change in ownerships:

- Ambulatory surgery centers.
- ESRD (end-stage renal disease) services providers.
- FQHCs (federally qualified health centers).
- Home health agencies.
- Hospice providers.
- Hospitals (inpatient and outpatient).
- Nursing homes.
- Outpatient rehabilitation facilities.
- Rehabilitation agencies.
- RHCs (rural health clinics).

All changes in ownership must be reported in writing to ForwardHealth and new certification materials must be completed *before* the effective date of the change. The affected provider numbers should be noted in the letter. When the change in ownership is complete, the provider(s) will receive written notification of his or her provider number and the new Medicaid certification effective date in the mail.

Providers with questions about change in ownership should call Provider Services.

Repayment Following Change in Ownership

Medicaid-certified providers who sell or otherwise transfer their business or business assets are required to repay ForwardHealth for any erroneous payments or overpayments made to them by Wisconsin Medicaid. If necessary, the provider to whom a transfer of ownership is made will also be held liable by ForwardHealth for repayment. Therefore, prior to final transfer of ownership, the provider acquiring the business is responsible for contacting ForwardHealth to ascertain if he or she is liable under this provision.

The provider acquiring the business is responsible for making payments within 30 days after receiving notice from the DHS (Department of Health Services) that the amount shall be repaid in full.

Providers may send inquiries about the determination of any pending liability on the part of the owner to the following address:

Division of Health Care Access and Accountability
Bureau of Program Integrity
PO Box 309
Madison WI 53701-0309

ForwardHealth has the authority to enforce these provisions within four years following the transfer of a business or business assets. Refer to s. 49.45(21), Wis. Stats., for complete information.

Topic #219

Civil Rights Compliance (Nondiscrimination)

Providers are required to comply with all federal laws relating to Title XIX of the Social Security Act and state laws pertinent to ForwardHealth, including the following:

- Title VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.
- The Age Discrimination Act of 1975.
- Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.
- The ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) of 1990.

The previously listed laws require that all health care benefits under ForwardHealth be provided on a nondiscriminatory basis. No applicant or member can be denied participation in ForwardHealth or be denied benefits or otherwise subjected to discrimination in any manner under ForwardHealth on the basis of race, color, national origin or ancestry, sex, religion, age, disability, or association with a person with a disability.

Any of the following actions may be considered discriminatory treatment when based on race, color, national origin, disability, or association with a person with a disability:

- Denial of aid, care, services, or other benefits.
- Segregation or separate treatment.
- Restriction in any way of any advantage or privilege received by others. (There are some program restrictions based on

eligibility classifications.)
- Treatment different from that given to others in the determination of eligibility.
- Refusing to provide an oral language interpreter to persons who are considered LEP (limited English proficient) at no cost to the LEP individual in order to provide meaningful access.
- Not providing translation of vital documents to the LEP groups who represent five percent or 1,000, whichever is smaller, in the provider's area of service delivery.

Note: Limiting practice by age is not age discrimination and specializing in certain conditions is not disability discrimination. For further information, see 45 CFR Part 91.

Providers are required to be in compliance with the previously mentioned laws as they are currently in effect or amended. Providers who employ 25 or more employees and receive $25,000 or more annually in Medicaid reimbursement are also required to comply with the DHS (Department of Health Services) Affirmative Action and Civil Rights Compliance Plan requirements. Providers that employ less than 25 employees and receive less than $25,000 annually in Medicaid reimbursement are required to comply by submitting a Letter of Assurance and other appropriate forms.

Providers without Internet access may obtain copies of the DHS Affirmative Action and Civil Rights Compliance Plan (including the Letter of Assurance and other forms) and instructions by calling the Affirmative Action and Civil Rights Compliance Officer at (608) 266-9372. Providers may also write to the following address:

AA/CRC Office
1 W Wilson St Rm 561
PO Box 7850
Madison WI 53707-7850

For more information on the acts protecting members from discrimination, refer to the civil rights compliance information in the Enrollment and Benefits booklet. The booklet is given to new ForwardHealth members by local county or tribal agencies. Potential ForwardHealth members can request the booklet by calling Member Services.

Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964

This act requires that all benefits be provided on a nondiscriminatory basis and that decisions regarding the provision of services be made without regard to race, color, or national origin. Under this act, the following actions are prohibited, if made on the basis of race, color, or national origin:

- Denying services, financial aid, or other benefits that are provided as a part of a provider's program.
- Providing services in a manner different from those provided to others under the program.
- Aggregating or separately treating clients.
- Treating individuals differently in eligibility determination or application for services.
- Selecting a site that has the effect of excluding individuals.
- Denying an individual's participation as a member of a planning or advisory board.
- Any other method or criteria of administering a program that has the effect of treating or affecting individuals in a discriminatory manner.

Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964

This act prohibits differential treatment, based solely on a person's race, color, sex, national origin, or religion, in the terms and conditions of employment. These conditions or terms of employment are failure or refusal to hire or discharge compensation and benefits, privileges of employment, segregation, classification, and the establishment of artificial or arbitrary barriers to employment.

Federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Section 504

This act prohibits discrimination in both employment and service delivery based solely on a person's disability.

This act requires the provision of reasonable accommodations where the employer or service provider cannot show that the accommodation would impose an undue hardship in the delivery of the services. A reasonable accommodation is a device or service modification that will allow the disabled person to receive a provider's benefits. An undue hardship is a burden on the program that is not equal to the benefits of allowing that handicapped person's participation.

A handicapped person means any person who has a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities, has a record of such an impairment, or is regarded as having such an impairment.

In addition, Section 504 requires "program accessibility," which may mean building accessibility, outreach, or other measures that allow for full participation of the handicapped individual. In determining program accessibility, the program or activity will be viewed in its entirety. In choosing a method of meeting accessibility requirements, the provider shall give priority to those methods that offer a person who is disabled services that are provided in the most integrated setting appropriate.

Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990

Under Title III of the ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) of 1990, any provider that operates an existing public accommodation has four specific requirements:

1. Remove barriers to make his or her goods and services available to and usable by people with disabilities to the extent that it is readily achievable to do so (i.e., to the extent that needed changes can be accomplished without much difficulty or expense).
2. Provide auxiliary aids and services so that people with sensory or cognitive disabilities have access to effective means of communication, unless doing so would fundamentally alter the operation or result in undue burdens.
3. Modify any policies, practices, or procedures that may be discriminatory or have a discriminatory effect, unless doing so would fundamentally alter the nature of the goods, services, facilities, or accommodations.
4. Ensure that there are no unnecessary eligibility criteria that tend to screen out or segregate individuals with disabilities or limit their full and equal enjoyment of the place of public accommodation.

Age Discrimination Act of 1975

The Age Discrimination Act of 1975 prohibits discrimination on the basis of age in programs and activities receiving federal financial assistance. The Act, which applies to all ages, permits the use of certain age distinctions and factors other than age that meet the Act's requirements.

Topic #198

Contracted Staff

Under a few circumstances (e.g., personal care, case management services), providers may contract with non-Medicaid certified agencies for services. Providers are legally, programmatically, and fiscally responsible for the services provided by their contractors and their contractor's services.

When contracting services, providers are required to monitor the contracted agency to ensure that the agency is meeting member needs and adhering to ForwardHealth requirements.

Providers are also responsible for informing a contracted agency of ForwardHealth requirements. Providers should refer those with whom they contract for services to ForwardHealth publications for program policies and procedures. ForwardHealth references and publications include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Wisconsin Administrative Code.
- *ForwardHealth Updates*.
- The Online Handbook.

Providers should encourage contracted agencies to visit the ForwardHealth Portal regularly for the most current information.

Topic #2173

Discharge of Members

A home health agency may not discharge a member for any reason until the agency has discussed the details of the discharge with the member, or the member's legal representative, and the member's physician. Refer to DHS 133.09, Wis. Admin. Code, for details concerning the discharge of members.

Topic #2172

Distribution of Private Duty Nursing Information

Home health agencies providing PDN (private duty nursing) services and serving as the PAL (prior authorization liaison) are strongly encouraged to photocopy and distribute the brochure titled *Private Duty Nursing — A Guide for Wisconsin Medicaid and BadgerCare Plus Members and Their Families* to all members and their families.

Topic #216

Examples of Ongoing Responsibilities

Responsibilities for which providers are held accountable are described throughout the Online Handbook. Medicaid-certified providers have responsibilities that include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Providing the same level and quality of care to ForwardHealth members as private-pay patients.
- Complying with all state and federal laws related to ForwardHealth.
- Obtaining PA (prior authorization) for services, when required.
- Notifying members in advance if a service is not covered by ForwardHealth and the provider intends to collect payment from the member for the service.
- Maintaining accurate medical and billing records.
- Retaining preparation, maintenance, medical, and financial records, along with other documentation, for a period of not less than five years from the date of payment, except rural health clinic providers who are required to retain records for a minimum of six years from the date of payment.
- Billing only for services that were actually provided.
- Allowing a member access to his or her records.
- Monitoring contracted staff.
- Accepting Medicaid reimbursement as payment in full for covered services.
- Keeping provider information (i.e., address, business name) current.
- Notifying ForwardHealth of changes in ownership.
- Responding to Medicaid recertification notifications.
- Safeguarding member confidentiality.
- Verifying member enrollment.
- Keeping up-to-date with changes in program requirements as announced in ForwardHealth publications.

Topic #217

Keeping Information Current

Types of Changes

Providers are required to notify ForwardHealth of changes, including the following:

- Address(es) — practice location and related information, mailing, PA (prior authorization), and/or financial.
- Business name.
- Contact name.
- Federal Tax ID number (IRS (Internal Revenue Service) number).
- Group affiliation.
- Licensure.
- NPI (National Provider Identifier).
- Ownership.
- Professional certification.
- Provider specialty.
- Supervisor of nonbilling providers.
- Taxonomy code.
- Telephone number, including area code.

Failure to notify ForwardHealth of changes may result in the following:

- Incorrect reimbursement.
- Misdirected payment.
- Claim denial.
- Suspension of payments in the event that provider mail is returned to ForwardHealth for lack of a current address.

Entering new information on a claim form or PA request is *not* adequate notification of change.

Address Changes

Healthcare providers who are federally required to have an NPI are cautioned that changes to their practice location address on file with ForwardHealth may alter their ZIP+4 code information that is required on transactions.

Submitting Changes in Address or Status

Once certified, providers are required to submit changes in address or status as they occur, either through the Portal or on paper.

ForwardHealth Portal Submission

After establishing a provider account on the ForwardHealth Portal, providers may make changes to their demographic information online. Changes made through the Portal instantly update the provider's information in ForwardHealth interChange. In addition, since the provider is allowed to make changes directly to his or her information, the process does not require re-entry by ForwardHealth.

Providers should note, however, that the demographic update function of the Portal limits certain providers from modifying some types of information. Providers who are not able to modify certain information through the Portal may make these changes using the Provider Change of Address or Status (F-01181 (09/11)) form.

Paper Submission

Providers must use the Provider Change of Address or Status form. Copies of old versions of this form will not be accepted and will be returned to the provider so that he or she may complete the current version of the form or submit changes through the Portal.

Change Notification Letter

When a change is made to certain provider information, either through the use of the Provider Change of Address or Status form or through the Portal, ForwardHealth will send a letter notifying the provider of the change(s) made. Providers should carefully review the Provider File Information Change Summary included with the letter. If any information on this summary is incorrect, providers may do one of the following:

- If the provider made an error while submitting information on the Portal, he or she should correct the information through the Portal.
- If the provider submitted incorrect information using the Provider Change of Address or Status form, he or she should either submit a corrected form or correct the information through the Portal.
- If the provider submitted correct information on the Provider Change of Address or Status form and believes an error was made in processing, he or she can contact Provider Services to have the error corrected or submit the correct information via the Portal.

Notify Division of Quality Assurance of Changes

Providers licensed or certified by the DQA (Division of Quality Assurance) are required to notify the DQA of changes to physical address, changes of ownership, and facility closures by calling (608) 266-8481.

Providers licensed or certified by the DQA are required to notify the DQA of these changes *before* notifying ForwardHealth. The DQA will then forward the information to ForwardHealth.

Topic #577

Legal Framework

The following laws and regulations provide the legal framework for BadgerCare Plus, Medicaid, and Wisconsin Well Woman Medicaid:

- Federal Law and Regulation:
  - Law — United States Social Security Act; Title XIX (42 US Code ss. 1396 and following) and Title XXI.
  - Regulation — Title 42 CFR Parts 430-498 and Parts 1000-1008 (Public Health).
- Wisconsin Law and Regulation:
  - Law — Wisconsin Statutes: 49.43-49.499, 49.665, and 49.473.
  - Regulation — Wisconsin Administrative Code, Chapters DHS 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 106, 107, and 108.

Laws and regulations may be amended or added at any time. Program requirements may not be construed to supersede the provisions of these laws and regulations.

The information included in the ForwardHealth Portal applies to BadgerCare Plus, Medicaid, and Wisconsin Well Woman Medicaid. BadgerCare Plus, Medicaid, and Wisconsin Well Woman Medicaid are administered by the DHS (Department of Health Services). Within the DHS, the DHCAA (Division of Health Care Access and Accountability) is directly responsible for managing these programs.

Topic #2176

The following laws and regulations provide the legal framework for the program requirements of home health agencies:

- Sections 49.46(2)(b)6m, 49.47(6)(a)1, 448.05, and 448.07, Wis. Stats.
- Chapters DHS 105.16, 107.11, 107.113, 107.12, and 133 and N 6.03 and 6.04, Wis. Admin. Code.

Topic #1711

Submitting Cost Reports

The WIMCR (Wisconsin Medicaid Cost Reporting) initiative is a cost-based payment system for counties certified as Medicaid providers of community-based services that provides additional funding for Wisconsin Medicaid while remaining cost neutral for counties.

All counties certified as Medicaid providers of community-based services are required to submit cost reports to ForwardHealth. Cost reports are required under WIMCR for the following services provided and billed to Wisconsin Medicaid by county providers:

- Case management services.
- Child/adolescent day treatment.
- Community support program services.
- Home health services.
- Medical day treatment services.
- Mental health crisis intervention services.
- Outpatient mental health and substance abuse services, including evaluation, psychotherapy, and substance abuse counseling and intensive in-home mental health services for children under HealthCheck.
- Outpatient mental health and substance abuse services provided in the home and community. (The non-federal share of this service is provided by the county.)
- Personal care services.
- PNCC (Prenatal Care Coordination) services.
- Substance abuse day treatment.

If Wisconsin Medicaid is not billed by the county for case management services, no cost report is required.

Cost Reporting Web Tool

Counties are required to submit cost reports online by using the WIMCR Web tool. After registering on the Web site, the user will be directed to the WIMCR home page where the following information is located:

- Certification of Medicaid Operating Deficit and Application for Distribution of Federal Financial Participation.
- Past WIMCR Cost Reports.
- The WIMCR Cost Report Instruction Manual.
- Other WIMCR reference documents.

WIMCR Initiative Information

For further information about the WIMCR initiative, refer to the document titled, "Questions and Answers Regarding Wisconsin Medicaid Cost Reporting Including Medicaid Payments, CSDRB, CBMAC, and the State/County Contracts."

Topic #2171

Written Statement of Member Rights

In accordance with DHS 133.08(2), Wis. Admin. Code, all home health agencies are required to furnish a written statement of member rights to the members they serve. Providers are required to share the statement with the member or their legal representative prior to providing services.

The member or legal representative is required to acknowledge the receipt of the statement of member rights in writing, and the statement must be included in the member's medical record.

Each member of home health services has rights that include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Being fully informed of all of his or her rights.
- Being fully informed of all rules and regulations governing member responsibilities.
- Being informed of all services and any changes in these services as they occur.
- Being informed of all charges for which the member may be responsible.
- Being fully informed of one's own health condition, unless medically contraindicated.
- Participating in the planning of services, including referral to health care institutions or other agencies.
- Refusing to participate in experimental research.
- Refusing treatment to the extent permitted by law and being informed of the medical consequences of such refusal.
- Confidential treatment of personal and medical records and approving or refusing their release to any individual outside the agency except in the case of transfer to a health care facility or as required by law or third-party payment contract.
- Being treated with consideration, respect, and full recognition of dignity and individuality.
- Being taught the treatment that is required so that the member can, to the extent possible, help himself or herself. Family, other persons living with the member, or other parties designated by the member will also be taught the treatment so that these persons can understand and assist the member.
- Complaining about the care that was provided or not provided and seeking resolution of the complaint without fear of recrimination.

Provider Numbers

Topic #3421

National Provider Identifier

Health care providers are required to indicate an NPI (National Provider Identifier) on electronic and paper transactions submitted to ForwardHealth.

The NPI is a 10-digit number obtained through NPPES (National Plan and Provider Enumeration System).

Providers should ensure that they have obtained an appropriate NPI to correspond to their certification.

There are two kinds of NPIs:

- Entity Type 1 NPIs are for individuals who provide health care, such as physicians, dentists, and chiropractors.
- Entity Type 2 NPIs are for organizations that provide health care such as hospitals, group practices, pharmacies, and home health agencies.

It is possible for a provider to qualify for both Entity Type 1 and Entity Type 2 NPIs. For example, an individual physical therapist may also be the owner of a therapy group that is a corporation and have two Wisconsin Medicaid certifications — one certification as an individual physical therapist and the other certification as the physical therapy group. A Type 1 NPI for the individual certification and a Type 2 NPI for the group certification are required.

NPIs and classifications may be viewed on the NPPES Web site. The CMS (Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services) Web site includes more Type 1 and Type 2 NPI information.

Multiple Certifications

Some providers hold multiple certifications with Wisconsin Medicaid. For example, a health care organization may be certified according to the type of services their organization provides (e.g., physician group, therapy group, home health agency) or the organization may have separate certification for each practice location. Wisconsin Medicaid maintains a separate provider file for each certification that stores information used for processing electronic and paper transactions (e.g., provider type and specialty, certification begin and end dates). When a single NPI is reported for multiple certifications, ForwardHealth requires additional data to identify the provider and to determine the correct provider file to use when processing transactions.

The following additional data are required with an NPI when a single NPI corresponds to multiple certifications:

- The provider's taxonomy code on file with ForwardHealth.
- The ZIP+4 code (complete, nine digits) that corresponds to the practice location address on file with ForwardHealth.

When conducting business with ForwardHealth following certification, a taxonomy code is required when the NPI reported to ForwardHealth corresponds to more than one certification and the provider's practice location ZIP+4 code does not uniquely identify the provider. Omission of the required data will cause claims and other transactions to be denied or delayed in processing.

Topic #5096

Taxonomy Codes

Taxonomy codes are standard code sets used to provide information about provider type and specialty for the provider's certification. ForwardHealth uses taxonomy codes as additional data for correctly matching the NPI (National Provider Identifier) to the provider file.

Providers are required to use a taxonomy code when the NPI reported to ForwardHealth corresponds to multiple certifications and the provider's practice location ZIP+4 code does not uniquely identify the provider.

Providers are allowed to report multiple taxonomy codes to ForwardHealth as long as the codes accurately describe the provider type and specialty for the provider's certification. When doing business with ForwardHealth, providers may use any one of the reported codes. Providers who report multiple taxonomy codes will be required to designate one of the codes as the primary taxonomy code; this primary code will be used by ForwardHealth for identification purposes.

Providers who wish to change their taxonomy code or add additional taxonomy codes may do so using the demographic maintenance link found in the secure Provider area of the ForwardHealth Portal. Alternatively, providers may use the Provider Change of Address or Status (F-01181 (09/11)) form to report new taxonomy codes.

Most taxonomy code changes entered through demographic maintenance will take effect in real time; providers may use the new codes immediately on transactions. Providers who submit new taxonomy codes using the Provider Change of Address or Status form will need to check demographic maintenance to verify ForwardHealth has received and added the new taxonomy codes prior to using them on transactions.

Omission of a taxonomy code when it is required as additional data to identify the provider will cause claims and other transactions to be denied or delayed in processing.

Note: Taxonomy codes do not change provider certification or affect reimbursement terms.

Topic #5097

ZIP Code

The ZIP code of a provider's practice location address on file with ForwardHealth must be a ZIP+4 code. The ZIP+4 code helps to identify a provider when the NPI (National Provider Identifier) reported to ForwardHealth corresponds to multiple certifications and the reported taxonomy code does not uniquely identify the provider.

When a ZIP+4 code is required to identify a provider, omission of it will cause claims and other transactions to be denied or delayed in processing.

Providers may verify the ZIP+4 code for their address on the United States Postal Service Web site.

Provider Rights

Topic #208

A Comprehensive Overview of Provider Rights

Medicaid-certified providers have certain rights including, but not limited to, the following:

- Limiting the number of members they serve in a nondiscriminatory way.
- Ending participation in Wisconsin Medicaid.
- Applying for a discretionary waiver or variance of certain rules identified in Wisconsin Administrative Code.
- Collecting payment from a member under limited circumstances.
- Refusing services to a member if the member refuses or fails to present a ForwardHealth identification card. However, possession of a ForwardHealth card does not guarantee enrollment (e.g., the member may not be enrolled, may be enrolled only for limited benefits, or the ForwardHealth card may be invalid). Providers may confirm the current enrollment of the member by using one of the EVS (Enrollment Verification System) methods, including calling Provider Services.

Topic #207

Ending Participation

Providers other than home health agencies and nursing facilities may terminate participation in ForwardHealth according to DHS 106.05, Wis. Admin. Code.

Providers choosing to withdraw should promptly notify their members to give them ample time to find another provider.

When withdrawing, the provider is required to do the following:

- Provide a written notice of the decision at least 30 days in advance of the termination.
- Indicate the effective date of termination.

Providers will not receive reimbursement for nonemergency services provided on and after the effective date of termination. Voluntary termination notices can be sent to the following address:

ForwardHealth
Provider Maintenance
6406 Bridge Rd
Madison WI 53784-0006

If the provider fails to specify an effective date in the notice of termination, ForwardHealth may terminate the provider on the date the notice is received.

Topic #209

Hearing Requests

A provider who wishes to contest a DHS (Department of Health Services) action or inaction for which due process is required

under s. 227, Wis. Stats., may request a hearing by writing to the DHA (Division of Hearings and Appeals).

A provider who wishes to contest the DHCAA's (Division of Health Care Access and Accountability) notice of intent to recover payment (e.g., to recoup for overpayments discovered in an audit by DHCAA) is required to request a hearing on the matter within the time period specified in the notice. The request, which must be in writing, should briefly summarize the provider's basis for contesting the DHS decision to withhold payment.

Refer to DHS 106, Wis. Admin. Code, for detailed instructions on how to file an appeal.

If a timely request for a hearing is not received, the DHS may recover those amounts specified in its original notice from future amounts owed to the provider.

Note: Providers are not entitled to administrative hearings for billing disputes.

Topic #210

Limiting the Number of Members

If providers choose to limit the number of members they see, they cannot accept a member as a private-pay patient. Providers should instead refer the member to another ForwardHealth provider.

Persons applying for or receiving benefits are protected against discrimination based on race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability, or association with a person with a disability.

Topic #206

Requesting Discretionary Waivers and Variances

In rare instances, a provider or member may apply for, and the DHCAA (Division of Health Care Access and Accountability) will consider applications for, a discretionary waiver or variance of certain rules in DHS 102, 103, 104, 105, 107, and 108, Wis. Admin. Code. Rules that are not considered for a discretionary waiver or variance are included in DHS 106.13, Wis. Admin. Code.

Waivers and variances are not available to permit coverage of services that are either expressly identified as noncovered or are not expressly mentioned in DHS 107, Wis. Admin. Code.

Requirements

A request for a waiver or variance may be made at any time; however, all applications must be made in writing to the DHCAA. All applications are required to specify the following:

- The rule from which the waiver or variance is requested.
- The time period for which the waiver or variance is requested.
- If the request is for a variance, the specific alternative action proposed by the provider.
- The reasons for the request.
- Justification that all requirements for a discretionary waiver or variance would be satisfied.

The DHCAA may also require additional information from the provider or the member prior to acting on the request.

Application

The DHCAA may grant a discretionary waiver or variance if it finds that all of the following requirements are met:

- The waiver or variance will not adversely affect the health, safety, or welfare of any member.
- Either the strict enforcement of a requirement would result in unreasonable hardship on the provider or on a member, or an alternative to a rule is in the interests of better care or management. An alternative to a rule would include a new concept, method, procedure or technique, new equipment, new personnel qualifications, or the implementation of a pilot project.
- The waiver or variance is consistent with all applicable state and federal statutes and federal regulations.
- Federal financial participation is available for all services under the waiver or variance, consistent with the Medicaid state plan, the federal CMS (Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services), and other applicable federal program requirements.
- Services relating to the waiver or variance are medically necessary.

To apply for a discretionary waiver or variance, providers are required to send their application to the following address:

Division of Health Care Access and Accountability
Waivers and Variances
PO Box 309
Madison WI 53701-0309

Recertification

Topic #8517

An Overview

Each year approximately one-third of all Medicaid-certified providers undergo recertification. During provider recertification, providers update their information and sign the Wisconsin Medicaid Provider Agreement and Acknowledgement of Terms of Participation. Providers are required to complete the provider recertification process to continue their participation with Wisconsin Medicaid. For most providers, recertification will be conducted online at the ForwardHealth Portal. Providers will be notified when they need to be recertified and will be provided with instructions on how to complete the recertification process.

Topic #8521

Checking the Status of a Recertification Application

Providers may check the status of their recertification on the ForwardHealth Portal by entering the ATN (application tracking number) from the Provider Recertification Notice and pressing "Search."

Providers will receive one of the following status responses:

- "Approved." ForwardHealth has reviewed the recertification materials and all requirements have been met. ForwardHealth is completing updates to provider files.
- "Awaiting Additional Info." ForwardHealth has reviewed the recertification materials and has requested additional information from the provider. Providers will receive a letter via mail when additional materials or information are required to complete processing of the recertification materials.
- "Awaiting Follow-On Documents." ForwardHealth requires additional paper documents to process the recertification. After the provider has submitted recertification information online via the Portal, the final screen will list additional documents the provider must mail to ForwardHealth. ForwardHealth cannot complete processing until these documents are received. This status is primarily used for SMV (specialized medical vehicle) provider recertification.
- "Denied." The provider's recertification has been denied.
- "Failure to Recertify." The provider has not recertified by the established recertification deadline.
- "In Process." The recertification materials are in the process of being reviewed by ForwardHealth.
- "Paper Requested." The provider requested a paper recertification application and ForwardHealth has not received the paper application yet.
- "Recert Initiated." The Provider Recertification Notice and PIN (personal identification number) letter have been sent to the provider. The provider has not started the recertification process yet.
- "Recertified." The provider has successfully completed recertification. There are no actions necessary by the provider.
- "Referred To DHS." ForwardHealth has referred the provider recertification materials to the State Certification Specialist for recertification determination.

Topic #8519

Notification Letters

Providers undergoing recertification will receive two important letters in the mail from ForwardHealth:

- The Provider Recertification Notice. This is the first notice to providers. The Provider Recertification Notice contains identifying information about the provider who is required to complete recertification, the recertification deadline, and the ATN (application tracking number) assigned to the provider. The ATN is used when logging in to the ForwardHealth Portal to complete recertification and also serves as the tracking number when checking the status of the provider's recertification.
- The PIN (personal identification number) letter. Providers will receive this notice a few days after the Provider Recertification Notice. The PIN letter will contain a recertification PIN and instructions on logging in to the Portal to complete recertification.

The letters are sent to the mailing address on file with Wisconsin Medicaid. Providers should read these letters carefully and keep them for reference. The letters contain information necessary to log in to the secure Recertification area of the Portal to complete recertification. If a provider needs to replace one of the letters, the recertification process will be delayed.

Topic #8523

Paper Recertification Applications

Providers who do not have Internet access or who are not able to complete recertification via the ForwardHealth Portal should contact Provider Services to request a paper recertification application. Providers who request a paper application are required to complete the recertification process on paper and not online via the Portal to avoid duplicate recertification submissions.

Topic #8522

Recertification Completed by an Authorized Representative

A provider has several options for submitting information to the DHS (Department of Health Services), including electronic and Web-based submission methodologies that require the input of secure and discrete access codes but not written provider signatures.

The provider has sole responsibility for maintaining the privacy and security of any access code the provider uses to submit information to the DHS, and any individual who submits information using such access code does so on behalf of the provider, regardless of whether the provider gave the access code to the individual or had knowledge that the individual knew the access code or used it to submit information to the DHS.

Topic #8520

Recertification on the ForwardHealth Portal

Logging in to the Secure Recertification Area of the Portal

Once a provider has received the Provider Recertification Notice and PIN (personal identification number) letter, the provider may log in to the Recertification area of the ForwardHealth Portal to begin the recertification process.

The Recertification area of the Portal is not part of a Provider Portal account. Providers do not need a Provider Portal account to participate in recertification via the Portal. Providers are not able to access the Recertification area of the Portal by logging in to a Provider Portal account; providers must use the ATN (application tracking number) from the Provider Recertification Notice and PIN from the PIN letter to log in to the Recertification area of the Portal.

The Portal will guide providers through the recertification process. On each screen, providers are required to complete or verify information.

Completing Recertification

Providers are required to complete all of the recertification screens in a single session. The Portal will not save a provider's partial progress through the recertification screens. If a provider does not complete all of the recertification screens in a single session, the provider will be required to start over when logging in to the Recertification area of the Portal again.

It is important to read the final screen carefully and follow all instructions before exiting the recertification process. After exiting the recertification process, providers will not be able to retrieve the provider recertification documents for their records.

The final screen of the recertification process gives providers the option to print and save a PDF (Portable Document Format) version of the recertification information submitted to ForwardHealth. Providers whose recertification is approved immediately will also be able to print a copy of the approval letter and the Provider Agreement signed by the DHS (Department of Health Services).

In other cases, the final screen will give providers additional instructions to complete recertification, such as the following:

- The recertification application requires review. Providers are mailed the approval letter and other materials when the application is approved.
- Some providers may be required to send additional paper documentation to ForwardHealth.

Sanctions

Topic #211

Intermediate Sanctions

According to DHS 106.08(3), Wis. Admin. Code, the DHS (Department of Health Services) may impose intermediate sanctions on providers who violate certain requirements. Common examples of sanctions that the DHS may apply include the following:

- Review of the provider's claims before payment.
- Referral to the appropriate peer review organization, licensing authority, or accreditation organization.
- Restricting the provider's participation in BadgerCare Plus.
- Requiring the provider to correct deficiencies identified in a DHS audit.

Prior to imposing any alternative sanction under this section, the DHS will issue a written notice to the provider in accordance with DHS 106.12, Wis. Admin. Code.

Any sanction imposed by the DHS may be appealed by the provider under DHS 106.12, Wis. Admin. Code. Providers may appeal a sanction by writing to the DHA (Division of Hearings and Appeals).

Topic #212

Involuntary Termination

The DHS (Department of Health Services) may suspend or terminate the Medicaid certification of any provider according to DHS 106.06, Wis. Admin. Code.

The suspension or termination may occur if both of the following apply:

- The DHS finds that any of the grounds for provider termination are applicable.
- The suspension or termination will not deny members access to services.

Reasonable notice and an opportunity for a hearing within 15 days will be given to each provider whose certification is terminated by the DHS. Refer to DHS 106.07, Wis. Admin. Code, for detailed information regarding possible sanctions.

In cases where Medicare enrollment is required as a condition of certification with Wisconsin Medicaid, termination from Medicare results in automatic termination from Wisconsin Medicaid.

Topic #213

Sanctions for Collecting Payment from Members

Under state and federal laws, if a provider inappropriately collects payment from an enrolled member, or authorized person acting on behalf of the member, that provider may be subject to program sanctions including termination of Medicaid certification. In addition, the provider may also be fined not more than $25,000, or imprisoned not more than five years, or both, pursuant to 42 USC s. 1320a-7b(d) or 49.49(3m), Wis. Stats.

There may be narrow exceptions on when providers may collect payment from members.

Topic #214

Withholding Payments

The DHS (Department of Health Services) may withhold full or partial Medicaid provider payments without prior notification if, as the result of any review or audit, the DHS finds reliable evidence of fraud or willful misrepresentation.

"Reliable evidence" of fraud or willful misrepresentation includes, but is not limited to, the filing of criminal charges by a prosecuting attorney against the provider or one of the provider's agents or employees.

The DHS is required to send the provider a written notice within five days of taking this action. The notice will generally set forth the allegations without necessarily disclosing specific information about the investigation.

Claims

2

Archive Date:01/03/2012

Claims:Adjustment Requests

Topic #814

Allowed Claim

An allowed claim (or adjustment request) contains at least one service that is reimbursable. Allowed claims display on the Paid Claims Section of the RA (Remittance Advice) with a dollar amount greater than "0" in the allowed amount fields. Only an allowed claim, which is also referred to as a claim in an allowed status, may be adjusted.

Topic #815

Denied Claim

A claim that was completely denied is considered to be in a denied status. To receive reimbursement for a claim that was completely denied, it must be corrected and submitted as a new claim.

Topic #512

Electronic

837 Transaction

Even if the original claim was submitted on paper, providers may submit electronic adjustment requests using an 837 (837 Health Care Claim) transaction.

Provider Electronic Solutions Software

The DHCAA (Division of Health Care Access and Accountability) offers electronic billing software at no cost to providers. The PES (Provider Electronic Solutions) software allows providers to submit electronic adjustment requests using an 837 transaction. To obtain PES software, providers may download it from the ForwardHealth Portal. For assistance installing and using PES software, providers may call the EDI (Electronic Data Interchange) Helpdesk.

Portal Claim Adjustments

Providers can submit claim adjustments via the Portal. Providers may use the search function to find the specific claim to adjust. Once found, the provider can alter the claim to reflect the desired change and resubmit it to ForwardHealth. Any claim ForwardHealth has paid can be adjusted and resubmitted on the Portal, regardless of how the claim was originally submitted.

Topic #513

Follow-Up

Providers who believe an error has occurred or their issues have not been satisfactorily resolved have the following options:

- Submit a new adjustment request if the previous adjustment request is in an allowed status.
- Submit a new claim for the services if the adjustment request is in a denied status.
- Contact Provider Services for assistance with paper adjustment requests.
- Contact the EDI (Electronic Data Interchange) Helpdesk for assistance with electronic adjustment requests.

Topic #515

Paper

Paper adjustment requests must be submitted using the Adjustment/Reconsideration Request (F-13046 (10/08)) form.

Topic #816

Processing

Within 30 days of receipt, ForwardHealth generally reprocesses the original claim with the changes indicated on the adjustment request and responds on ForwardHealth remittance information.

Topic #514

Purpose

After reviewing both the claim and ForwardHealth remittance information, a provider may determine that an allowed claim needs to be adjusted. Providers may file adjustment requests for reasons including the following:

- To correct billing or processing errors.
- To correct inappropriate payments (overpayments and underpayments).
- To add and delete services.
- To supply additional information that may affect the amount of reimbursement.
- To request professional consultant review (e.g., medical, dental).

Providers may initiate reconsideration of an allowed claim by submitting an adjustment request to ForwardHealth.

Topic #4857

Submitting Paper Attachments with Electronic Claim Adjustments

Providers may submit paper attachments to accompany electronic claim adjustments. Providers should refer to their companion guides for directions on indicating that a paper attachment will be submitted by mail.

Good Faith Claims

Topic #518

Definition

A good faith claim may be submitted when a claim is denied due to a discrepancy between the member's enrollment information in the claims processing system and the member's actual enrollment. If a member presents a temporary card or an EE (Express Enrollment) card, BadgerCare Plus encourages providers to check the member's enrollment and, if the enrollment is not on file yet, make a photocopy of the member's temporary card or EE card. If Wisconsin's EVS (Enrollment Verification System) indicates that the member is not enrolled in BadgerCare Plus, providers should check enrollment again in two days or wait one week to submit a claim to ForwardHealth. If the EVS indicates that the member still is not enrolled after two days, or if the claim is denied with an enrollment-related EOB (Explanation of Benefits) code, providers should contact Provider Services for assistance.

Overpayments

Topic #528

Adjustment Request vs. Cash Refund

Except for nursing home and hospital providers, cash refunds may be submitted to ForwardHealth in lieu of an adjustment request. However, whenever possible, providers should submit an adjustment request for returning overpayments since both of the following are true:

- A cash refund does not provide documentation for provider records as an adjustment request does. (Providers may be required to submit proof of the refund at a later time.)
- Providers are not able to further adjust the claim after a cash refund is done if an additional reason for adjustment is determined.

Topic #532

Adjustment Requests

When correcting an overpayment through an adjustment request, providers may submit the adjustment request electronically or on paper. Providers should not submit provider-based billing claims through adjustment processing channels.

ForwardHealth processes an adjustment request if the provider is all of the following:

- Medicaid certified on the DOS (date of service).
- Not currently under investigation for Medicaid fraud or abuse.
- Not subject to any intermediate sanctions under DHS 106.08, Wis. Admin. Code.
- Claiming and receiving ForwardHealth reimbursement in sufficient amounts to allow the recovery of the overpayment within a very limited period of time. The period of time is usually no more than 60 days.

Electronic Adjustment Requests

ForwardHealth will deduct the overpayment when the electronic adjustment request is processed. Providers should use the companion guide for the appropriate 837 (837 Health Care Claim) transaction when submitting adjustment requests.

Paper Adjustment Requests

For paper adjustment requests, providers are required to do the following:

- Submit an Adjustment/Reconsideration Request (F-13046 (10/08)) form through normal processing channels (not Timely Filing), regardless of the DOS.
- Indicate the reason for the overpayment, such as a duplicate reimbursement or an error in the quantity indicated on the claim.

After the paper adjustment request is processed, ForwardHealth will deduct the overpayment from future reimbursement amounts.

Topic #533

Cash Refunds

When submitting a personal check to ForwardHealth for an overpayment, providers should include a copy of the RA (Remittance Advice) for the claim to be adjusted and highlight the affected claim on the RA. If a copy of the RA is not available, providers should indicate the ICN (internal control number), the NPI (National Provider Identifier) (if applicable), and the payee ID from the RA for the claim to be adjusted. The check should be sent to the following address:

ForwardHealth
Financial Services Cash Unit
6406 Bridge Rd
Madison WI 53784-0004

Topic #531

ForwardHealth-Initiated Adjustments

ForwardHealth may initiate an adjustment when a retroactive rate increase occurs or when an improper or excess payment has been made. ForwardHealth has the right to pursue overpayments resulting from computer or clerical errors that occurred during claims processing.

If ForwardHealth initiates an adjustment to recover overpayments, ForwardHealth remittance information will include details of the adjustment in the Claims Adjusted Section of the paper RA (Remittance Advice).

Topic #530

Requirements

As stated in DHS 106.04(5), Wis. Admin. Code, the provider is required to refund the overpayment within 30 days of the date of the overpayment if a provider receives overpayment for a claim because of duplicate reimbursement from ForwardHealth or other health insurance sources.

In the case of all other overpayments (e.g., incorrect claims processing, incorrect maximum allowable fee paid), providers are required to return the overpayment within 30 days of the date of discovery.

The return of overpayments may occur through one of the following methods:

- Return of overpayment through the adjustment request process.
- Return of overpayment with a cash refund.
- Return of overpayment with a voided claim.
- ForwardHealth-initiated adjustments.

Note: Nursing home and hospital providers may not return an overpayment with a cash refund. These providers routinely receive retroactive rate adjustments, requiring ForwardHealth to reprocess previously paid claims to reflect a new rate. This is not possible after a cash refund is done.

Topic #8417

Voiding Claims

Providers may void claims on the ForwardHealth Portal to return overpayments. This way of returning overpayments may be a more efficient and timely way for providers as a voided claim is a complete recoupment of the payment for the entire claim. Once a claim is voided, the claim can no longer be adjusted; however, the services indicated on the voided claim may be resubmitted on a new claim.

Responses

Topic #540

An Overview of the Remittance Advice

The RA (Remittance Advice) provides important information about the processing of claims and adjustment requests as well as additional financial transactions such as refunds or recoupment amounts withheld. ForwardHealth provides electronic RAs to providers on their secure ForwardHealth Portal accounts when at least one claim, adjustment request, or financial transaction is processed. RAs are generated from the appropriate ForwardHealth program when at least one claim, adjustment request, or financial transaction is processed. An RA is generated regardless of how a claim or adjustment is submitted (electronically or on paper). Generally, payment information is released and an RA is generated by ForwardHealth no sooner than the first state business day following the financial cycle.

Providers are required to access their secure ForwardHealth provider Portal account to obtain their RA.

RAs are accessible to providers in a TXT (text) format via the secure Provider area of the Portal. Providers are also able to download the RA from their secure provider Portal account in a new CSV (comma-separated values) format.

Topic #5091

National Provider Identifier on the Remittance Advice

Health care providers who have a single NPI (National Provider Identifier) that is used for multiple certifications will receive an RA for each certification with the same NPI reported on each of the RAs. For instance, if a hospital has obtained a single NPI and the hospital has a clinic, a lab, and a pharmacy that are all certified by Medicaid, the clinic, the lab, and the pharmacy will submit separate claims that indicate the same NPI as the hospital. Separate RAs will be generated for the hospital, the clinic, the lab, and the pharmacy.

Topic #4818

Calculating Totals on the Remittance Advice for Adjusted and Paid Claims

The total amounts for all adjusted or paid claims reported on the RA (Remittance Advice) appear at the end of the adjusted claims and paid claims sections. ForwardHealth calculates the total for each section by adding the net amounts for all claims listed in that section. Cutback amounts are subtracted from the allowed amount to reach the total reimbursement for the claims.

Note: Some cutbacks that are reported in detail lines will appear as EOB (Explanation of Benefits) codes and will not display an exact dollar amount.

Topic #534

Claim Number

Each claim or adjustment request received by ForwardHealth is assigned a unique claim number (also known as the ICN (internal

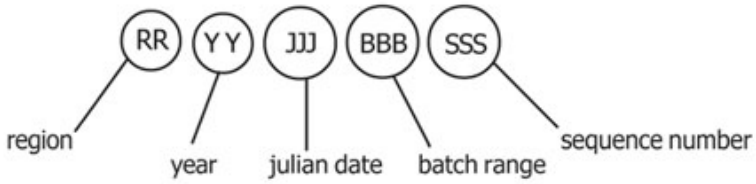
control number)). However, denied real-time compound and noncompound claims are not assigned an ICN, but receive an authorization number. Authorization numbers are not reported to the RA (Remittance Advice) or 835 (835 Health Care Claim Payment/Advice).

Interpreting Claim Numbers

The ICN consists of 13 digits that identify valuable information (e.g., the date the claim was received by ForwardHealth, how the claim was submitted) about the claim or adjustment request.

Interpreting Claim Numbers

Each claim and adjustment received by ForwardHealth is assigned a unique claim number (also known as the internal control number or ICN). This number identifies valuable information about the claim and adjustment request. The following diagram and table provide detailed information about interpreting the claim number.



Type of Number and Description	Applicable Numbers and Description
Region — Two digits indicate the region. The region indicates how ForwardHealth received the claim or adjustment request.	10 — Paper Claims with No Attachments 11 — Paper Claims with Attachments 20 — Electronic Claims with No Attachments 21 — Electronic Claims with Attachments 22 — Internet Claims with No Attachments 23 — Internet Claims with Attachments 25 — Point-of-Service Claims 26 — Point-of-Service Claims with Attachments 40 — Claims Converted from Former Processing System 45 — Adjustments Converted from Former Processing System 50–59 — Adjustments 80 — Claim Resubmissions 90–91 — Claims Requiring Special Handling
Year — Two digits indicate the year ForwardHealth received the claim or adjustment request.	For example, the year 2008 would appear as 08.
Julian date — Three digits indicate the day of the year, by Julian date, that ForwardHealth received the claim or adjustment request.	For example, February 3 would appear as 034.
Batch range — Three digits indicate the batch range assigned to the claim.	The batch range is used internally by ForwardHealth.
Sequence number — Three digits indicate the sequence number assigned within the batch range.	The sequence number is used internally by ForwardHealth.

Topic #535

Claim Status

ForwardHealth generally processes claims and adjustment requests within 30 days of receipt. Providers may check the status of a claim or adjustment request using the AVR (Automated Voice Response) system or the 276/277 (276/277 Health Care Claim Status Request and Response) transaction.

If a claim or adjustment request does not appear in claim status within 45 days of the date of submission, a copy of the original claim or adjustment request should be resubmitted through normal processing channels.

Topic #10017

Creating Private Duty Nursing Claims Reports

The PDN—PAC (Private Duty Nursing—Prior Authorization Claims) report is available to PDN (private duty nursing) providers. Providers with ForwardHealth Portal accounts can create the report for DOS (dates of service) on and after May 1, 2010. Access to the PDN—PAC report is located on the Claims page of the secure provider Portal account. PDN providers with ForwardHealth Portal accounts may create the PDN—PAC report at their convenience.

Provider Services will not print and mail PDN—PAC reports to providers. The PDN—PAC report must be obtained from a secure provider Portal account.

The report is linked to a specific PDN PA number. The PDN—PAC report displays the following claim information:

- Name of the provider billing PDN service.
- Procedure code and modifiers billed.
- DOS.
- Units billed.
- Units allowed.

Each PDN—PAC report is linked to a specific PDN PA number. In order to create the report, providers must include the following information in the search criteria:

- PDN PA (prior authorizatation) number.
- Member's name.
- Member's ForwardHealth member identification number.
- Member's date of birth.
- DOS for PDN.

Topic #4746

Cutback Fields on the Remittance Advice for Adjusted and Paid Claims

Cutback fields indicate amounts that reduce the allowed amount of the claim. Examples of cutbacks include other insurance, member copayment, spenddown amounts, deductibles, or patient liability amounts. Amounts indicated in a cutback field are subtracted from the total allowed reimbursement.

Providers should note that cutback amounts indicated in the header of an adjusted or paid claim section apply only to the header. Not all cutback fields that apply to a detail line (such as copayments or spenddowns) will be indicated on the RA (Remittance Advice); the detail line EOB (Explanation of Benefits) codes inform providers that an amount was deducted from the total reimbursement but may not indicate the exact amount.

Note: Providers who receive 835 (835 Health Care Claim Payment/Advice) transactions will be able to see all deducted amounts on paid and adjusted claims.

Topic #537

Electronic Remittance Information

Providers are required to access their secure ForwardHealth provider Portal account to obtain their RAs (Remittance Advices). Electronic RAs on the Portal are not available to the following providers because these providers are not allowed to establish Portal accounts by their Provider Agreements:

- In-state emergency providers.
- Out-of-state providers.
- Out-of-country providers.

RAs are accessible to providers in a TXT (text) format or from a CSV (comma-separated values) file via the secure Provider area of the Portal.

Text File

The TXT format file is generated by financial payer and listed by RA number and RA date on the secure provider Portal account under the "View Remittance Advices" menu. RAs from the last 97 days are available in the TXT format. When a user clicks on an RA, a pop-up window displays asking if the user would like to "Open" or "Save" the file. If "Open" is chosen, the document opens based on the user's application associated with opening text documents. If "Save" is chosen, the "Save As" window will open. The user can then browse to a location on their computer or network to save the document.

Users should be aware that "Word Wrap" must be turned off in the Notepad application. If it is not, it will cause distorted formatting. Also, users may need to resize the Notepad window in order to view all of the data. Providers wanting to print their files must ensure that the "Page Setup" application is set to the "Landscape" setting; otherwise the printed document will not contain all the information.

Comma-Separated Values Downloadable File

A CSV file is a file format accepted by a wide range of computer software programs. Downloadable CSV-formatted RAs allow users the benefits of building a customized RA specific to their use and saving the file to their computer. The CSV file on a provider's Portal appears as linear text separated by commas until it is downloaded into a compatible software program. Once downloaded, the file may be saved to a user's computer and the data manipulated, as desired.

To access the CSV file, providers should select the "View Remittance Advices" menu at the top of the provider's Portal home page.

The CSV files are generated per financial payer and listed by RA number and RA date. A separate CSV file is listed for the last 10 RAs. Providers can select specific sections of the RA by date to download making the information easy to read and organize.

The CSV file may be downloaded into a Microsoft Office Excel spreadsheet or into another compatible software program, such as Microsoft Office Access or OpenOffice 2.2.1. OpenOffice is a free software program obtainable from the Internet. Google

Docs and ZDNet also offer free spreadsheet applications. Microsoft Office Excel, a widely used program, is a spreadsheet application for Microsoft Windows and Mac OS X. For maximum file capabilities when downloading the CSV file, the 1995 Office Excel for Windows (Version 7.0) included in Office 95 or a newer version is recommended. Earlier versions of Microsoft Office Excel will work with the CSV file; however, files exceeding 65,000 lines may need to be split into smaller files when downloading using earlier versions. Microsoft Office Access can manage larger data files.

Refer to the CSV User Guide on the Portal User Guides page of the Portal for instructions about Microsoft Office Excel functions that can be used to manipulate RA data downloaded from the CSV file.

835

Electronic remittance information may be obtained using the 835 (835 Health Care Claim Payment/Advice) transaction. It provides useful information regarding the processing of claims and adjustment requests, which includes the status or action taken on a claim, claim detail, adjustment, or adjustment detail for all claims and adjustments processed that week, regardless of whether they are reimbursed or denied. However, a real-time compound or noncompound claim will not appear on remittance information if the claim is denied by ForwardHealth. ForwardHealth releases payment information to the 835 no sooner than on the first state business day following the financial cycle.

Provider Electronic Solutions Software

The DHCAA (Division of Health Care Access and Accountability) offers electronic billing software at no cost to the provider. The PES (Provider Electronic Solutions) software allows providers to download the 835 transaction. To obtain PES software, providers may download it from the ForwardHealth Portal. For assistance installing and using PES software, providers may call the EDI (Electronic Data Interchange) Helpdesk.

Topic #4822

Explanation of Benefit Codes in the Claim Header and in the Detail Lines

EOB (Explanation of Benefits) codes are four-digit numeric codes specific to ForwardHealth that correspond to a printed message about the status or action taken on a claim, claim detail, adjustment, or adjustment detail.

The claim processing sections of the RA (Remittance Advice) report EOBs for the claim header information and detail lines, as appropriate. Header information is a summary of the information from the claim, such as the DOS (date of service) that the claim covers or the total amount paid for the claim. Detail lines report information from the claim details, such as specific procedure codes or revenue codes, the amount billed for each code, and the amount paid for a detail line item.

Header EOBs are listed below the claim header information and pertain only to the header information. Detail line EOBs are listed after each detail line and pertain only to the detail line.

TEXT File

EOB codes and descriptions are listed in the RA information in the TXT (text) file.

CSV File

EOB codes are listed in the RA information from the CSV (comma-separated values) file; however, the printed messages corresponding to the codes do not appear in the file. The EOB Code Listing matching standard EOB codes to explanation text is available on the Portal for reference.

Topic #4820

Identifying the Claims Reported on the Remittance Advice

The RA (Remittance Advice) reports the first 12 characters of the MRN (medical record number) and/or a PCN (patient control number), also referred to as Patient Account Number, submitted on the original claims. The MRN and PCN fields are located beneath the member's name on any section of the RA that reports claims processing information.

Providers are strongly encouraged to enter these numbers on claims. Entering the MRN and/or the PCN on claims may assist providers in identifying the claims reported on the RA.

Note: Claims processing sections for dental and drug claims do not include the MRN or the PCN.

Topic #539

Obtaining the Remittance Advice

Providers are required to access their secure ForwardHealth provider Portal account to obtain RAs (Remittance Advice). The secure Portal allows providers to conduct business and exchange electronic transactions with ForwardHealth. A separate Portal account is required for each financial payer.

Providers who do not have a ForwardHealth provider Portal account may request one.

RAs are accessible to providers in a TXT (text) format via the secure provider Portal account. The TXT format file is generated per financial payer and listed by RA number and RA date on the secure provider Portal account under "View Remittance Advices" menu at the top of the provider's Portal home page. RAs from the last 97 days are available in the TXT format.

Providers can also access RAs in a CSV (comma-separated values) format from their secure provider Portal account. The CSV files are generated per financial payer and listed by RA number and RA date on the secure provider Portal account under "View Remittance Advices" menu at the top of the provider's Portal home page. A separate CSV file is listed for the last 10 RAs.

Topic #4745

Overview of Claims Processing Information on the Remittance Advice

The claims processing sections of the RA (Remittance Advice) includes information submitted on claims and the status of the claims. The claim status designations are paid, adjusted, or denied. The RA also supplies information about why the claim was adjusted or denied or how the reimbursement was calculated for the payment.

The claims processing information in the RA is grouped by the type of claim and the status of the claim. Providers receive claims processing sections that correspond to the types of claims that have been finalized during the current financial cycle.

The claims processing sections reflect the types of claims submitted, such as the following:

- Compound drug claims.

- Dental claims.
- Drug claims.
- Inpatient claims.
- Long term care claims.
- Medicare crossover institutional claims.
- Medicare crossover professional claims.
- Outpatient claims.
- Professional claims.

The claims processing sections are divided into the following status designations:

- Adjusted claims.
- Denied claims.
- Paid claims.

Claim Types on the Remittance Advice and Corresponding Provider Types

Claim Types	Provider Types
Dental claims	Dentists, dental hygienists, HealthCheck agencies that provide dental services.
Drug and compound drug claims	Pharmacies and dispensing physicians.
Inpatient claims	Inpatient hospital providers and institutes for mental disease providers.
Long term care claims	Nursing homes.
Medicare crossover institutional claims	Most providers who submit claims on the UB-04.
Medicare crossover professional claims	Most providers who submit claims on the 1500 Health Insurance Claim Form.
Outpatient claims	Outpatient hospital providers and hospice providers.
Professional claims	Ambulance providers, ambulatory surgery centers, anesthesiologist assistants, audiologists, case management providers, certified registered nurse anesthetists, chiropractors, community care organizations, community support programs, crisis intervention providers, day treatment providers, family planning clinics, federally qualified health centers, HealthCheck providers, HealthCheck "Other Services" providers, hearing instrument specialists, home health agencies, independent labs, individual medical supply providers, medical equipment vendors, mental health/substance abuse clinics, nurses in independent practice, nurse practitioners, occupational therapists, opticians, optometrists, personal care agencies, physical therapists, physician assistants, physician clinics, physicians, podiatrists, portable X-ray providers, prenatal care coordination providers, psychologists, rehabilitation agencies, respiratory therapists, rural health clinics, school-based services providers, specialized medical vehicle providers, speech and hearing clinics, speech-language pathologists, therapy groups.

Topic #4821

Prior Authorization Number on the Remittance Advice

The RA (Remittance Advice) reports PA (prior authorization) numbers used to process the claim. PA numbers appear in the detail lines of claims processing information.

Topic #4418

Reading Non-Claims Processing Sections of the Remittance Advice

Address Page

In the TXT (text) file, the Address page displays the provider name and "Pay to" address of the provider.

Banner Messages

The Banner Messages section of the RA (Remittance Advice) contains important, time-sensitive messages for providers. For example, banner messages might inform providers of claim adjustments initiated by ForwardHealth, claim submission deadlines, and dates of upcoming training sessions. It is possible for each RA to include different messages; therefore, providers who receive multiple RAs should read all of their banner messages.

Banner messages appear on the TXT file, but not on the CSV (comma-separated values) file. Banner messages are posted in the "View Remittance Advices" menu on the provider's secure Portal account.

Explanation of Benefits Code Descriptions

EOB (Explanation of Benefits) code descriptions are listed in the RA information in the TXT file.

EOB codes are listed in the RA information from the CSV file; however, the printed messages corresponding to the codes do not appear in the file.

Financial Transactions Page

The Financial Transactions section details the provider's weekly financial activity. Financial transactions reported on the RA include payouts, refunds, accounts receivable, and payments for claims.

Payouts are payments made to the provider by ForwardHealth that do not correspond to a specific claim (i.e., nursing home assessment reimbursement).

Refunds are payments made to providers for overpayments.

The Accounts Receivable section displays the accounts receivable for amounts owed by providers. The accounts receivable is set to automatically recover any outstanding balance so that money owed is automatically recouped from the provider. If the full amount cannot be recouped during the current financial cycle, an outstanding balance will appear in the "Balance" column.

In the Accounts Receivable section, the "Amount Recouped In Current Cycle" column, when applicable, shows the recoupment amount for the financial cycle as a separate number from the "Recoupment Amount To Date." The "Recoupment Amount To Date" column shows the total amount recouped for each accounts receivable, *including* the amount recouped in the current cycle. The "Total Recoupment" *line* shows the sum of all recoupments to date in the "Recoupment Amount To Date" column and the sum of all recoupments for the current financial cycle in the "Amount Recouped In Current Cycle" column.

For each claim adjustment listed on the RA, a separate accounts receivable will be established and will be listed in the Financial Transactions section. The accounts receivable will be established for the entire amount of the original paid claim. This reflects the way ForwardHealth adjusts claims — by first recouping the entire amount of the original paid claim.

Each new claim adjustment is assigned an identification number called the "Adjustment ICN (internal control number)." For other financial transactions, the adjustment ICN is determined by the following formula.

Type of Character and Description	Applicable Characters and Description
Transaction — The first character indicates the	V — Capitation adjustment

type of financial transaction that created the accounts receivable.	1 — OBRA Level 1 screening void request 2 — OBRA Nurse Aide Training/Testing void request
Identifier — 10 additional numbers are assigned to complete the Adjustment ICN.	The identifier is used internally by ForwardHealth.

Service Code Descriptions

The Service Code Descriptions section lists all the service codes (i.e., procedure codes or revenue codes) reported on the RA with their corresponding descriptions.

Summary

The Summary section reviews the provider's claim activity and financial transactions with the payer (Medicaid, WCDP (Wisconsin Chronic Disease Program), or WWWP (Wisconsin Well Woman Program)) for the current financial cycle, the month-to-date, and the year-to-date, if applicable.

Under the "Claims Data" heading, providers can review the total number of claims that have been paid, adjusted, or denied along with the total amount reimbursed for all paid and adjusted claims. Only WWWP providers will see amounts reported for "Claims in Process." Other providers will always see zeroes in these fields.

Under the "Earnings Data" heading, providers will see total reimbursement amounts for other financial transactions, such as reimbursement for OBRA (Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1987) Level 1 screening, reimbursement for OBRA Nurse Aid Training/Testing, and capitation payments.

Note: HMOs should note that capitation payments are only reported in the Summary section of the RA. HMOs receive supplemental reports of their financial transactions from ForwardHealth.

The "Earnings Data" portion also summarizes refunds and voids and reports the net payment for the current financial cycle, the month-to-date, and the year-to-date, if applicable.

Providers should note that the Summary section will include outstanding checks 90 days after issuance and/or payments made to lien holders, if applicable.

Topic #368

Reading the Claim Adjustments Section of the Remittance Advice

Providers receive a Claim Adjustments section in the RA (Remittance Advice) if any of their claims were adjusted during the current financial cycle. A claim may be adjusted because one of the following occurred:

- An adjustment request was submitted by the provider.
- ForwardHealth initiated an adjustment.
- A cash refund was submitted to ForwardHealth.

To adjust a claim, ForwardHealth recoups the *entire amount* of the original paid claim and calculates a new payment amount for

the claim adjustment. ForwardHealth does not recoup the *difference* — or pay the *difference* — between the original claim amount and the claim adjustment amount.

In the Claim Adjustments section, the original claim information in the claim header is surrounded by parentheses. Information about the claim adjustment appears directly below the original claim header information. Providers should check the Adjustment EOB (Explanation of Benefits) code(s) for a summary of why the claim was adjusted; other header EOBs will provide additional information.

The Claim Adjustments section only lists detail lines for a claim adjustment if that claim adjustment has detail line EOBs. This section does not list detail lines for the original paid claim.

Note: For adjusted compound and noncompound claims, only the compound drug sections include detail lines.

Below the claim header and the detail information will be located one of three possible responses with a corresponding dollar amount: "Additional Payment," "Overpayment To Be Withheld," or "Refund Amount Applied." The response indicated depends on the difference between the original claim amount and the claim adjustment amount.

If the difference is a positive dollar amount, indicating that ForwardHealth owes additional monies to the provider, then the amount appears in the "Additional Payment" line.

If the difference is a negative dollar amount, indicating that the provider owes ForwardHealth additional monies, then the amount appears in the "Overpayment To Be Withheld" line. ForwardHealth automatically withholds this amount from payments made to the provider during the same financial cycle or during subsequent financial cycles, if necessary. This amount also appears in the Financial Transactions section as an outstanding balance under "Accounts Receivable."

An amount appears for "Refund Amount Applied" if ForwardHealth makes a payment to refund a cash receipt to a provider.

Topic #4824

Reading the Claims Denied Section of the Remittance Advice

Providers receive a Claims Denied section in the RA (Remittance Advice) if any of their claims were denied during the current financial cycle.

In the denied claims section, providers will see the original claim header information reported along with EOB (Explanation of Benefits) codes for the claim header and the detail lines, as applicable. Providers should refer to the EOB Code Description section of the RA to determine why the claim was denied.

Sample Professional Services Claims Denied Section of the Remittance Advice

Remittance Advice — Professional Service Claims Denied Sample

```
REPORT:   CRA-HCDN-R                                              FORWARDHEALTH INTERCHANGE                                   DATE:  MM/DD/CCYY
   RA#:   999999999                                             <Financial Cycle Description>                                 PAGE:       9,999
 PAYER:   XXXX                                                    PROVIDER REMITTANCE ADVICE
                                                              PROFESSIONAL SERVICE CLAIMS DENIED

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX                                                  PAYEE ID      999999999999999
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX                                                                      NPI                9999999999
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX                                                                      CHECK/EFT NUMBER    999999999
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX, XX  XXXXX-XXXX                                                       PAYMENT DATE       MM/DD/CCYY

  --ICN--         PCN           MRN        SERVICE DATES    BILLED          OTH INS          SPENDDOWN
                                            FROM   TO       AMOUNT          AMOUNT           AMOUNT

MEMBER NAME: XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX    MEMBER NO.: XXXXXXXXXXXX
RRYYJJJBBBSSS  XXXXXXXXXXXX  XXXXXXXXXXXX  MMDDYY MMDDYY  999,999,999.99   9,999,999.99    999,999.99


HEADER EOBS:  9999 9999 9999 9999 9999 9999 9999 9999 9999 9999 9999 9999 9999 9999 9999 9999 9999 9999 9999 9999


                                 SERVICE DATES                            PA NUMBER
PROC CD  MODIFIERS   ALLW UNITS  FROM    TO     RENDERING PROVIDER        BILLED AMT      DETAIL EOBS
 XXXXX  XX XX XX XX    9999.99   MMDDYY MMDDYY XXX XXXXXXXXXXXXXXX  XXXXXXXXXX      9999 9999 9999 9999 9999 9999 9999 9999 9999 9999
                                                                   9,999,999.99    9999 9999 9999 9999 9999 9999 9999 9999 9999 9999
 XXXXX  XX XX XX XX    9999.99   MMDDYY MMDDYY XXX XXXXXXXXXXXXXXX  XXXXXXXXXX      9999 9999 9999 9999 9999 9999 9999 9999 9999 9999
                                                                   9,999,999.99    9999 9999 9999 9999 9999 9999 9999 9999 9999 9999
 XXXXX  XX XX XX XX    9999.99   MMDDYY MMDDYY XXX XXXXXXXXXXXXXXX  XXXXXXXXXX      9999 9999 9999 9999 9999 9999 9999 9999 9999 9999
                                                                   9,999,999.99    9999 9999 9999 9999 9999 9999 9999 9999 9999 9999
 XXXXX  XX XX XX XX    9999.99   MMDDYY MMDDYY XXX XXXXXXXXXXXXXXX  XXXXXXXXXX      9999 9999 9999 9999 9999 9999 9999 9999 9999 9999
                                                                   9,999,999.99    9999 9999 9999 9999 9999 9999 9999 9999 9999 9999



            TOTAL PROFESSIONAL SERVICE CLAIMS DENIED:  9,999,999,999.99  99,999,999.99  9,999,999.99
TOTAL NO. DENIED:  999,999
```

Topic #4825

Reading the Claims Paid Section of the Remittance Advice

Providers receive a Claims Paid section in the RA (Remittance Advice) if any of their claims were determined payable during the current financial cycle.

In a paid claims section, providers will see the original claim information reported along with EOB (Explanation of Benefits) codes for both the header and the detail lines, if applicable. Providers should refer to the EOB Code Description section of the RA for more information about how the reimbursement amount was determined.

Sample Professional Services Claims Paid Section of the Remittance Advice

Remittance Advice — Professional Service Claims Paid Sample

```
REPORT:   CRA-HCPD-R                                      FORWARDHEALTH INTERCHANGE                                  DATE:  MM/DD/CCYY
   RA#:   999999999                                     <Financial Cycle Description>                                PAGE:       9,999
 PAYER:   XXXX                                           PROVIDER REMITTANCE ADVICE
                                                      PROFESSIONAL SERVICE CLAIMS PAID

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX                                                      PAYEE ID     9999999999999999
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX                                                                         NPI                9999999999
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX                                                                         CHECK/EFT NUMBER    999999999
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX, XX  XXXXX-XXXX                                                          PAYMENT DATE       MM/DD/CCYY


  --ICN--         PCN           MRN        SERVICE DATES      BILLED AMT       OTH INS AMT    COPAY AMT        PAID AMT
                                           FROM    TO        ALLOWED AMT     SPENDDOWN AMT    CO-INS CB       OUTPAT DED

MEMBER NAME: XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX    MEMBER NO.: XXXXXXXXXXXX
RRYYJJJBBBSSS  XXXXXXXXXXXX  XXXXXXXXXXXX  MMDDYY MMDDYY    9,999,999.99     9,999,999.99     999,999.99     9,999,999.99
                                                            9,999,999.99       999,999.99     999,999.99       999,999.99

HEADER EOBS:  9999 9999 9999 9999 9999 9999 9999 9999 9999 9999 9999 9999 9999 9999 9999 9999 9999 9999 9999 9999

                     SERVICE DATES ALLW UNITS RENDERING PROVIDER        PA NUMBER
PROC CD  MODIFIERS   FROM   TO     COPAY AMT  BILLED AMT   ALLOWED AMT  PAID AMT     DETAIL EOBS
 XXXXX  XX XX XX XX  MMDDYY MMDDYY 9999.99    XXX XXXXXXXXXXXXXXX       XXXXXXXXXX   9999 9999 9999 9999 9999 9999 9999 9999 9999 9999
                                   999,999.99 9,999,999.99 9,999,999.99 9,999,999.99 9999 9999 9999 9999 9999 9999 9999 9999 9999 9999
 XXXXX  XX XX XX XX  MMDDYY MMDDYY 9999.99    XXX XXXXXXXXXXXXXXX       XXXXXXXXXX   9999 9999 9999 9999 9999 9999 9999 9999 9999 9999
                                   999,999.99 9,999,999.99 9,999,999.99 9,999,999.99 9999 9999 9999 9999 9999 9999 9999 9999 9999 9999
 XXXXX  XX XX XX XX  MMDDYY MMDDYY 9999.99    XXX XXXXXXXXXXXXXXX       XXXXXXXXXX   9999 9999 9999 9999 9999 9999 9999 9999 9999 9999
                                   999,999.99 9,999,999.99 9,999,999.99 9,999,999.99 9999 9999 9999 9999 9999 9999 9999 9999 9999 9999
 XXXXX  XX XX XX XX  MMDDYY MMDDYY 9999.99    XXX XXXXXXXXXXXXXXX       XXXXXXXXXX   9999 9999 9999 9999 9999 9999 9999 9999 9999 9999
                                   999,999.99 9,999,999.99 9,999,999.99 9,999,999.99 9999 9999 9999 9999 9999 9999 9999 9999 9999 9999


             TOTAL PROFESSIONAL SERVICE CLAIMS PAID:       99,999,999.99    99,999,999.99   9,999,999.99    99,999,999.99
                                                           99,999,999.99     9,999,999.99   9,999,999.99     9,999,999.99
TOTAL NO. PAID: 999,999
```

Topic #4828

Remittance Advice Financial Cycles

Each financial payer (Medicaid, WCDP (Wisconsin Chronic Disease Program), and WWWP (Wisconsin Well Woman Program)) has separate financial cycles that occur on different days of the week. RAs (Remittance Advices) are generated and posted to secure provider Portal accounts after each financial cycle is completed. Therefore, RAs may be generated and posted to secure provider ForwardHealth Portal accounts from different payers on different days of the week.

Certain financial transactions may run on a daily basis, including non-claim related payouts and stop payment reissues. Providers may have access to the RAs generated and posted to secure provider Portal accounts for these financial transactions at any time during the week.

Topic #4827

Remittance Advice Generated by Payer and by Provider Certification

RAs (Remittance Advices) are generated and posted to secure provider Portal accounts from one or more of the following ForwardHealth financial payers:

- Wisconsin Medicaid (Wisconsin Medicaid is the financial payer for the Medicaid, BadgerCare Plus, and SeniorCare programs).

- WCDP (Wisconsin Chronic Disease Program).
- WWWP (Wisconsin Well Woman Program).

A separate Portal account is required for each financial payer.

Note: Each of the three payers generate separate RAs for the claims, adjustment requests, or other financial transactions submitted to the payer. A provider who submits claims, adjustment requests, or other financial transactions to more than one of these payers may receive several RAs.

The RA is generated per provider certification. Providers who have a single NPI (National Provider Identifier) that is used for multiple certifications should be aware that an RA will be generated for each certification, but the same NPI will be reported on each of the RAs.

For instance, a hospital has obtained a single NPI. The hospital has a clinic, a lab, and a pharmacy that are all certified with ForwardHealth. The clinic, the lab, and the pharmacy submit separate claims that indicate the same NPI as the hospital. Separate RAs will be generated for the hospital, the clinic, the lab, and the pharmacy.

Topic #6237

Reporting a Lost Check

To report a lost check to ForwardHealth, providers are required to mail or fax a letter to ForwardHealth Financial Services. Providers are required to include the following information in the letter:

- Provider's name and address, including the ZIP+4 code.
- Provider's identification number.
    - For healthcare providers, include the NPI (National Provider Identifier) and taxonomy code.
    - For non-healthcare providers, include the provider identification number.
- Check number, check date, and check amount. (This should be recorded on the RA (Remittance Advice).)
- A written request to stop payment and reissue the check.
- The signature of an authorized financial representative. (An individual provider is considered his or her own authorized financial representative.)

Fax the letter to ForwardHealth at (608) 221-4567 or mail it to the following address:

ForwardHealth
Financial Services
6406 Bridge Rd
Madison WI 53784-0005

Topic #5018

Searching for and Viewing All Claims on the Portal

All claims, including compound, noncompound, and dental claims, are available for viewing on the ForwardHealth Portal.

To search and view claims on the Portal, providers may do the following:

- Go to the Portal.
- Log in to the secure Provider area of the Portal.
- The most recent claims processed by ForwardHealth will be viewable on the provider's home page or the provider may

select "claim search" and enter the applicable information to search for additional claims.
- Select the claim the provider wants to view.

Topic #4829

Sections of the Remittance Advice

The RA (Remittance Advice) information in the TXT (text) file includes the following sections:

- Address page.
- Banner messages.
- Paper check information, if applicable.
- Claims processing information.
- EOB (Explanation of Benefits) code descriptions.
- Financial transactions.
- Service code descriptions.
- Summary.

The RA information in the CSV (comma-separated values) file includes the following sections:

- Payment.
- Payment hold.
- Service codes and descriptions.
- Financial transactions.
- Summary.
- Inpatient claims.
- Outpatient claims.
- Professional claims.
- Medicare crossovers — Professional.
- Medicare crossovers — Institutional.
- Compound Drug Claims.
- Drug claims.
- Dental claims.
- Long term care claims.
- Financial transactions.
- Summary.

Providers can select specific sections of the RA in the CSV file within each RA date to be downloaded making the information easy to read and to organize.

Remittance Advice Header Information

The first page of each section of the RA (except the address page of the TXT file) displays the same RA header information.

The following fields are on the left-hand side of the header:

- The technical name of the RA section (e.g., CRA-TRAN-R), which is an internal ForwardHealth designation.
- The RA number, which is a unique number assigned to each RA that is generated.
- The name of the payer (Medicaid, WCDP (Wisconsin Chronic Disease Program), or WWWP (Wisconsin Well Woman Program)).
- The "Pay to" address of the provider. The "Pay to" address is used for mailing purposes.

The following information is in the middle of the header:

- A description of the financial cycle.
- The name of the RA section (e.g., "Financial Transactions" or "Professional Services Claims Paid").

The right-hand side of the header reports the following information:

- The date of the financial cycle and date the RA was generated.
- The page number.
- The "Payee ID" of the provider. A payee ID is defined as the identification number of a unique entity receiving payment for goods and/or services from ForwardHealth. The payee ID is up to 15 characters long and may be based on a pre-existing identification number, such as the Medicaid provider number. The payee ID is an internal ForwardHealth designation. The Medicaid provider number will display in this field for providers who do not have an NPI (National Provider Identifier).
- The NPI of the provider, if applicable. This field will be blank for those providers who do not have an NPI.
- The number of the check issued for the RA, if applicable. The date of payment on the check, if applicable.

Topic #544

Verifying Accuracy of Claims Processing

After obtaining ForwardHealth remittance information, providers should compare it to the claims or adjustment requests to verify that ForwardHealth processed elements of the claims or adjustment requests as submitted. To ensure correct reimbursement, providers should do the following:

- Identify and correct any discrepancy that affected the way a claim processed.
- Correct and resubmit claims that are denied.
- Submit an adjustment request for allowed claims that require a change or correction.

When posting a payment or denial to a member's account, providers should note the date on the ForwardHealth remittance information that indicates that the claim or adjustment has finalized. Providers are required to supply this information if further follow-up actions are necessary.

Responsibilities

Topic #516

Accuracy of Claims

The provider is responsible for the accuracy, truthfulness, and completeness of all claims submitted whether prepared or submitted by the provider or by an outside billing service or clearinghouse.

Providers may submit claims only *after* the service is provided.

A provider may not seek reimbursement from ForwardHealth for a noncovered service by charging ForwardHealth for a covered service that was not actually provided to the member and then applying the reimbursement toward the noncovered service. In addition, a provider may not seek reimbursement for two separate covered services to receive additional reimbursement over the maximum allowed amount for the one service that was provided. Such actions are considered fraudulent.

Topic #1073

Billing Private Duty Nursing Across Midnight

Providers are required to bill for each DOS (date of service) that care was provided. If a nurse provides care for a member across midnight, *the nurse is required to split the billing over two DOS since the shift extends over two dates*. This means that two modifiers must be used, one for the hours of the shift occurring before midnight, and another to designate the hours of the shift occurring after midnight on the next calendar day.

For example, if a nurse begins care for a member at 8:00 p.m. on December 1 and ends care at 4:00 a.m. on December 2, the nurse should bill for four hours of care on December 1 with modifier "UH" and four hours of care on December 2 with modifier "UJ."

Providers billing for PDN (private duty nursing) hours during shifts spanning midnight must apply the PDN billing conversion guidelines to each DOS as shown in the following tables and on the sample paper claim form.

Day	Start of Shift	Time	Minutes	Billable Units
1	UH	10:00 p.m. to Midnight	120	2
2	UJ	Midnight to 10:00 a.m	600	10

Day	Start of Shift	Time	Minutes	Billable Units
1	UH	10:15 p.m. to Midnight	105	1.7
2	UJ	Midnight to 10:15 a.m	615	10.2

Topic #10039

Billing for More Than One Shift Worked in a Day

A provider providing PDN (private duty nursing) services to the same member for more than one shift in a day should combine

the number of minutes for the shifts on the DOS (date of service) before converting to billable units. Combining the minutes from the shifts worked in the day before converting to billable units may be to the provider's advantage. In some instances, combining the minutes from the shifts worked in the day before converting to billable units may not result in a difference.

Topic #10038

Billing for Shifts Spanning Two Prior Authorized 13-Week Segments

PDN (private duty nursing) services that were provided on consecutive days spanning two different PA (prior authorization) 13-week segments cannot be billed on the same claim detail. Only DOS (dates of service) contained in the PA 13-week segment may be included in the claim detail.

Topic #10037

Claim Denials Due to Exceeding Authorized Amounts

Providers are cautioned to bill units of service carefully. Incorrect billing could result in the denial of claims billed within the authorization period if more time is billed for PDN (private duty nursing) services than the amount of time that is authorized for PDN. When the source of the billing error is determined, providers should submit claim adjustments.

Topic #366

Copayment Amounts

Copayment amounts collected from members should not be deducted from the charges submitted on claims. Providers should indicate their usual and customary charges for all services provided.

In addition, copayment amounts should not be included when indicating the amount paid by other health insurance sources.

The appropriate copayment amount is automatically deducted from allowed payments. Remittance information reflects the automatic deduction of applicable copayment amounts.

Topic #548

Exceptions to the Submission Deadline

State and federal laws provide eight exceptions to the submission deadline. According to federal regulations and DHS 106.03, Wis. Admin. Code, ForwardHealth may consider exceptions to the submission deadline only in the following circumstances:

- Change in a nursing home resident's level of care or liability amount.
- Decision made by a court order, fair hearing, or the DHS (Department of Health Services).
- Denial due to discrepancy between the member's enrollment information in ForwardHealth interChange and the member's actual enrollment.
- Reconsideration or recoupment.
- Retroactive enrollment for persons on GR (General Relief).
- Medicare denial occurs after ForwardHealth's submission deadline.
- Refund request from an other health insurance source.

- Retroactive member enrollment.

ForwardHealth has no authority to approve any other exceptions to the submission deadline.

Claims or adjustment requests that meet one of the exceptions to the submission deadline may be submitted to Timely Filing.

Topic #10057

Private Duty Nursing Claims Denied

Reimbursement for PDN (private duty nursing) services is limited to 1,440 minutes (i.e., 240 six-minute increments) per member, per calendar day. Reimbursement limits are adjusted to accommodate changes in the length of the calendar day resulting from the beginning and ending of daylight savings time. Reimbursement for each nurse is limited to 12 hours per calendar day and 60 hours per calendar week. Claims for PDN that exceed the number of hours authorized for the 13-week segment of the authorization period will not be reimbursed.

Topic #547

Submission Deadline

ForwardHealth recommends that providers submit claims at least on a monthly basis. Billing on a monthly basis allows the maximum time available for filing and refiling before the mandatory submission deadline.

With few exceptions, state and federal laws require that providers submit correctly completed claims before the submission deadline.

Providers are responsible for resolving claims. Members are not responsible for resolving claims. To resolve claims before the submission deadline, ForwardHealth encourages providers to use all available resources.

Claims

To receive reimbursement, claims and adjustment requests must be received within 365 days of the DOS (date of service). This deadline applies to claims, corrected claims, and adjustments to claims.

Crossover Claims

To receive reimbursement for services that are allowed by Medicare, claims and adjustment requests for coinsurance, copayment, and deductible must be received within 365 days of the DOS or within 90 days of the Medicare processing date, whichever is later. This deadline applies to all claims, corrected claims, and adjustments to claims. Providers should submit these claims through normal processing channels (not timely filing).

Topic #517

Usual and Customary Charges

For most services, providers are required to indicate their usual and customary charge when submitting claims. The usual and customary charge is the provider's charge for providing the same service to persons not entitled to the program's benefits. For providers using a sliding fee scale, the usual and customary charge is the median of the individual provider's charge for the service when provided to non-program patients. For providers who have not established usual and customary charges, the charge should

be reasonably related to the provider's cost for providing the service.

Providers may not discriminate against BadgerCare Plus or Medicaid members by charging a higher fee for the same service than that charged to a private-pay patient.

For services requiring a member copayment, providers should still indicate their usual and customary charge. The copayment amount collected from the member should not be deducted from the charge submitted. When applicable, ForwardHealth automatically deducts the copayment amount.

For most services, ForwardHealth reimburses the lesser of the provider's usual and customary charge or the maximum allowable fee established.

Submission

Topic #542

Attached Documentation

Providers should not submit additional documentation with a claim *unless* specifically requested.

Topic #2169

Billing Prior Authorized Services with Non-Prior Authorized Services

Claims for services provided under a PA (prior authorization) number may be submitted on the same claim as claims for services not requiring PA. However, an exception applies if a service with the same procedure code is provided outside the grant and expiration dates on the PA and then again between the grant and expiration dates on the PA. These services cannot be submitted on a single claim form or the claim will be denied. Two separate claims must be submitted for services in this situation; one for services provided outside the grant and expiration dates and one for services provided between these dates.

For example, a home health PT (physical therapy) visit (procedure code 97799) that counts toward the 30-visit threshold for the calendar year is made to a member on February 3, 2005, and, therefore, does not require PA. Beginning on February 7, 2005, the member has an approved PA to receive home health PT (procedure code 97799) because all of the 30 threshold visits for the calendar year have been used. When the physical therapist makes a visit to provide services on February 10, 2005, the service must be billed on a separate claim form from the February 3, 2005, visit because the February 3, 2005, visit falls outside the PA grant and expiration dates for that procedure code. Billing the two visits on the same claim form would cause the claim to be denied.

Topic #6957

Copy Claims on the ForwardHealth Portal

Providers can copy institutional, professional, and dental paid claims on the ForwardHealth Portal. Providers can open any paid claim, click the "Copy" button, and all of the information on the claim will be copied over to a new claim form. Providers can then make any desired changes to the claim form and click "Submit" to submit as a new claim. After submission, ForwardHealth will issue a response with a new ICN (internal control number) along with the claim status.

Topic #5017

Correct Errors on Claims and Resubmit to ForwardHealth on the Portal

Providers can view EOB (Explanation of Benefits) codes and descriptions for any claim submitted to ForwardHealth on the ForwardHealth Portal. The EOBs help providers determine why a claim did not process successfully, so providers may correct the error online and resubmit the claim. The EOB appears on the bottom of the screen and references the applicable claim header or detail.

Topic #4997

Direct Data Entry of Professional and Institutional Claims on the Portal

Providers can submit the following claims to ForwardHealth via DDE (Direct Data Entry) on the ForwardHealth Portal:

- Professional claims.
- Institutional claims.
- Dental claims.
- Compound drug claims.
- Noncompound drug claims.

DDE is an online application that allows providers to submit claims directly to ForwardHealth.

When submitting claims via DDE, required fields are indicated with an asterisk next to the field. If a required field is left blank, the claim will not be submitted and a message will appear prompting the provider to complete the specific required field(s). Portal help is available for each online application screen. In addition, search functions accompany certain fields so providers do not need to look up the following information in secondary resources.

On professional claim forms, providers may search for and select the following:

- Procedure codes.
- Modifiers.
- Diagnosis codes.
- POS (place of service) codes.

On institutional claim forms, providers may search for and select the following:

- Type of bill.
- Patient status.
- Admission source.
- Admission type.
- Diagnosis codes.
- Revenue codes.
- Procedure codes.
- Modifiers.

On dental claims, providers may search for and select the following:

- Procedure codes.
- Rendering providers.
- Area of the oral cavity.
- POS.

On compound and noncompound drug claims, providers may search for and select the following:

- Diagnosis codes.
- NDCs (National Drug Codes).
- Place of service codes.

- Professional service codes.
- Reason for service codes.
- Result of service codes.

Using DDE, providers may submit claims for compound drugs and single-entity drugs. Any provider, including a provider of DME (durable medical equipment) or of DMS (disposable medical supplies) who submits noncompound drug claims, may submit these claims via DDE. All claims, including POS (Point-of-Sale) claims, are viewable via DDE.

Topic #344

Electronic Claims Submission

Providers are encouraged to submit claims electronically. Electronic claims submission does the following:

- Adapts to existing systems.
- Allows flexible submission methods.
- Improves cash flow.
- Offers efficient and timely payments.
- Reduces billing and processing errors.
- Reduces clerical effort.

Topic #365

Extraordinary Claims

Extraordinary claims are claims that have been denied by a BadgerCare Plus HMO (health maintenance organization) or SSI (Supplemental Security Income) HMO and should be submitted to fee-for-service.

Topic #4837

HIPAA-Compliant Data Requirements

Procedure Codes

All fields submitted on paper and electronic claims are edited to ensure HIPAA (Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996) compliance before being processed. Compliant code sets include CPT (Current Procedural Terminology) and HCPCS (Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System) procedure codes entered into all fields, including those fields that are "Not Required" or "Optional."

If the information in all fields is not valid and recognized by ForwardHealth, the claim will be denied.

Provider Numbers

For health care providers, NPIs (National Provider Identifiers) are required in all provider number fields on paper claims and 837 (837 Health Care Claim) transactions, including rendering, billing, referring, prescribing, attending, and "Other" provider fields.

Non-healthcare providers, including personal care providers, SMV (specialized medical vehicle) providers, blood banks, and CCOs (community care organizations) should enter valid provider numbers into fields that require a provider number.

Topic #562

Managed Care Organizations

Claims for services that are covered in a member's state-contracted MCO (managed care organization) should be submitted to that MCO.

Topic #367

Noncertified Providers

Claims from noncertified in-state providers must meet additional requirements.

Topic #10837

Note Field for Most Claims Submitted Electronically

In some instances, ForwardHealth requires providers to include a description of a service identified by an unlisted, or NOC (not otherwise classified), procedure code. Providers submitting claims electronically should include a description of a NOC procedure code in a "Notes" field, if required. The Notes field allows providers to enter up to 80 characters. In some cases, the Notes field allows providers to submit NOC procedure code information on a claim electronically instead of on a paper claim or with a paper attachment to an electronic claim.

The Notes field should only be used for NOC procedure codes that do not require prior authorization.

Claims Submitted Via the ForwardHealth Portal Direct Data Entry or Provider Electronic Solutions

A Notes field is available on the ForwardHealth Portal DDE (Direct Data Entry) and PES (Provider Electronic Solutions) software when providers submit the following types of claims:

- Institutional.
- Professional.
- Dental.

On the Professional and Dental forms, a Notes field is available on each detail. On the Institutional form, the Notes field is only available on the header.

Claims Submitted Via 837 Health Care Claim Transactions

ForwardHealth accepts and utilizes information submitted by providers about NOC procedure codes in certain loops/segments on the 837 (837 Health Care Claim) transactions. Refer to the HIPAA (Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996) Version 5010 Companion Guides on the Portal for more information.

Topic #561

Paper Claim Form Preparation and Data Alignment

Requirements

Optical Character Recognition

Paper claims submitted to ForwardHealth on the 1500 Health Insurance Claim Form and UB-04 Claim Form are processed using OCR (Optical Character Recognition) software that recognizes printed, alphanumeric text. OCR software increases efficiency by alleviating the need for keying in data from paper claims.

The data alignment requirements do not apply to the Compound Drug Claim (F-13073 (09/11)) and the Noncompound Drug Claim (F-13072 (09/11)).

Speed and Accuracy of Claims Processing

OCR software processes claim forms by reading text within fields on claim forms. After a paper claim form is received by ForwardHealth, the claim form is scanned so that an image can be displayed electronically. The OCR software reads the electronic image on file and populates the information into the ForwardHealth interChange system. This technology increases accuracy by removing the possibility of errors being made during manual keying.

OCR software speeds paper claim processing, but only if providers prepare their claim forms correctly. In order for OCR software to read the claim form accurately, the quality of copy and the alignment of text within individual fields on the claim form need to be precise. If data are misaligned, the claim could be processed incorrectly. If data cannot be read by the OCR software, the process will stop and the electronic image of the claim form will need to be reviewed and keyed manually. This will cause an increase in processing time.

Handwritten Claims

Submitting handwritten claims should be avoided whenever possible. ForwardHealth accepts handwritten claims; however, it is very difficult for OCR software to read a handwritten claim. If a handwritten claim cannot be read by the OCR software, it will need to be keyed manually from the electronic image of the claim form. Providers should avoid submitting claims with handwritten corrections as this can also cause OCR software processing delays.

Use Original Claim Forms

Only original 1500 Health Insurance Claim Forms and UB-04 Claim Forms should be submitted. Original claim forms are printed in red ink and may be obtained from a federal forms supplier. ForwardHealth does not provide these claim forms. Claims that are submitted as photocopies cannot be read by OCR software and will need to be keyed manually from an electronic image of the claim form. This could result in processing delays.

Use Laser or Ink Jet Printers

It is recommended that claims are printed using laser or ink jet printers rather than printers that use DOT matrix. DOT matrix printers have breaks in the letters and numbers, which may cause the OCR software to misread the claim form. Use of old or worn ink cartridges should also be avoided. If the claim form is read incorrectly by the OCR software, the claim may be denied or reimbursed incorrectly. The process may also be stopped if it is unable to read the claim form, which will cause a delay while it is manually reviewed.

Alignment

Alignment within each field on the claim form needs to be accurate. If text within a field is aligned incorrectly, the OCR software may not recognize that data are present within the field or may not read the data correctly. For example, if a reimbursement amount of $300.00 is entered into a field on the claim form, but the last "0" is not aligned within the field, the OCR software may

read the number as $30.00, and the claim will be reimbursed incorrectly.

To get the best alignment on the claim form, providers should center information vertically within each field, and align all information on the same horizontal plane. Avoid squeezing two lines of text into one of the six line items on the 1500 Health Insurance Claim Form.

The following sample claim forms demonstrate correct and incorrect alignment:

- Correct alignment for the 1500 Health Insurance Claim Form.
- Incorrect alignment for the 1500 Health Insurance Claim Form.
- Correct alignment for the UB-04 Claim Form.
- Incorrect alignment for the UB-04 Claim Form.

Clarity

Clarity is very important. If information on the claim form is not clear enough to be read by the OCR software, the process may stop, prompting manual review.

The following guidelines will produce the clearest image and optimize processing time:

- Use 10-point or 12-point Times New Roman or Courier New font.
- Type all claim data in uppercase letters.
- Use only black ink to complete the claim form.
- Avoid using italics, bold, or script.
- Make sure characters do not touch.
- Make sure there are no lines from the printer cartridge anywhere on the claim form.
- Avoid using special characters such as dollar signs, decimals, dashes, asterisks, or backslashes, unless it is specified that these characters should be used.
- Use Xs in check boxes. Avoid using letters such as "Y" for "Yes," "N" for "No," "M" for "Male," or "F" for "Female."
- Do not highlight any information on the claim form. Highlighted information blackens when it is imaged, and the OCR software will be unable to read it.

Note: The above guidelines will also produce the clearest image for claims that need to be keyed manually from an electronic image.

Staples, Correction Liquid, and Correction Tape

The use of staples, correction liquid, correction tape, labels, or stickers on claim forms should be avoided. Staples need to be removed from claim forms before they can be imaged, which can damage the claim and cause a delay in processing time. Correction liquid, correction tape, labels, and stickers can cause data to be read incorrectly or cause the OCR process to stop, prompting manual review. If the form cannot be read by the OCR software, it will need to be keyed manually from an electronic image.

Additional Diagnosis Codes

ForwardHealth will accept up to eight diagnosis codes in Element 21 of the 1500 Health Insurance Claim Form. To correctly add additional diagnosis codes in this element so that it can be read properly by the OCR software, providers should indicate the fifth diagnosis code between the first and third diagnosis code blanks, the sixth diagnosis code between the second and fourth diagnosis code blanks, the seventh diagnosis code to the right of the third diagnosis code blank, and the eighth diagnosis code to the right of the fourth diagnosis code blank. Providers should not number any additional diagnosis codes.

Anchor Fields

Anchor fields are areas on the 1500 Health Insurance Claim Form and the UB-04 Claim Form that the OCR software uses to identify what type of form is being processed. The following fields on the 1500 Health Insurance Claim Form are anchor fields:

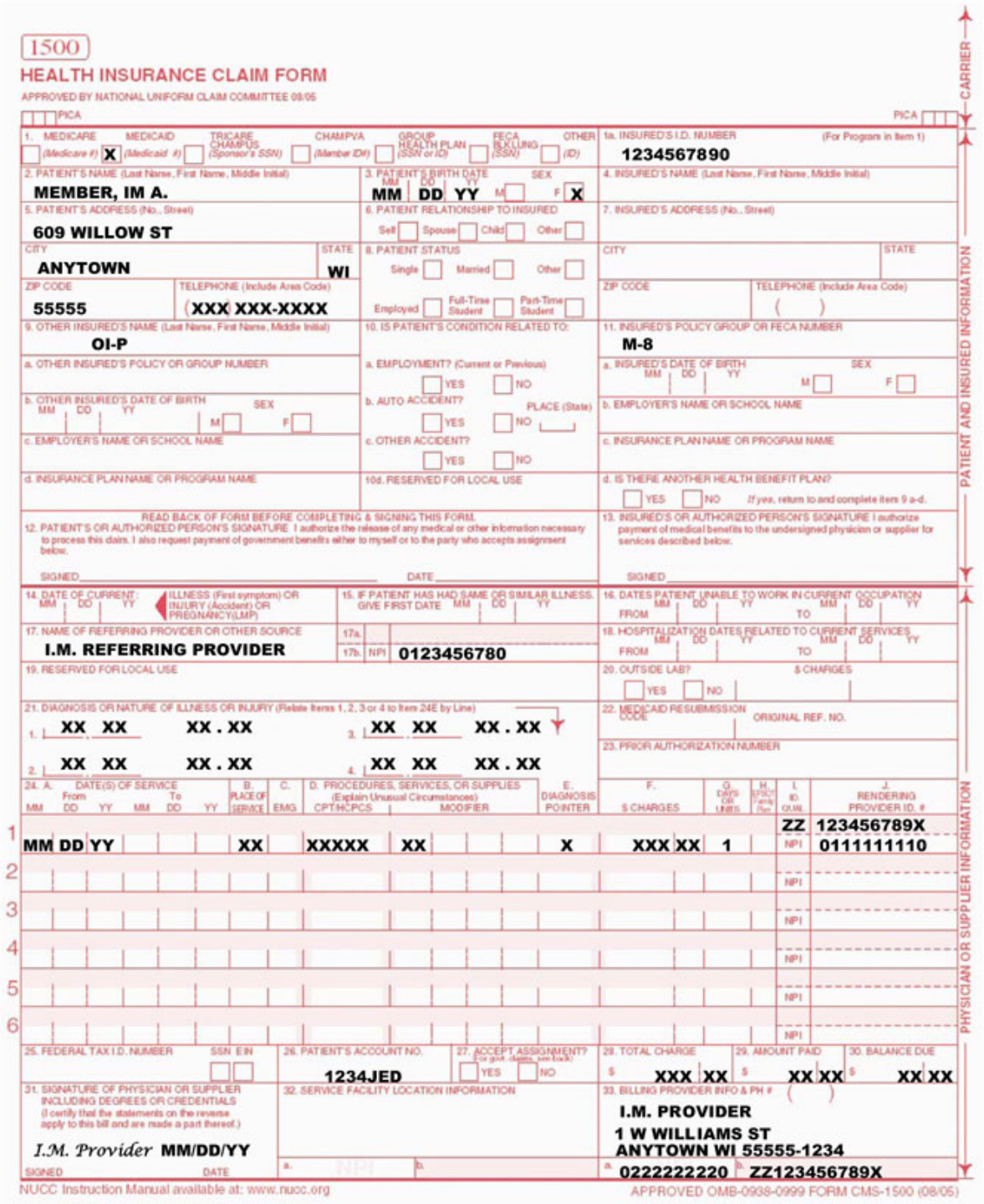
- Element 2 (Patient's Name).
- Element 4 (Insured's Name).
- Element 24 (Detail 1).

The following fields on the UB-04 Claim Form are anchor fields:

- Form Locator 4 (Type of Bill).
- Form Locator 5 (Fed. Tax No.).
- Form Locator 9 (Patient Address).
- Form Locator 58A (Insured's Name).

Since ForwardHealth uses these fields to identify the form as a 1500 Health Insurance Claim Form or a UB-04 Claim Form, it is required that these fields are completed for processing.

Sample of a Correctly Aligned 1500 Health Insurance Claim Form



1500

HEALTH INSURANCE CLAIM FORM

APPROVED BY NATIONAL UNIFORM CLAIM COMMITTEE 08/05

PICA

1. MEDICARE (Medicare #) X | MEDICAID (Medicaid #) | TRICARE CHAMPUS (Sponsor's SSN) | CHAMPVA (Member ID#) | GROUP HEALTH PLAN (SSN or ID) | FECA BLK LUNG (SSN) | OTHER (ID)

1a. INSURED'S I.D. NUMBER (For Program in Item 1): 1234567890

2. PATIENT'S NAME (Last Name, First Name, Middle Initial): MEMBER, IM A.

3. PATIENT'S BIRTH DATE MM DD YY: MM DD YY | SEX M | F X

4. INSURED'S NAME (Last Name, First Name, Middle Initial):

5. PATIENT'S ADDRESS (No., Street): 609 WILLOW ST

6. PATIENT RELATIONSHIP TO INSURED: Self | Spouse | Child | Other

7. INSURED'S ADDRESS (No., Street):

CITY: ANYTOWN | STATE: WI

8. PATIENT STATUS: Single | Married | Other | Employed | Full-Time Student | Part-Time Student

CITY | STATE

ZIP CODE: 55555 | TELEPHONE (Include Area Code): (XXX) XXX-XXXX

ZIP CODE | TELEPHONE (Include Area Code)

9. OTHER INSURED'S NAME (Last Name, First Name, Middle Initial): OI-P

10. IS PATIENT'S CONDITION RELATED TO:

11. INSURED'S POLICY GROUP OR FECA NUMBER: M-8

a. OTHER INSURED'S POLICY OR GROUP NUMBER

a. EMPLOYMENT? (Current or Previous) YES | NO

a. INSURED'S DATE OF BIRTH MM DD YY | SEX M | F

b. OTHER INSURED'S DATE OF BIRTH MM DD YY | SEX M | F

b. AUTO ACCIDENT? YES | NO | PLACE (State)

b. EMPLOYER'S NAME OR SCHOOL NAME

c. EMPLOYER'S NAME OR SCHOOL NAME

c. OTHER ACCIDENT? YES | NO

c. INSURANCE PLAN NAME OR PROGRAM NAME

d. INSURANCE PLAN NAME OR PROGRAM NAME

10d. RESERVED FOR LOCAL USE

d. IS THERE ANOTHER HEALTH BENEFIT PLAN? YES | NO If yes, return to and complete item 9 a-d.

READ BACK OF FORM BEFORE COMPLETING & SIGNING THIS FORM.

12. PATIENT'S OR AUTHORIZED PERSON'S SIGNATURE I authorize the release of any medical or other information necessary to process this claim. I also request payment of government benefits either to myself or to the party who accepts assignment below.

SIGNED _____ DATE _____

13. INSURED'S OR AUTHORIZED PERSON'S SIGNATURE I authorize payment of medical benefits to the undersigned physician or supplier for services described below.

SIGNED _____

14. DATE OF CURRENT: MM DD YY | ILLNESS (First symptom) OR INJURY (Accident) OR PREGNANCY(LMP)

15. IF PATIENT HAS HAD SAME OR SIMILAR ILLNESS, GIVE FIRST DATE MM DD YY

16. DATES PATIENT UNABLE TO WORK IN CURRENT OCCUPATION MM DD YY FROM TO MM DD YY

17. NAME OF REFERRING PROVIDER OR OTHER SOURCE: I.M. REFERRING PROVIDER

17a.

17b. NPI 0123456780

18. HOSPITALIZATION DATES RELATED TO CURRENT SERVICES MM DD YY FROM TO MM DD YY

19. RESERVED FOR LOCAL USE

20. OUTSIDE LAB? YES | NO | $ CHARGES

21. DIAGNOSIS OR NATURE OF ILLNESS OR INJURY (Relate Items 1, 2, 3 or 4 to Item 24E by Line)

1. XX XX XX . XX
2. XX XX XX . XX
3. XX XX XX . XX
4. XX XX XX . XX

22. MEDICAID RESUBMISSION CODE | ORIGINAL REF. NO.

23. PRIOR AUTHORIZATION NUMBER

24. A. DATE(S) OF SERVICE From MM DD YY	To MM DD YY	B. PLACE OF SERVICE	C. EMG	D. PROCEDURES, SERVICES, OR SUPPLIES (Explain Unusual Circumstances) CPT/HCPCS	MODIFIER	E. DIAGNOSIS POINTER	F. $ CHARGES	G. DAYS OR UNITS	H. EPSDT Family Plan	I. ID. QUAL.	J. RENDERING PROVIDER ID. #
1	MM DD YY	XX		XXXXX	XX	X	XXX XX	1		ZZ	123456789X
										NPI	0111111110
2										NPI	
3										NPI	
4										NPI	
5										NPI	
6										NPI	

25. FEDERAL TAX I.D. NUMBER SSN EIN

26. PATIENT'S ACCOUNT NO.: 1234JED

27. ACCEPT ASSIGNMENT? (For govt. claims, see back) YES | NO

28. TOTAL CHARGE $ XXX XX

29. AMOUNT PAID $ XX XX

30. BALANCE DUE $ XX XX

31. SIGNATURE OF PHYSICIAN OR SUPPLIER INCLUDING DEGREES OR CREDENTIALS (I certify that the statements on the reverse apply to this bill and are made a part thereof.)

I.M. Provider MM/DD/YY

SIGNED DATE

32. SERVICE FACILITY LOCATION INFORMATION

a. NPI b.

33. BILLING PROVIDER INFO & PH #

I.M. PROVIDER
1 W WILLIAMS ST
ANYTOWN WI 55555-1234

a. 0222222220 b. ZZ123456789X

PATIENT AND INSURED INFORMATION

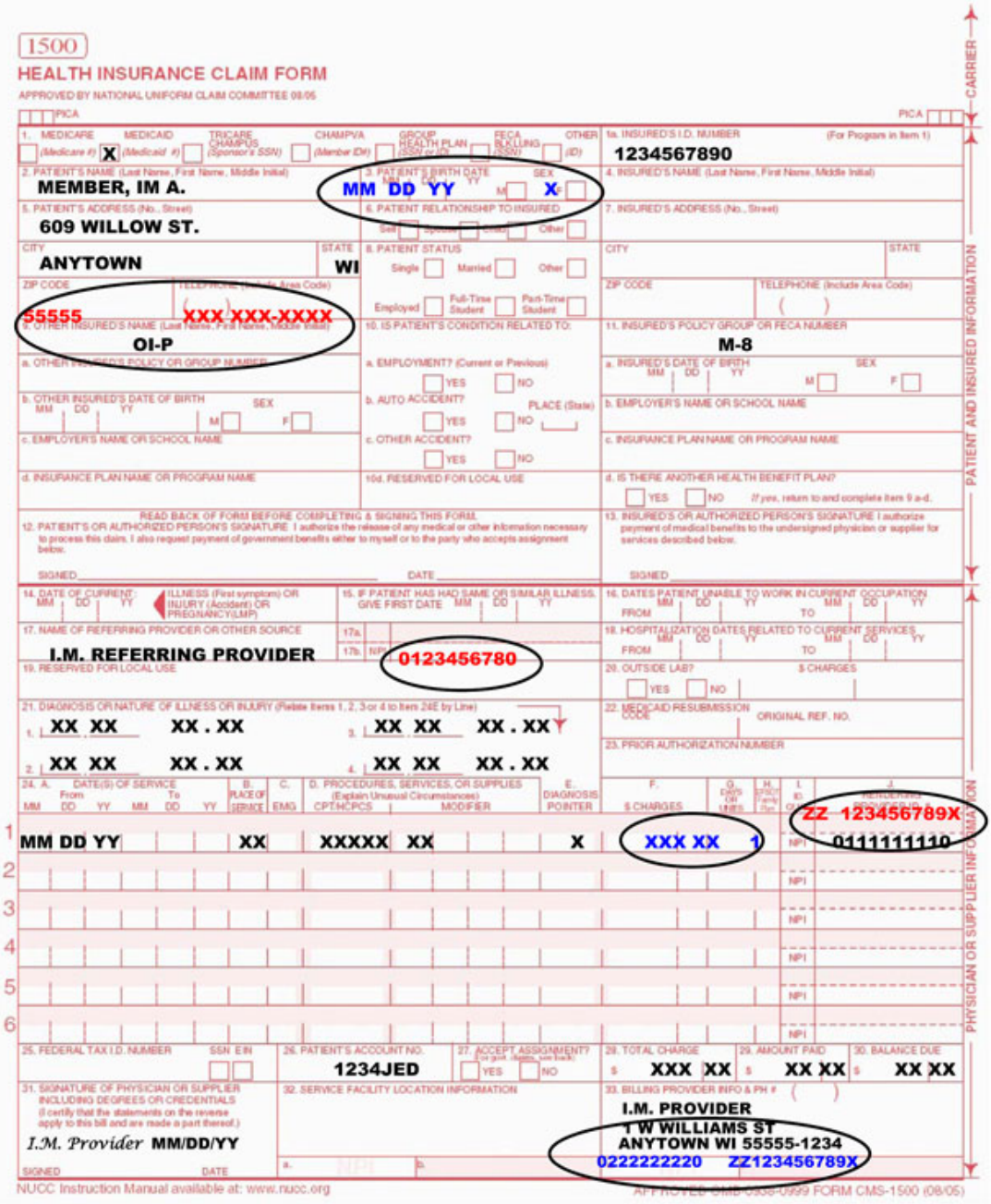
PHYSICIAN OR SUPPLIER INFORMATION

CARRIER

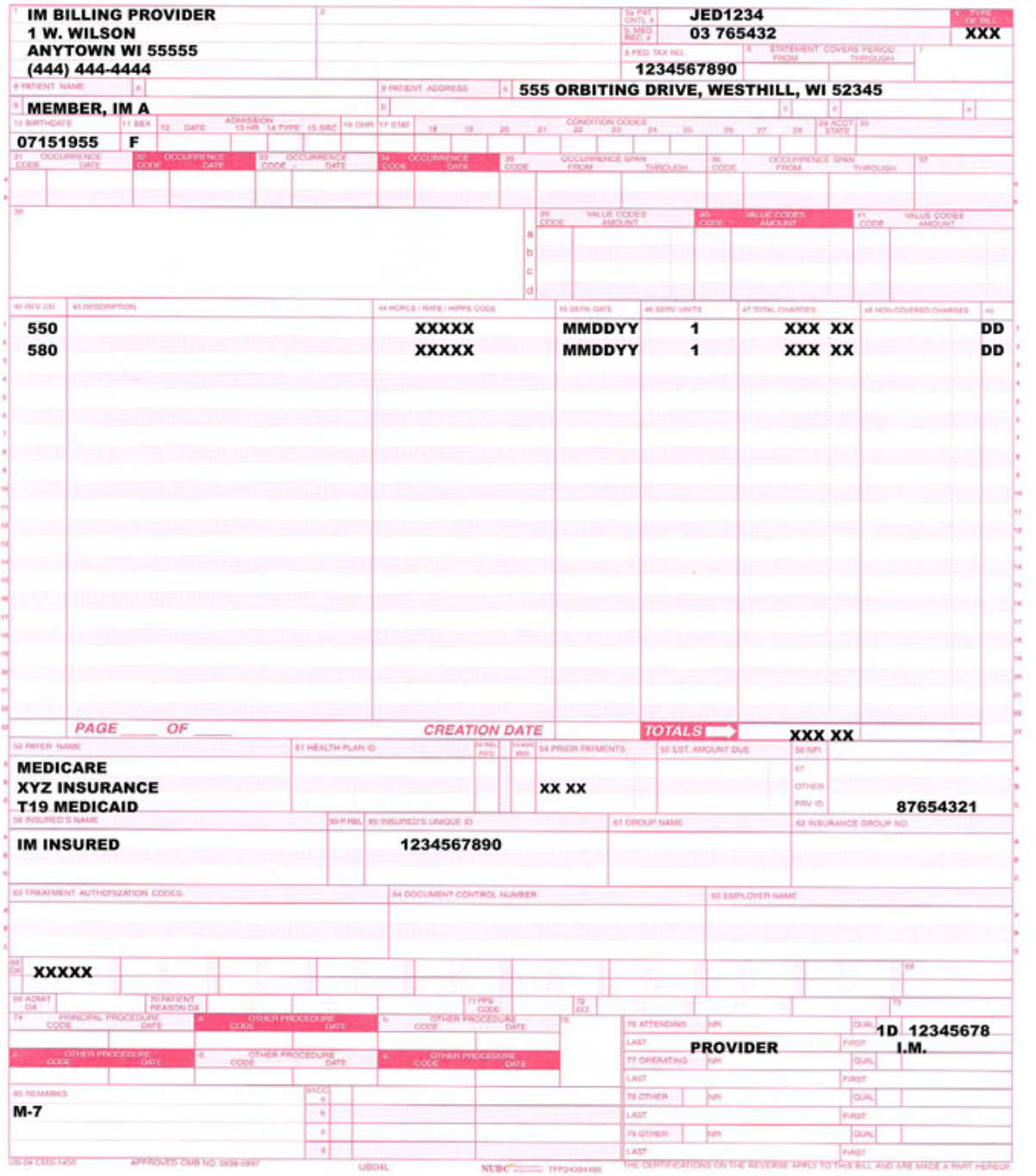
NUCC Instruction Manual available at: www.nucc.org

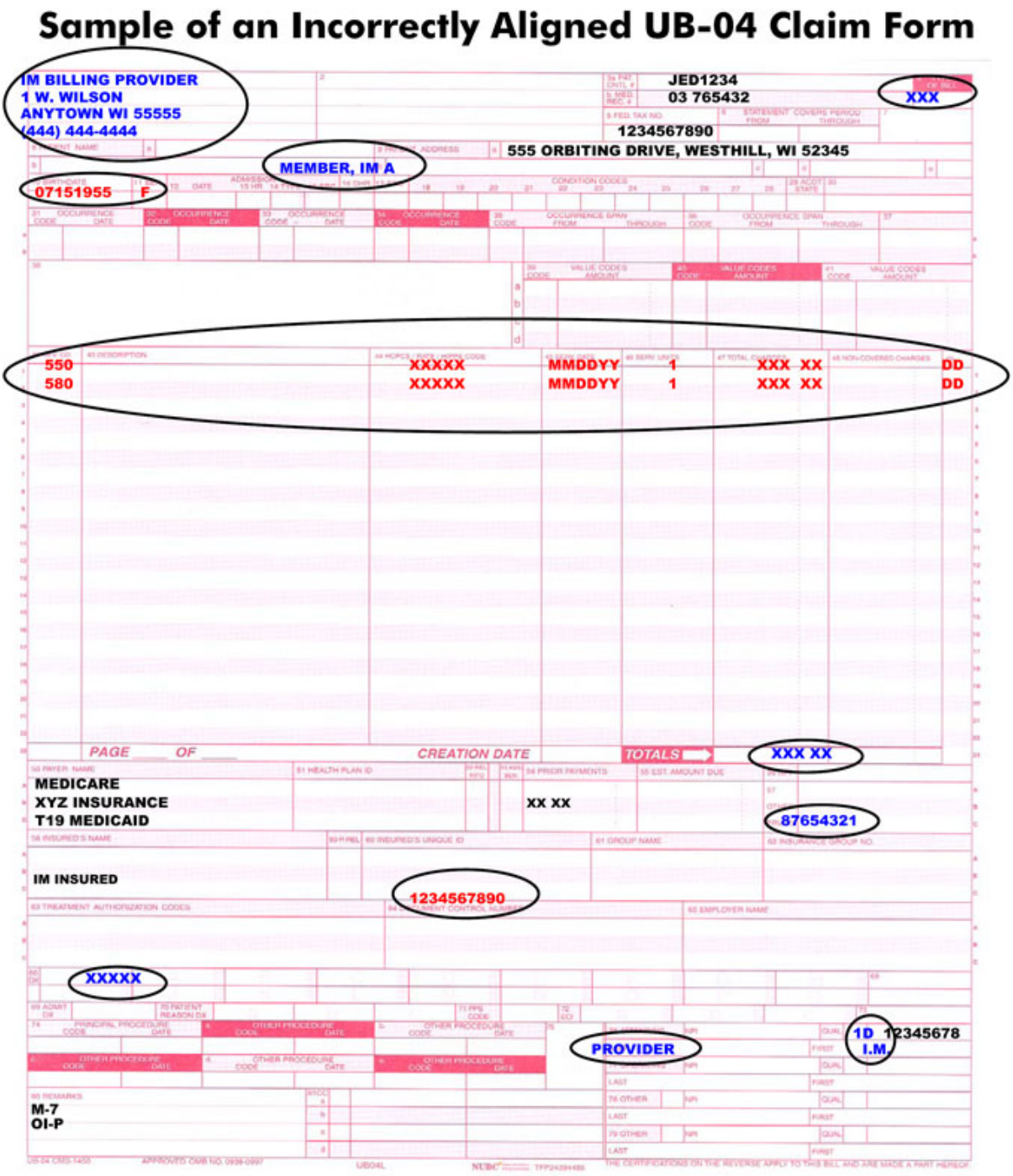
APPROVED OMB-0938-0999 FORM CMS-1500 (08/05)

Sample of an Incorrectly Aligned 1500 Health Insurance Claim Form



Sample of a Correctly Aligned UB-04 Claim Form





Topic #2168

Paper Claim Submission

Paper claims for all home health services (except for DME (durable medical equipment), DMS (disposable medical supplies), and enteral nutrition products) must be submitted using the UB-04 paper claim form. Claims for home health services submitted on any other claim form will be denied.

Providers should use the UB-04 claim form instructions for home health services when submitting these claims. Do not attach documentation to the claim unless it is specifically required.

Obtaining the Claim Forms

ForwardHealth does not provide the UB-04 claim form. The forms may be obtained from any federal forms supplier.

Durable Medical Equipment, Disposable Medical Supplies, and Enteral Nutrition Products

Providers submitting paper claims for DME, DMS, and enteral nutrition products are required to use the 1500 Health Insurance Claim Form (dated 08/05). The DME service area, the DMS service area, and the Enteral Nutrition Products service area provide claims submission information, as well as policy and PA (prior authorization) information.

Topic #10177

Prior Authorization Numbers on Claims

Providers are not required to indicate a PA (prior authorization) number on claims. ForwardHealth interChange matches the claim with the appropriate approved PA request. ForwardHealth's RA (Remittance Advice) and the 835 (835 Health Care Claim Payment/Advice) report to the provider the PA number used to process a claim. If a PA number is indicated on a claim, it will not be used and it will have no effect on processing the claim.

When a PA requirement is added to the list of drugs requiring PA and the effective date of a PA falls in the middle of a billing period, two separate claims that coincide with the presence of PA for the drug must be submitted to ForwardHealth.

Topic #10637

Reimbursement Reduction for Most Paper Claims

As a result of the Medicaid Rate Reform project, ForwardHealth will reduce reimbursement on most claims submitted to ForwardHealth on paper. Most paper claims will be subject up to a $1.10 reimbursement reduction per claim.

For each claim that a reimbursement reduction was applied, providers will receive an EOB (Explanation of Benefits) to notify them of the payment reduction. For claims with reimbursement reductions, the EOB will state the following, "This claim is eligible for electronic submission. Up to a $1.10 reduction has been applied to this claim payment."

If a paid claim's total reimbursement amount is less than $1.10, ForwardHealth will reduce the payment up to a $1.10. The claim will show on the RA (Remittance Advice) as paid but with a $0 paid amount.

The reimbursement reduction applies to the following paper claims:

- 1500 Health Insurance Claim Form.
- UB-04 (CMS 1450) Claim Form.
- Compound Drug Claim (F-13073 (09/11)) form.
- Noncompound Drug Claim (F-13072 (09/11)) form.

Exceptions to Paper Claim Reimbursement Reduction

The reimbursement reduction will not affect the following providers or claims:

- In-state emergency providers.
- Out-of-state providers.
- Medicare crossover claims.
- Any claims that ForwardHealth requires additional supporting information to be submitted on paper. For example:
    - Hysterectomy claims must be submitted along with a paper Acknowledgment of Receipt of Hysterectomy Information (F-1160A (10/08)) form.
    - Sterilization claims must be submitted along with a paper Consent for Sterilization (F-1164 (10/08)) form.
    - Claims submitted to Timely Filing appeals must be submitted on paper with a Timely Filing Appeals Request (F-13047 (10/08)) form.
    - In certain circumstances, drug claims must be submitted on paper with a Pharmacy Special Handling Request (F-13074 (04/11)) form.

Topic #4817

Submitting Paper Attachments with Electronic Claims

Providers may submit paper attachments to accompany electronic claims and electronic claim adjustments. Providers should refer to their companion guides for directions on indicating that a paper attachment will be submitted by mail.

Paper attachments that go with electronic claim transactions must be submitted with the Claim Form Attachment Cover Page (F-13470 (10/08)). Providers are required to indicate an ACN (attachment control number) for paper attachment(s) submitted with electronic claims. (The ACN is an alphanumeric entry between 2 and 80 digits assigned by the provider to identify the attachment.) The ACN must be indicated on the cover page so that ForwardHealth can match the paper attachment(s) to the correct electronic claim.

ForwardHealth will hold an electronic claim transaction or a paper attachment(s) for up to 30 calendar days to find a match. If a match cannot be made within 30 days, the claim will be processed without the attachment and will be denied if an attachment is required. When such a claim is denied, both the paper attachment(s) and the electronic claim will need to be resubmitted.

Providers are required to send paper attachments relating to electronic claim transactions to the following address:

ForwardHealth
Claims and Adjustments
6406 Bridge Rd
Madison WI 53784-0002

This does not apply to compound and noncompound claims.

Topic #3885

UB-04 (CMS 1450) Claim Form Completion Instructions for Home Health Services and Private Duty Nursing Services

The following sample UB-04 claim forms for home health services are available:

- Home health skilled nursing and home health aide services.
- PDN services including shifts spanning midnight.

- PDN ventilator-dependent member services.
- Home health therapy services.

Use the following claim form completion instructions, not the form locator descriptions printed on the claim form, to avoid claim denial or inaccurate claim payment. Complete all form locators unless otherwise indicated. Do not include attachments unless instructed to do so.

These instructions are for the completion of the UB-04 claim for BadgerCare Plus. For complete billing instructions, refer to the National UB-04 Uniform Billing Manual prepared by the National Uniform Billing Committee (NUBC). The National UB-04 Uniform Billing Manual contains important coding information not available in these instructions. Providers may purchase the National UB-04 Uniform Billing Manual by calling (312) 422-3390 or by accessing the NUBC Web site.

BadgerCare Plus members receive a ForwardHealth identification card when initially enrolled in BadgerCare Plus. Always verify a member's enrollment before providing nonemergency services to determine if there are any limitations on covered services and to obtain the correct spelling of the member's name. Refer to the Online Handbook in the Provider area of the ForwardHealth Portal for more information about verifying enrollment.

Note: Every code used on this claim form, even if the code is entered in a non-required form locator, is required to be a valid code. In addition, each provider is solely responsible for the truthfulness, accuracy, timeliness, and completeness of claims relating to reimbursement for services submitted to ForwardHealth.

Submit completed paper claims to the following address:

ForwardHealth
Claims and Adjustments
6406 Bridge Rd
Madison WI 53784--0410

Form Locator 1 — Provider Name, Address, and Telephone Number
Enter the name of the provider submitting the claim and the provider's complete practice location address. The minimum requirement is the provider's name, city, state, and ZIP+4 code. Do not enter a Post Office Box or a ZIP+4 code associated with a PO Box. The name in Form Locator 1 must correspond with the NPI (National Provider Identifier) in Form Locator 56.

Form Locator 2 — Pay-to Name, Address, and ID (not required)

Form Locator 3a — Pat. Cntl # (optional)
Providers may enter up to 20 characters of the patient's internal office account number. This number will appear on BadgerCare Plus remittance information.

Form Locator 3b — Med. Rec. # (optional)
Enter the number assigned to the patient's medical/health record by the provider. This number will appear on BadgerCare Plus remittance information.

Form Locator 4 — Type of Bill
Enter the three-digit type of bill code. Providers of home care services should use one of the following type of bill codes:

- 331 = Inpatient admit through discharge claim.
- 332 = Interim bill — first claim.
- 333 = Interim bill — continuing claim.
- 334 = Interim bill — final claim.

Form Locator 5 — Fed. Tax No.
Data is required in this element for OCR (Optical Character Recognition) processing. Any information populated by a provider's

computer software is acceptable for this element. If computer software does not automatically complete this element, enter information such as the provider's federal tax identification number.

Form Locator 6 — Statement Covers Period (From - Through)
Enter both dates in MMDDYY format (e.g., November 3, 2008, would be 110308). Include the date of discharge or death.

Form Locator 7 — Unlabeled Field (not required)

Form Locator 8 a-b — Patient Name
Enter the member's last name and first name, separated by a space or comma, in Form Locator 8b. Use Wisconsin's EVS (Enrollment Verification System) to obtain the correct spelling of the member's name. If the name or spelling of the name on the ForwardHealth card and the EVS do not match, use the spelling from the EVS.

Form Locator 9 a-e — Patient Address
Data is required in this element for OCR processing. Any information populated by a provider's computer software is acceptable data for this element (e.g., "Same"). If computer software does not automatically complete this element, enter information such as the member's last name, first name, and middle initial.

Form Locator 10 — Birthdate
Enter the member's birth date in MMDDCCYY format (e.g., September 25, 1975, would be 09251975).

Form Locator 11 — Sex
Specify that the member is male with a "M" or female with a "F." If a member's sex is unknown, enter "U."

Form Locator 12 — Admission Date (not required)

Form Locator 13 — Admission Hr (not required)

Form Locator 14 — Priority (Type) of Admission or Visit
Enter the appropriate admission type for the services rendered. Refer to the UB-04 Billing Manual for more information.

Form Locator 15 — Point of Origin for Admission or Visit
Enter the code indicating the source of this admission. Refer to the UB-04 Billing Manual for more information.

Form Locator 16 — DHR (not required)

Form Locator 17 — Patient Discharge Status
Enter the code indicating disposition or discharge status of the member at the end service for the period covered on this claim. Refer to the UB-04 Billing Manual for more information.

Form Locators 18-28 — Condition Codes (required, if applicable)
If appropriate, enter a code to identify conditions relating to this claim that may affect payer processing. Refer to the UB-04 Uniform Billing Manual for a list of condition codes.

Form Locator 29 — ACDT State (not required)

Form Locator 30 — Unlabeled Field (not required)

Form Locators 31-34 — Occurrence Code and Date (required, if applicable)
If appropriate, enter the code and associated date defining a significant event relating to this claim that may affect payer processing. All dates must be printed in the MMDDYY format. Refer to the UB-04 Billing Manual for more information.

Form Locator 35-36 — Occurrence Span Code (From - Through) (not required)

Form Locator 37 — Unlabeled Field (not required)

Form Locator 38 — Responsible Party Name and Address (not required)

Form Locators 39-41 a-d — Value Code and Amount (not required)

Form Locator 42 — Rev. Cd.
Enter the appropriate four-digit revenue code as defined by the NUBC that identifies a specific accommodation or ancillary service. Refer to home health services publications or the UB-04 Billing Manual for information and codes.

Form Locator 43 — Description
Do not enter any dates in this element.

Form Locator 44 — HCPCS/Rate/HIPPS Code
Enter the appropriate five-digit procedure code, followed by as many as four modifiers. Separate the modifier(s) with commas. Refer to home health agency publications for appropriate modifiers.

Form Locator 45 — Serv. Date
Enter the single "from" DOS (date of service) in MMDDYY format in this form locator.

Form Locator 46 — Serv. Units
Enter the number of covered accommodations, ancillary units of service, or visits, where appropriate.

Form Locator 47 — Total Charges (by Accommodation/Ancillary Code Category)
Enter the usual and customary charges pertaining to the related procedure code for the current billing period as entered in Form Locators 43 and 45.

Form Locator 48 — Non-covered Charges (not required)

Form Locator 49 — Unlabeled Field
Enter the "to" DOS in DD format only if the detail line includes a range of consecutive dates. The revenue code, procedure code and modifiers (if applicable), service units, and the charge must be identical for each date within the range.

Detail Line 23

PAGE ___ OF ___
Enter the current page number in the first blank and the total number of pages in the second blank. This information must be included for both single- and multiple-page claims.

CREATION DATE (not required)

TOTALS
Enter the sum of all charges for the claim in this field. If submitting a multiple-page claim, enter the total charge for the claim (i.e., the sum of all details from all pages of the claim) *only on the last page of the claim*.

Form Locator 50 A-C — Payer Name
Enter all health insurance payers here. Enter "T19" for Medicaid and the name of the commercial health insurance, if applicable. If submitting a multiple-page claim, enter health insurance payers only on the *first page* of the claim.

Form Locator 51 A-C — Health Plan ID (not required)

Form Locator 52 A-C — Rel. Info (not required)

Form Locator 53 A-C — Asg. Ben. (not required)

Form Locator 54 A-C — Prior Payments (required, if applicable)
Enter the actual amount paid by commercial health insurance. (If the dollar amount indicated in Form Locator 54 is greater than zero, "OI (other insurance)-P" must be indicated in Form Locator 80.) If the commercial health insurance denied the claim, enter "000." Do **not** enter Medicare-paid amounts in this field.

If submitting a multiple-page claim, enter the amount paid by commercial health insurance only on the *first page* of the claim.

Form Locator 55 A-C — Est. Amount Due (not required)

Form Locator 56 — NPI
Enter the provider's NPI. The NPI in Form Locator 56 should correspond with the name in Form Locator 1.

Form Locator 57 — Other Provider ID (not required)

Form Locator 58 A-C — Insured's Name
Data is required in this element for OCR processing. Any information populated by a provider's computer software is acceptable data for this element (e.g., "Same"). If computer software does not automatically complete this element, enter information such as the member's last name, first name, and middle initial.

Form Locator 59 A-C — P. Rel (not required)

Form Locator 60 A-C — Insured's Unique ID
Enter the member's identification number. Do not enter any other numbers or letters. Use the ForwardHealth card or the EVS to obtain the correct member ID.

Form Locator 61 A-C — Group Name (not required)

Form Locator 62 A-C — Insurance Group No. (not required)

Form Locator 63 A-C — Treatment Authorization Codes (not required)

Form Locator 64 A-C — Document Control Number (not required)

Form Locator 65 A-C — Employer Name (not required)

Form Locator 66 — Dx (not required)

Form Locator 67 — Principal Diagnosis Code and Present on Admission Indicator
Enter the valid, most specific ICD-9-CM (International Classification of Diseases, Ninth Revision, Clinical Modification) code (up to five digits) describing the principal diagnosis (e.g., the condition established after study to be chiefly responsible for causing the admission or other health care episode). Do not enter manifestation codes as the principal diagnosis; code the underlying disease first. The principal diagnosis may not include "E" (etiology) codes.

Form Locators 67A-Q —Other Diagnosis Codes and Present on Admission Indicator
Enter valid, most specific ICD-9-CM diagnosis codes (up to five digits) corresponding to additional conditions that coexist at the time of admission, or develop subsequently, and that have an effect on the treatment received or the length of stay. Diagnoses that relate to an earlier episode and have no bearing on this episode are to be excluded. Providers should prioritize diagnosis codes as relevant to this claim.

Form Locator 68 — Unlabeled Field (not required)

Form Locator 69 — Admit Dx (not required)

Form Locator 70 — Patient Reason Dx (not required)

Form Locator 71 — PPS Code (not required)

Form Locator 72 — ECI (not required)

Form Locator 73 — Unlabeled Field (not required)

Form Locator 74 — Principal Procedure Code and Date (not required)

Form Locator 74a-e — Other Procedure Code and Date (not required)

Form Locator 75 — Unlabeled Field (not required)

Form Locator 76 — Attending
To indicate the attending provider, enter the attending provider's NPI. In addition, include the last and first name of the attending provider.

Form Locator 77 — Operating (not required)

Form Locators 78 and 79 — Other Provider Name and Identifiers
If a referring provider is required on the claim, enter the referring provider's NPI, followed by "DN" in the qualifier field and the last and first names of the provider in the appropriate fields. If a rendering provider is required on the claim, enter the rendering provider's NPI, followed by "82" in the qualifier field and the last and first names of the provider in the appropriate fields.

Form Locator 80 — Remarks (enter information when applicable)

Commercial Health Insurance Billing Information
Commercial health insurance coverage must be billed prior to billing ForwardHealth, unless the service does not require commercial health insurance billing as determined by ForwardHealth.

When the member has dental ("DEN") insurance only, is enrolled a Medicare Advantage Plan only, or has no commercial health insurance, do not indicate an OI explanation code in Form Locator 80.

When the member has any other commercial health insurance, *and* the service requires commercial health insurance billing, then one of the following three OI explanation codes *must* be indicated in Form Locator 80. The description is not required, nor is the policyholder, plan name, group number, etc.

Code	Description
OI-P	PAID in part or in full by commercial health insurance or commercial HMO. In Form Locator 54 of this claim form, indicate the amount paid by commercial health insurance to the provider or to the insured.
OI-D	DENIED by commercial health insurance or commercial HMO following submission of a correct and complete claim, or payment was applied towards the coinsurance and deductible. Do not use this code unless the claim was actually billed to the commercial health insurer.
OI-Y	YES, the member has commercial health insurance or commercial HMO coverage, but it was not billed for reasons including, but not limited to the following: • The member denied coverage or will not cooperate. • The provider knows the service in question is not covered by the carrier.

	• The member's commercial health insurance failed to respond to initial and follow-up claims. • Benefits are not assignable or cannot get assignment. • Benefits are exhausted.

Note: The provider may not use OI-D or OI-Y if the member is covered by a commercial HMO and the HMO denied payment because an otherwise covered service was not rendered by a designated provider. Services covered by a commercial HMO are not reimbursable by ForwardHealth except for the copayment and deductible amounts. Providers who receive a capitation payment from the commercial HMO may not submit claims to ForwardHealth for services that are included in the capitation payment.

Medicare Information

Use Form Locator 80 for Medicare information. Submit claims to Medicare before billing ForwardHealth.

If an EOB (Explanation of Medicare Benefits) indicates that the member is enrolled in a Medicare Advantage Plan and the claim is being billed as a crossover, enter "MMC" in the upper right corner of the claim, indicating that the other insurance is a Medicare Advantage Plan and the claim should be processed as a crossover claim.

Do not indicate a Medicare disclaimer code when one or more of the following statements is true:

- Medicare never covers the procedure in any circumstance.
- ForwardHealth indicates the member does not have any Medicare coverage for the service provided. For example, the service is covered by Medicare Part A, but the member does not have Medicare Part A.
- ForwardHealth indicates the provider is not Medicare certified.

  Note: Home health agencies, medical equipment vendors, pharmacies, and physician services providers must be Medicare certified to perform Medicare-covered services for dual eligibles.

- Medicare has allowed the charges. In this case, attach Medicare remittance information, but do not indicate on the claim form the amount Medicare paid.

If none of the above is true, a Medicare disclaimer code is necessary. The following Medicare disclaimer codes may be used when appropriate.

Code	Description
M-7	Medicare disallowed or denied payment. This code applies when Medicare denies the claim for reasons related to policy (not billing errors), or the member's lifetime benefit, spell of illness, or yearly allotment of available benefits is exhausted. Use M-7 in the following instances. *For Medicare Part A, use M-7 in the following instances (all three criteria must be met):* • The provider is identified in ForwardHealth files as certified for Medicare Part A. • The member is eligible for Medicare Part A. • The service is covered by Medicare Part A but is denied by Medicare Part A due to frequency limitations, diagnosis restrictions, or the service is not payable due to benefits being exhausted. *For Medicare Part B, use M-7 in the following instances (all three criteria must be met):* • The provider is identified in ForwardHealth files as certified for Medicare Part B. • The member is eligible for Medicare Part B. • The service is covered by Medicare Part B but is denied by Medicare Part B due to frequency limitations, diagnosis restrictions, or the service is not payable due to benefits being exhausted.

M-8	Noncovered Medicare service. This code may be used when Medicare was not billed because the service is not covered in this circumstance. Use M-8 in the following instances. *For Medicare Part A, use M-8 in the following instances (all three criteria must be met):* • The provider is identified in ForwardHealth files as certified for Medicare Part A. • The member is eligible for Medicare Part A. • The service is usually covered by Medicare Part A but not in this circumstance (e.g., member's diagnosis). *For Medicare Part B, use M-8 in the following instances (all three criteria must be met):* • The provider is identified in ForwardHealth files as certified for Medicare Part B. • The member is eligible for Medicare Part B. • The service is usually covered by Medicare Part B but not in this circumstance (e.g., member's diagnosis).

Form Locator 81 a-d — CC

If the billing provider's NPI was indicated in Form Locator 56, enter the qualifier "PXC" in the first field to the right of the form locator, followed by the appropriate 10-digit provider taxonomy code on file with ForwardHealth in the second field.

Sample UB-04 Form for Home Health Skilled Nursing and Home Health Aide Services

1 IM BILLING PROVIDER 444 E CLAIREMONT ANYTOWN WI 55555-1234 (444) 444-4444	2	3a PAT. CNTL # JED1234 b. MED. REC. # 11 7654321				4 TYPE OF BILL 332
		5 FED. TAX NO. 01-2345678	6 STATEMENT COVERS PERIOD FROM 10/15/11	THROUGH 10/16/11	7	
8 PATIENT NAME a b MEMBER, IM A		9 PATIENT ADDRESS a ON FILE b	c	d	e	
10 BIRTHDATE 08201974	11 SEX F	12 ADMISSION DATE 10/15/11	13 HR 1	14 TYPE 1	15 SRC 1	16 DHR
17 STAT 01	18 CONDITION CODES	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29 ACDT STATE	30

31 OCCURRENCE CODE	DATE	32 OCCURRENCE CODE	DATE	33 OCCURRENCE CODE	DATE	34 OCCURRENCE CODE	DATE	35 OCCURRENCE SPAN CODE	FROM	THROUGH	36 OCCURRENCE SPAN CODE	FROM	THROUGH	37
a														
b														

38	39 VALUE CODES CODE	AMOUNT	40 VALUE CODES CODE	AMOUNT	41 VALUE CODES CODE	AMOUNT
	a					
	b					
	c					
	d					

	42 REV. CD.	43 DESCRIPTION	44 HCPCS / RATE / HIPPS CODE	45 SERV. DATE	46 SERV. UNITS	47 TOTAL CHARGES	48 NON-COVERED CHARGES	49
1	0550		99600 UG	10/15/11	1	XXX.XX		
2	0580		T1021 UF	10/16/11	1	XXX.XX		
3								
4								
5								
6								
7								
8								
9								
10								
11								
12								
13								
14								
15								
16								
17								
18								
19								
20								
21								
22								
23		PAGE 1 OF 1	CREATION DATE		TOTALS	XXX.XX		

	50 PAYER NAME	51 HEALTH PLAN ID	52 REL INFO	53 ASG BEN	54 PRIOR PAYMENTS	55 EST. AMOUNT DUE	56 NPI	
A	XYZ INSURANCE				XXX.XX		0111111110	
B	T19 MEDICAID						57 OTHER	
C							PRV ID	

	58 INSURED'S NAME	59 P REL	60 INSURED'S UNIQUE ID	61 GROUP NAME	62 INSURANCE GROUP NO.
A					
B	SAME		1234567890		
C					

	63 TREATMENT AUTHORIZATION CODES	64 DOCUMENT CONTROL NUMBER	65 EMPLOYER NAME
A			
B			
C			

66 DX	67 7707	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	68
	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	

69 ADMIT DX	70 PATIENT REASON DX	a	b	c	71 PPS CODE	72 ECI	a	b	c	73

74 PRINCIPAL PROCEDURE CODE	DATE	a. OTHER PROCEDURE CODE	DATE	b. OTHER PROCEDURE CODE	DATE	75	76 ATTENDING NPI 0222222220	QUAL
							LAST Physician	FIRST I AM
c. OTHER PROCEDURE CODE	DATE	d. OTHER PROCEDURE CODE	DATE	e. OTHER PROCEDURE CODE	DATE		77 OPERATING NPI	QUAL
							LAST	FIRST

80 REMARKS	81CC a	PXC 123456789X		78 OTHER NPI	QUAL
OI-P	b			LAST	FIRST
	c			79 OTHER NPI	QUAL
	d			LAST	FIRST

UB-04 CMS-1450 APPROVED OMB NO. 0938-0997 NUBC

Sample UB-04 Claim Form for PDN Services Including Shifts Spanning Midnight

1 IM BILLING PROVIDER 444 E CLAIREMONT ANYTOWN WI 55555-1234 (444) 444-4444	2	3a PAT. CNTL # JED1234 b. MED. REC. # 11 7654321	4 TYPE OF BILL 332	
		5 FED. TAX NO. 01-2345678	6 STATEMENT COVERS PERIOD FROM 10152010 THROUGH 10172011	7

8 PATIENT NAME	9 PATIENT ADDRESS
b MEMBER, IM A	a ON FILE

10 BIRTHDATE	11 SEX	12 ADMISSION DATE	13 HR	14 TYPE	15 SRC	16 DHR	17 STAT	18–28 CONDITION CODES	29 ACDT STATE	30
08201974	F			1	1		01			

31–34 OCCURRENCE CODE / DATE	35–36 OCCURRENCE SPAN CODE / FROM / THROUGH	37

38	39 VALUE CODES CODE / AMOUNT	40 VALUE CODES CODE / AMOUNT	41 VALUE CODES CODE / AMOUNT
	a		
	b		
	c		
	d		

42 REV. CD.	43 DESCRIPTION	44 HCPCS / RATE / HIPPS CODE	45 SERV. DATE	46 SERV. UNITS	47 TOTAL CHARGES	48 NON-COVERED CHARGES	49
0550		S9123 UH	10152010	4	XXX.XX		
0550		S9123 UJ, UH	10162010	8	XXX.XX		
0550		S9123 UJ	10172010	4	XXX.XX		
	PAGE 1 OF 1	CREATION DATE		TOTALS	XXX.XX		

50 PAYER NAME	51 HEALTH PLAN ID	52 REL. INFO	53 ASG. BEN.	54 PRIOR PAYMENTS	55 EST. AMOUNT DUE	56 NPI	57
A XYZ INSURANCE				XXX.XX		0111111110	
B T19 MEDICAID						OTHER	
C						PRV ID	

58 INSURED'S NAME	59 P REL	60 INSURED'S UNIQUE ID	61 GROUP NAME	62 INSURANCE GROUP NO.
A				
B SAME		1234567890		
C				

63 TREATMENT AUTHORIZATION CODES	64 DOCUMENT CONTROL NUMBER	65 EMPLOYER NAME
A		
B		
C		

66 DX	7707	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	68
	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	

69 ADMIT DX	70 PATIENT REASON DX	a	b	c	71 PPS CODE	72 ECI	a	b	c	73

74 PRINCIPAL PROCEDURE CODE / DATE	a. OTHER PROCEDURE CODE / DATE	b. OTHER PROCEDURE CODE / DATE	75
c. OTHER PROCEDURE CODE / DATE	d. OTHER PROCEDURE CODE / DATE	e. OTHER PROCEDURE CODE / DATE	

76 ATTENDING	NPI 0222222220	QUAL	
LAST Physician		FIRST I AM	
77 OPERATING	NPI	QUAL	
LAST		FIRST	
78 OTHER	NPI	QUAL	
LAST		FIRST	
79 OTHER	NPI	QUAL	
LAST		FIRST	

80 REMARKS	81CC a	PXC	123456789X
OI-P	b		
	c		
	d		

UB-04 CMS-1450 APPROVED OMB NO. 0938-0997 NUBC

Sample UB-04 Claim Form for Private Duty Nursing Ventilator-Dependent Member Services

1 IM BILLING PROVIDER
444 E CLAIREMONT
ANYTOWN WI 55555-1234
(444) 444-4444

2

3a PAT. CNTL # JED1234
b. MED. REC. # 11 7654321

4 TYPE OF BILL 333

5 FED. TAX NO. 01-2345678

6 STATEMENT COVERS PERIOD FROM 10152011 THROUGH 10172011

7

8 PATIENT NAME a / b MEMBER, IM A

9 PATIENT ADDRESS a ON FILE

10 BIRTHDATE 08201974

11 SEX F

ADMISSION 12 DATE / 13 HR / 14 TYPE 1 / 15 SRC 1

16 DHR

17 STAT 01

18–28 CONDITION CODES

29 ACDT STATE

30

31–34 OCCURRENCE CODE / DATE

35–36 OCCURRENCE SPAN CODE / FROM / THROUGH

37

38

39–41 VALUE CODES CODE / AMOUNT (a, b, c, d)

42 REV. CD.	43 DESCRIPTION	44 HCPCS / RATE / HIPPS CODE	45 SERV. DATE	46 SERV. UNITS	47 TOTAL CHARGES	48 NON-COVERED CHARGES	49
0550		99504 TD, UG	10152011	8	XXX XX		
0550		99504 TD, UG	10162011	8	XXX XX		
0550		99504 TD, UG	10172011	6	XXX XX		
PAGE 1 OF 1		CREATION DATE		TOTALS	XXX XX		

50 PAYER NAME	51 HEALTH PLAN ID	52 REL. INFO	53 ASG. BEN.	54 PRIOR PAYMENTS	55 EST. AMOUNT DUE
A XYZ INSURANCE				XXX XX	
B T19 MEDICAID					
C					

56 NPI 0111111110

57 OTHER PRV ID

58 INSURED'S NAME	59 P. REL	60 INSURED'S UNIQUE ID	61 GROUP NAME	62 INSURANCE GROUP NO.
A				
B SAME		1234567890		
C				

63 TREATMENT AUTHORIZATION CODES

64 DOCUMENT CONTROL NUMBER

65 EMPLOYER NAME

66 DX V4611

67 A–Q

68

69 ADMIT DX

70 PATIENT REASON DX a b c

71 PPS CODE

72 ECI a b c

73

74 PRINCIPAL PROCEDURE CODE / DATE; a.–e. OTHER PROCEDURE CODE / DATE

75

76 ATTENDING NPI 0222222220 QUAL
LAST Physician FIRST I AM

77 OPERATING NPI QUAL
LAST FIRST

78 OTHER NPI QUAL
LAST FIRST

79 OTHER NPI QUAL
LAST FIRST

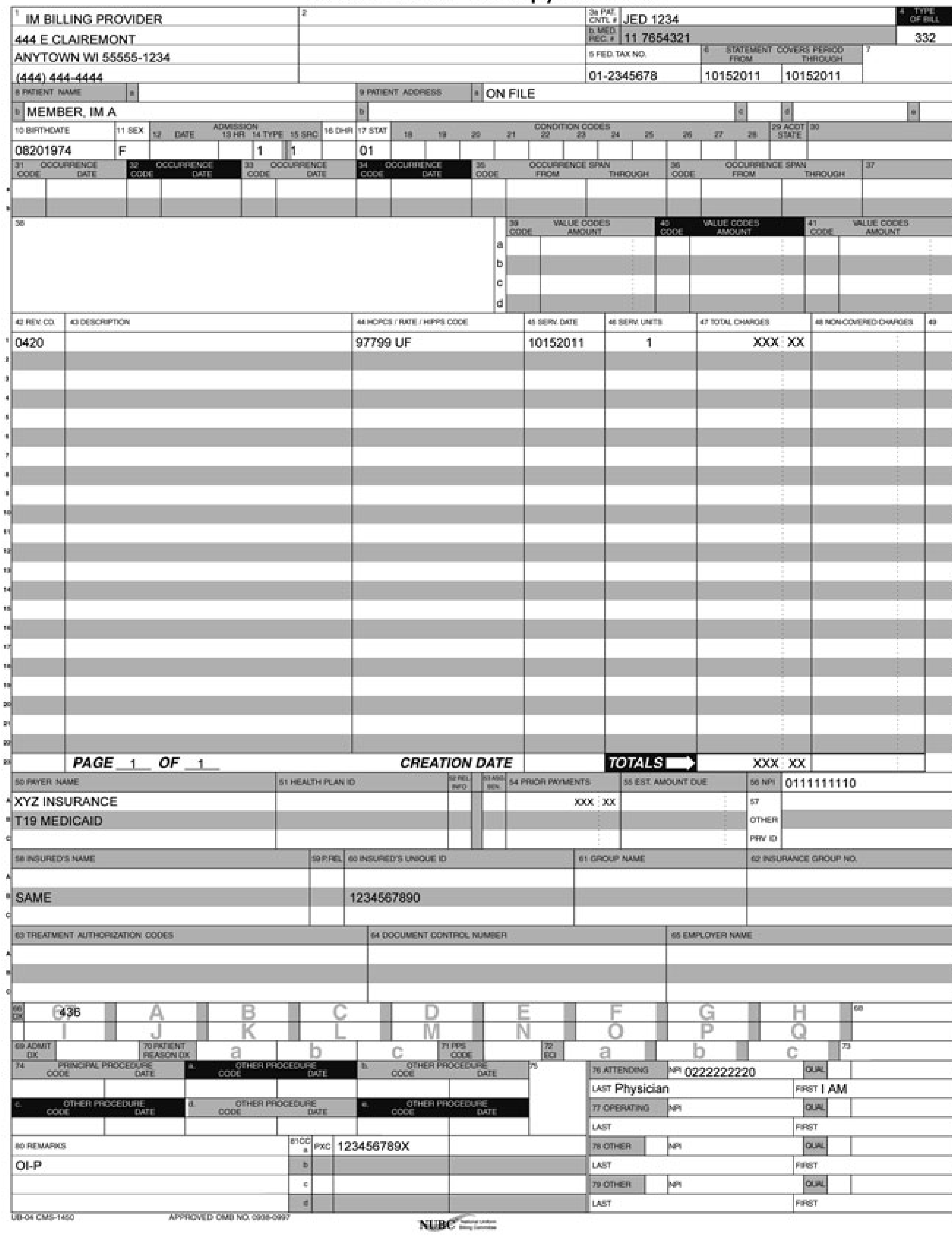
80 REMARKS
OI-P

81CC a PXC 123456789X
b
c
d

UB-04 CMS-1450 APPROVED OMB NO. 0938-0997

NUBC National Uniform Billing Committee

Sample UB-04 Claim Form for Home Health Therapy Services



1 IM BILLING PROVIDER
444 E CLAIREMONT
ANYTOWN WI 55555-1234
(444) 444-4444

3a PAT. CNTL # JED 1234
b. MED. REC. # 11 7654321
4 TYPE OF BILL 332
5 FED. TAX NO. 01-2345678
6 STATEMENT COVERS PERIOD FROM 10152011 THROUGH 10152011

8 PATIENT NAME b MEMBER, IM A
9 PATIENT ADDRESS a ON FILE

10 BIRTHDATE 08201974
11 SEX F
14 TYPE 1
15 SRC 1
17 STAT 01

42 REV. CD.	43 DESCRIPTION	44 HCPCS / RATE / HIPPS CODE	45 SERV. DATE	46 SERV. UNITS	47 TOTAL CHARGES	48 NON-COVERED CHARGES	49
0420		97799 UF	10152011	1	XXX XX		
	PAGE 1 OF 1	CREATION DATE		TOTALS	XXX XX		

50 PAYER NAME	51 HEALTH PLAN ID	52 REL. INFO	53 ASG. BEN.	54 PRIOR PAYMENTS	55 EST. AMOUNT DUE
A XYZ INSURANCE				XXX XX	
B T19 MEDICAID					

56 NPI 0111111110

58 INSURED'S NAME	59 P. REL	60 INSURED'S UNIQUE ID	61 GROUP NAME	62 INSURANCE GROUP NO.
B SAME		1234567890		

63 TREATMENT AUTHORIZATION CODES
64 DOCUMENT CONTROL NUMBER
65 EMPLOYER NAME

66 DX 436

76 ATTENDING NPI 0222222220
LAST Physician FIRST I AM

80 REMARKS OI-P
81CC a PXC 123456789X

UB-04 CMS-1450 APPROVED OMB NO. 0938-0997
NUBC National Uniform Billing Committee

Topic #11677

Uploading Claim Attachments Via the Portal

Providers are able to upload attachments for most claims via the secure Provider area of the ForwardHealth Portal. This allows providers to submit all components for claims electronically.

Providers are able to upload attachments via the Portal when a claim is suspended and an attachment was indicated but not yet received. Providers are able to upload attachments for any suspended claim that was submitted electronically. Providers should note that all attachments for a suspended claim must be submitted within the same business day.

Claim Types

Providers will be able to upload attachments to claims via the Portal for the following claim types:

- Professional.
- Institutional.
- Dental.

The submission policy for compound and noncompound drug claims does not allow attachments.

Document Formats

Providers are able to upload documents in the following formats:

- JPEG (Joint Photographic Experts Group) (.jpg or .jpeg).
- PDF (Portable Document Format) (.pdf).
- Rich Text Format (.rtf).
- Text File (.txt).

JPEG files must be stored with a ".jpg" or ".jpeg" extension; text files must be stored with a ".txt" extension; rich text format files must be stored with a ".rtf" extension; and PDF files must be stored with a ".pdf" extension.

Microsoft Word files (.doc) cannot be uploaded but can be saved and uploaded in Rich Text Format or Text File formats.

Uploading Claim Attachments

Claims Submitted by Direct Data Entry

When a provider submits a DDE (Direct Data Entry) claim and indicates an attachment will also be included, a feature button will appear and link to the DDE claim screen where attachments can be uploaded.

Providers are still required to indicate on the DDE claim that the claim will include an attachment via the "Attachments" panel.

Claims will suspend for 30 days before denying for not receiving the attachment.

Claims Submitted by Provider Electronic Software and 837 Health Care Claim Transactions

Providers submitting claims via 837 (837 Health Care Claim) transactions are required to indicate attachments via the PWK segment. Providers submitting claims via PES (Provider Electronic Solutions) software will be required to indicate attachments via the attachment control field. Once the claim has been submitted, providers will be able to search for the claim on the Portal and upload the attachment via the Portal. Refer to the Implementation Guides for how to use the PWK segment in 837 transactions and the PES Manual for how to use the attachment control field.

Claims will suspend with 30 days before denying for not receiving the attachment.

Timely Filing Appeals Requests

Topic #549

Requirements

When a claim or adjustment request meets one of the exceptions to the submission deadline, the provider is required to submit a Timely Filing Appeals Request (F-13047 (10/08)) form with a paper claim or an Adjustment/Reconsideration Request (F-13046 (10/08)) form to override the submission deadline.

DOS (dates of service) that are beyond the submission deadline should be submitted separately from DOS that are within the deadline. Claims or adjustment requests received that contain both current and late DOS are processed through normal channels without review by Timely Filing and late DOS will be denied.

Topic #551

Resubmission

Decisions on Timely Filing Appeals Requests (F-13047 (10/08)) cannot be appealed. Providers may resubmit the claim to Timely Filing if both of the following occur:

- The provider submits additional documentation as requested.
- ForwardHealth receives the documentation before the specified deadline for the exception to the submission deadline.

Topic #744

Submission

To receive consideration for an exception to the submission deadline, providers are required to submit the following:

- A properly completed Timely Filing Appeals Request (F-13047 (10/08)) form for each claim and each adjustment to allow for electronic documentation of individual claims and adjustments submitted to ForwardHealth.
- A legible claim or adjustment request.
- All required documentation as specified for the exception to the submission deadline.

To receive consideration, a Timely Filing Appeals Request must be received before the deadline specified for the exception to the submission deadline.

When completing the claim or adjustment request, providers are required to indicate the procedure code, diagnosis code, POS (place of service) code, etc., as effective for the DOS (date of service). However, providers should use the current claim form and instructions or adjustment request form and instructions. Reimbursement for Timely Filing Appeals Requests is contingent upon the claim or adjustment request meeting program requirements for the DOS.

The following table lists the filing deadlines and documentation requirements as they correspond to each of the eight allowable exceptions.

Change in Nursing Home Resident's Level of Care or Liability Amount

Description of the Exception	Documentation Requirements	Submission Address
This exception occurs when a nursing home claim is initially received within the submission deadline and reimbursed incorrectly due to a change in the member's authorized level of care or liability amount.	To receive consideration, the request must be submitted within 455 days from the DOS and the correct liability amount or level of care must be indicated on the Adjustment/Reconsideration Request (F-13046 (10/08)) form. The most recent claim number (also known as the ICN (internal control number)) must be indicated on the Adjustment/Reconsideration Request form. This number may be the result of a ForwardHealth-initiated adjustment.	ForwardHealth Timely Filing Ste 50 6406 Bridge Rd Madison WI 53784-0050

Decision Made by a Court, Fair Hearing, or the Department of Health Services		
Description of the Exception	**Documentation Requirements**	**Submission Address**
This exception occurs when a decision is made by a court, fair hearing, or the DHS (Department of Health Services).	To receive consideration, the request must be submitted within 90 days from the date of the decision of the hearing. A complete copy of the notice received from the court, fair hearing, or DHS must be submitted with the request.	ForwardHealth Timely Filing Ste 50 6406 Bridge Rd Madison WI 53784-0050

Denial Due to Discrepancy Between the Member's Enrollment Information in ForwardHealth interChange and the Member's Actual Enrollment		
Description of the Exception	**Documentation Requirements**	**Submission Address**

This exception occurs when a claim is initially received by the deadline but is denied due to a discrepancy between the member's enrollment information in ForwardHealth interChange and the member's actual enrollment.	To receive consideration, the following documentation must be submitted within 455 days from the DOS:
	
	• A copy of remittance information showing the claim was submitted in a timely manner and denied with a qualifying enrollment-related explanation.
	• A photocopy of one of the following indicating enrollment on the DOS:
	  ○ White paper BadgerCare Plus EE (Express Enrollment) for pregnant women or children identification card.
	  ○ Green paper temporary identification card.
	  ○ White paper TE (Temporary Enrollment) for Family Planning Only Services identification card.
	  ○ The response received through Wisconsin's EVS (Enrollment Verification System) from a commercial eligibility vendor.
	  ○ The transaction log number received through WiCall.
		ForwardHealth
		Good Faith/Timely Filing
		Ste 50
		6406 Bridge Rd
		Madison WI 53784-0050

ForwardHealth Reconsideration or Recoupment		
Description of the Exception	**Documentation Requirements**	**Submission Address**
This exception occurs when ForwardHealth reconsiders a previously processed claim. ForwardHealth will initiate an adjustment on a previously paid claim.	If a subsequent provider submission is required, the request must be submitted within 90 days from the date of the RA (Remittance Advice) message. A copy of the RA message that shows the ForwardHealth-initiated adjustment must be submitted with the request.	ForwardHealth Timely Filing Ste 50 6406 Bridge Rd Madison WI 53784-0050

Retroactive Enrollment for Persons on General Relief		
Description of the Exception	**Documentation Requirements**	**Submission Address**
This exception occurs when the local county or tribal agency requests a return of a GR (general relief) payment from the provider because a member has become retroactively enrolled for Wisconsin Medicaid or BadgerCare Plus.	To receive consideration, the request must be submitted within 180 days from the date the backdated enrollment was added to the member's enrollment information. The request must be submitted with one of the following: • "GR retroactive enrollment" indicated on the claim. • A copy of the letter received from the local county or tribal agency.	ForwardHealth GR Retro Eligibility Ste 50 6406 Bridge Rd Madison WI 53784-0050

Medicare Denial Occurs After the Submission Deadline		
Description of the Exception	**Documentation Requirements**	**Submission Address**
This exception occurs when claims submitted to Medicare (within 365 days of the DOS) are denied by Medicare after the 365-day submission deadline. A waiver of the submission deadline will not be granted when Medicare denies a claim for one of the following reasons: • The charges were previously submitted to Medicare. • The member name and identification number do not match. • The services were previously denied by Medicare. • The provider retroactively applied for Medicare enrollment and did not become enrolled.	To receive consideration, the following must be submitted within 90 days of the Medicare processing date: • A copy of the Medicare remittance information. • The appropriate Medicare disclaimer code must be indicated on the claim.	ForwardHealth Timely Filing Ste 50 6406 Bridge Rd Madison WI 53784-0050

Refund Request from an Other Health Insurance Source		
Description of the Exception	**Documentation Requirements**	**Submission Address**
This exception occurs when an other health insurance source reviews a previously paid claim and determines that reimbursement was inappropriate.	To receive consideration, the following documentation must be submitted within 90 days from the date of recoupment notification:	ForwardHealth Timely Filing Ste 50 6406 Bridge Rd

	• A copy of the commercial health insurance remittance information. • A copy of the remittance information showing recoupment for crossover claims when Medicare is recouping payment.	Madison WI 53784-0050

Retroactive Member Enrollment		
Description of the Exception	**Documentation Requirements**	**Submission Address**
This exception occurs when a claim cannot be submitted within the submission deadline due to a delay in the determination of a member's retroactive enrollment.	To receive consideration, the request must be submitted within 180 days from the date the backdated enrollment was added to the member's enrollment information. In addition, "retroactive enrollment" must be indicated on the claim.	ForwardHealth Timely Filing Ste 50 6406 Bridge Rd Madison WI 53784-0050

Coordination of Benefits

3

Archive Date:01/03/2012

Coordination of Benefits:Commercial Health Insurance

Topic #595

Assignment of Insurance Benefits

Assignment of insurance benefits is the process by which a specified party (e.g., provider or policyholder) becomes entitled to receive payment for claims in accordance with the insurance company policies.

Commercial health insurance companies may permit reimbursement to the provider or member. Providers should verify whether commercial health insurance benefits may be assigned to the provider. As indicated by the commercial health insurance, providers may be required to obtain approval from the member for this assignment of benefits.

If the provider is assigned benefits, providers should bill the commercial health insurance.

If the member is assigned insurance benefits, it is appropriate to submit a claim to ForwardHealth without billing the commercial health insurance. In this instance providers should indicate the appropriate other insurance indicator. ForwardHealth will bill the commercial health insurance.

Topic #844

Claims for Services Denied by Commercial Health Insurance

If commercial health insurance denies or recoups payment for services that are covered, the provider may submit a claim for those services. To allow payment in this situation, providers are encouraged to follow the requirements (e.g., request PA (prior authorization) before providing the service for covered services that require PA). If the requirements are followed, ForwardHealth may reimburse for the service up to the allowed amount (less any payments made by other health insurance sources).

Topic #598

Commercial Fee-for-Service

Fee-for-service commercial health insurance is the traditional health care payment system under which providers receive a payment for each unit of service provided rather than a capitation payment for each member. Such insurance usually does not restrict health care to a particular network of providers.

Topic #599

Commercial Managed Care

A commercial managed care plan provides coverage through a specified group of providers in a particular service area. The providers may be under contract with the commercial health insurance and receive payment based on the number of patients seen (i.e., capitation payment).

Commercial managed care plans require members to use a designated network of providers. Non-network providers (i.e.,

providers who do not have a contract with the member's commercial managed care plan) will be reimbursed by the commercial managed care plan *only* if they obtain a referral or provide an emergency service.

Except for emergency services and covered services that are not covered under the commercial managed care plan, members enrolled in both a commercial managed care plan and BadgerCare Plus or Wisconsin Medicaid (i.e., state-contracted MCO (managed care organization), fee-for-service) are required to receive services from providers affiliated with the commercial managed care plan. In this situation, providers are required to refer the members to commercial managed care providers. This is necessary because commercial health insurance is always primary to BadgerCare Plus.

BadgerCare Plus and Wisconsin Medicaid will *not* reimburse the provider if the commercial managed care plan denied or would deny payment because a service otherwise covered under the commercial managed care plan was performed by a provider outside the plan. In addition, if a member receives a covered service outside his or her commercial managed care plan, the provider cannot collect payment from the member.

Topic #601

Definition of Commercial Health Insurance

Commericial health insurance is defined as any type of health benefit not obtained from Medicare or Wisconsin Medicaid and BadgerCare Plus. The insurance may be employer-sponsored or privately purchased. Commercial health insurance may be provided on a fee-for-service basis or through a managed care plan.

Topic #602

Discounted Rates

Providers of services that are discounted by commercial health insurance should include the following on claims submitted:

- Their usual and customary charge.
- The appropriate other insurance indicator.
- The amount, if any, actually received from commercial health insurance as the amount paid by commercial health insurance.

Topic #596

Exhausting Commercial Health Insurance Sources

Providers are required to exhaust commercial health insurance sources before submitting claims to ForwardHealth. This is accomplished by following the process indicated in the following steps. Providers are required to prepare complete and accurate documentation of efforts to bill commercial health insurance to substantiate other insurance indicators used on any claim.

Step 1. Determine if the Member Has Commercial Health Insurance
If Wisconsin's EVS (Enrollment Verification System) does not indicate that the member has commercial health insurance, the provider may submit a claim to ForwardHealth unless the provider is otherwise aware of commercial health insurance coverage. **If the member disputes the information as it is indicated in the EVS,** the provider should submit a completed Other Coverage Discrepancy Report (F-1159 (10/08)) form. Unless the service does not require other health insurance billing, the provider should allow at least two weeks before proceeding to Step 2.
Step 2. Determine if the Service Requires Other Health Insurance Billing

If the service requires other health insurance billing, the provider should proceed to Step 3. **If the service does not require other health insurance billing,** the provider should proceed in one of the following ways: • The provider is encouraged to bill commercial health insurance if he or she believes that benefits are available. Reimbursement from commercial health insurance may be greater than the Medicaid-allowed amount. If billing commercial health insurance first, the provider should proceed to Step 3. • The provider may submit a claim without indicating an other insurance indicator on the claim. The provider may not bill ForwardHealth and commercial health insurance simultaneously. Simultaneous billing may constitute fraud and interferes with ForwardHealth's ability to recover prior payments.
Step 3. Identify Assignment of Commercial Health Insurance Benefits
The provider should verify whether commercial health insurance benefits may be assigned to the provider. (As indicated by commercial health insurance, the provider may be required to obtain approval from the member for this assignment of benefits.) The provider should proceed in one of the following ways: • **If the provider is assigned benefits,** the provider should bill commercial health insurance and proceed to Step 4. • **If the member is assigned insurance benefits,** the provider may submit a claim (without billing commercial health insurance) using the appropriate other insurance indicator. If the commercial health insurance reimburses the member, the provider may collect the payment from the member. If the provider receives reimbursement from ForwardHealth and the member, the provider is required to return the lesser amount to ForwardHealth.
Step 4. Bill Commercial Health Insurance and Follow Up
If commercial health insurance denies or partially reimburses the provider for the claim, the provider may proceed to Step 5. **If commercial health insurance does not respond within 45 days,** the provider should follow up the original claim with an inquiry to commercial health insurance to determine the disposition of the claim. If commercial health insurance does not respond within 30 days of the inquiry, the provider may proceed to Step 5.
Step 5. Submit Claim to ForwardHealth
If only partial reimbursement is received, if the correct and complete claim is denied by commercial health insurance, or if commercial health insurance does not respond to the original and follow-up claims, the provider may submit a claim to ForwardHealth using the appropriate other insurance indicator. Commercial remittance information should not be attached to the claim.

Topic #263

Members Unable to Obtain Services Under Managed Care Plan

Sometimes a member's enrollment file shows commercial managed care coverage, but the member is unable to receive services from the managed care plan. Examples of such situations include the following:

- Children enrolled in a commercial managed care plan by a noncustodial parent if the custodial parent refuses to use the coverage.
- Members enrolled in a commercial managed care plan who reside outside the service area of the managed care plan.

- Members enrolled in a commercial managed care plan who enter a nursing facility that limits the member's access to managed care providers.

In these situations, ForwardHealth will pay for services covered by both BadgerCare Plus or Medicaid and the commercial managed care plan even though the services are obtained from providers outside the plan.

When submitting claims for these members, providers should do one of the following:

- Indicate "OI-Y" on paper claims.
- Refer to the Wisconsin PES (Provider Electronic Solutions) Manual or the appropriate 837 (837 Health Care Claim) companion guide to determine the appropriate other insurance indicator for electronic claims.

Topic #604

Non-Reimbursable Commercial Managed Care Services

Providers are not reimbursed for the following:

- Services covered by a commercial managed care plan, except for coinsurance, copayment, or deductible.
- Services for which providers contract with a commercial managed care plan to receive a capitation payment for services.

Topic #605

Other Insurance Indicators

Other insurance indicators are used to report results of commercial health insurance billing and to report when existing insurance was not billed. Providers are required to use these indicators as applicable on professional, institutional, or dental claims submitted for members with commercial health insurance. The intentional misuse of other insurance indicators to obtain inappropriate reimbursement constitutes fraud.

Other insurance indicators identify the status and availability of commercial health insurance. The indicators allow providers to be reimbursed correctly when the following occur:

- Commercial health insurance exists, does not apply, or when, for some valid reason, the provider is unable to obtain such reimbursement by reasonable means.
- Commercial health insurance does not cover the service provided.
- Full or partial payment was made by commercial health insurance.

Providers should not use other insurance indicators when the following occur:

- Wisconsin's EVS (Enrollment Verification System) indicates no commercial health insurance for the DOS (date of service).
- The service does not require other health insurance billing.
- Claim denials from other payers relating to NPI (National Provider Identifier) and related data should be resolved with that payer and not submitted to ForwardHealth. Payments made in these situations may be recouped.

Documentation Requirements

Providers are required to prepare and maintain truthful, accurate, complete, legible, and concise documentation of efforts to bill commercial health insurance sources to substantiate other insurance indicators used on any claim, according to DHS 106.02(9)(a), Wis. Admin. Code.

Topic #603

Services Not Requiring Commercial Health Insurance Billing

Providers are not required to bill commercial health insurance sources before submitting claims for the following:

- Case management services.
- CCS (Comprehensive Community Services).
- Crisis Intervention services.
- CRS (Community Recovery Services).
- CSP (Community Support Program) services.
- Family planning services.
- PNCC (prenatal care coordination) services.
- Preventive pediatric services.
- SMV (specialized medical vehicle) services.

Topic #769

Services Requiring Commercial Health Insurance Billing

If ForwardHealth indicates that the member has other commercial health insurance, the provider is required to bill the following services to commercial health insurance before submitting claims to ForwardHealth:

- Ambulance services, if provided as emergency services.
- Anesthetist services.
- Audiology services, unless provided in a nursing home or SNF (skilled nursing facility).
- Blood bank services.
- Chiropractic services.
- Dental services.
- DME (durable medical equipment) (rental or purchase), prosthetics, and hearing aids if the billed amount is over $10.00 per item.
- Home health services (excluding PC (personal care) services).
- Hospice services.
- Hospital services, including inpatient or outpatient.
- Independent nurse, nurse practitioner, or nurse midwife services.
- Laboratory services.
- Medicare-covered services for members who have Medicare and commercial health insurance.
- Mental health/substance abuse services, including services delivered by providers other than physicians, regardless of POS (place of service).
- PT (physical therapy), OT (occupational therapy), and SLP (speech and language pathology) services, unless provided in a nursing home or SNF.
- Physician assistant services.
- Physician services, including surgery, surgical assistance, anesthesiology, or any service to a hospital inpatient. However, physician services provided to a woman whose primary diagnosis indicates a high-risk pregnancy do not require commercial health insurance billing.
- Pharmacy services for members with verified drug coverage.
- Podiatry services.
- PDN (private duty nursing) services for ventilator-dependent members.
- Radiology services.

- RHC (rural health clinic) services.
- Skilled nursing home care, if any DOS (date of service) is within 30 days of the date of admission. If benefits greater than 30 days are available, the nursing home is required to continue to bill for them until those benefits are exhausted.
- Vision services over $50, unless provided in a home, nursing home, or SNF.

If ForwardHealth indicates the member has other vision coverage, the provider is required to bill the following services to commercial health insurance before submitting claims to ForwardHealth:

- Ophthalmology services.
- Optometrist services.

If ForwardHealth indicates the member has Medicare Supplemental Plan Coverage, the provider is required to bill the following services to commercial health insurance before submitting claims to ForwardHealth:

- Alcohol, betadine, and/or iodine provided by a pharmacy or medical vendor.
- Ambulance services.
- Ambulatory surgery center services.
- Breast reconstruction services.
- Chiropractic services.
- Dental anesthesia services.
- Home health services (excluding PC services).
- Hospital services, including inpatient or outpatient.
- Medicare-covered services.
- Osteopath services.
- Physician services.
- Skilled nursing home care, if any DOS is within 100 days of the date of admission. If benefits greater than 100 days are available, the nursing home is required to continue to bill for them until those benefits are exhausted.

ForwardHealth has identified services requiring Medicare billing.

Medicare

Topic #664

Acceptance of Assignment

In Medicare, "assignment" is a process through which a provider agrees to accept the Medicare-allowed amount as payment in full. A provider who agrees to this amount is said to "accept assignment."

A Medicare-enrolled provider performing a Medicare-covered service for a dual eligible or QMB-Only (Qualified Medicare Beneficiary-Only) member is required to accept assignment of the member's Medicare Part A benefits. Therefore, Wisconsin Medicaid's total reimbursement for a Medicare Part A-covered inpatient hospital service (i.e., any amount paid by other health insurance sources, any copayment or deductible amounts paid by the member, and any amount paid by Wisconsin Medicaid or BadgerCare Plus) may not exceed the Medicare-allowed amount.

Topic #666

Claims Denied for Errors

Medicare claims that were denied for provider billing errors must be corrected and resubmitted to Medicare before the claim may be submitted to ForwardHealth.

Topic #668

Claims Processed by Commercial Insurance That Is Secondary to Medicare

If a crossover claim is also processed by commercial health insurance that is secondary to Medicare (e.g., Medicare supplemental), the claim will not be forwarded to ForwardHealth. After the claim has been processed by the commercial health insurance, the provider should submit a provider-submitted crossover claim to ForwardHealth with the appropriate other insurance indicator.

Topic #670

Claims That Do Not Require Medicare Billing

For services provided to dual eligibles, professional, institutional, and dental claims should be submitted to ForwardHealth without first submitting them to Medicare in the following situations:

- The provider cannot be enrolled in Medicare.
- The service is not allowed by Medicare under any circumstance. Providers should note that claims are denied for services that Medicare has determined are not medically necessary.

In these situations, providers should not indicate a Medicare disclaimer code on the claim.

Topic #704

Claims That Fail to Cross Over

ForwardHealth must be able to identify the billing provider in order to report paid or denied Medicare crossover claims information on the RA (Remittance Advice). Claims with an NPI (National Provider Identifier) that fails to appear on the provider's RA are an indication that there is a problem with the matching and identification of the billing provider and the claims were denied.

ForwardHealth is not able to identify the billing provider on automatic crossover claims submitted by health care providers in the following situations:

- The billing provider's NPI has not been reported to ForwardHealth.
- The taxonomy code has not been reported to ForwardHealth or is not indicated on the automatic crossover claim.
- The billing provider's practice location ZIP+4 code on file with ForwardHealth is required to identify the provider and is not indicated on the automatic crossover claim.

If automatic crossover claims do not appear on the RA after 30 days of the Medicare processing date, providers are required to resubmit the claim directly to ForwardHealth using the NPI that was reported to ForwardHealth as the primary NPI. Additionally, the taxonomy code and the ZIP+4 code of the practice location on file with ForwardHealth are required when additional data is needed to identify the provider.

Topic #667

Claims for Services Denied by Medicare

If Medicare denies or recoups payment for services provided to dual eligibles that are covered by BadgerCare Plus or Wisconsin Medicaid, the provider may submit a claim for those services directly to ForwardHealth. To allow payment by ForwardHealth in this situation, providers are encouraged to follow BadgerCare Plus and Medicaid requirements (e.g., request PA (prior authorization) before providing the service for covered services that require PA). If the requirements are followed, ForwardHealth may reimburse for the service up to the allowed amount (less any payments made by other health insurance sources).

Topic #2166

Coverage Determination Software

CDS (coverage determination software) helps home health and personal care providers identify when they should bill Medicare before billing Wisconsin Medicaid for dual entitlees. Agencies are required to use the CDS for members who are dual eligibles. Providers are required to use the CDS as follows:

- Use the CDS before the agency provides Medicaid services.
- Use the CDS when a member's condition or status changes, potentially making the member eligible for Medicare coverage.
- Keep a printed copy of the results of the software's determination on file and on the agency's premises for audit purposes.

It is important to use CDS when one agency is sharing a case with another agency. If skilled care is provided by another agency, the member may be eligible for Medicare home health care through that agency. In that situation, a Medicare-certified provider is required to bill Medicare for those services covered by Medicare.

Medicaid Is Payer of Last Resort

Wisconsin Medicaid is the payer of last resort for any Medicaid-covered service. Federal law prohibits home health and personal care services that are covered by Medicare to be paid by Medicaid. The CMS (Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services) accepts the CDS-printed results as documentation that Medicaid is the payer of last resort. If an agency submits claims to Wisconsin Medicaid for services that Medicare pays home health agencies to provide, Wisconsin Medicaid will audit and recoup Medicaid payments.

Although the CDS does not ask questions about a member's other insurance coverage, providers are required to exhaust all existing other health insurance sources before submitting claims to Wisconsin Medicaid.

Personal Care-Only Agencies

Even though agencies certified to provide only personal care cannot bill Medicare, they are required to still use CDS. Wisconsin Medicaid will not reimburse for personal care services which would be reimbursed by Medicare. Personal care-only agencies are not Medicare-enrolled providers. Therefore, these agencies are required to notify all personal care members about Medicare coverage and do the following:

- Provide the member with the Notice to Wisconsin Medicaid Members Regarding This Personal Care Agency form.
- Have the member or legally responsible person review and sign the form.
- Give the member a copy and keep the original form in the member's file.

If the member is eligible for Medicare home health services, and the agency is not certified to provide home health services, the provider is required to do one of the following:

- Coordinate care with a Medicare-certified home health agency so that the agency provides only those personal-care hours that exceed Medicare's home health coverage.
- Discharge the member.

Topic #671

Crossover Claims

A Medicare crossover claim is a Medicare-allowed claim for a dual eligible or QMB-Only (Qualified Medicare Beneficiary-Only) member sent to ForwardHealth for payment of coinsurance, copayment, and deductible.

Submit Medicare claims first, as appropriate, to one of the following:

- Medicare Part A fiscal intermediary.
- Medicare Part B carrier.
- Medicare DME (durable medical equipment) regional carrier.
- Medicare Advantage Plan.
- Railroad Retirement Board carrier (also known as the Railroad Medicare carrier).

There are two types of crossover claims based on who submits them:

- Automatic crossover claims.
- Provider-submitted crossover claims.

Automatic Crossover Claims

An automatic crossover claim is a claim that Medicare automatically forwards to ForwardHealth by the COBC (Coordination of Benefits Contractor).

Claims will be forwarded if the following occur:

- Medicare has identified that the services were provided to a dual eligible or a QMB-Only member.
- The claim is for a member who is not enrolled in a Medicare Advantage Plan.

Provider-Submitted Crossover Claims

A provider-submitted crossover claim is a Medicare-allowed claim that a provider directly submits to ForwardHealth when the Medicare claim did not automatically cross over. Providers should submit a provider-submitted crossover claim in the following situations:

- The automatic crossover claim does not appear on the ForwardHealth RA (Remittance Advice) within 30 days of the Medicare processing date.
- The automatic crossover claim is denied and additional information may allow payment.
- The claim is for a member who is enrolled in Medicare and commercial health insurance that is secondary to Medicare (e.g., Medicare Supplemental).
- The claim is for a member who was not enrolled in BadgerCare Plus or Wisconsin Medicaid at the time the service was submitted to Medicare for payment, but the member was retroactively determined enrolled in BadgerCare Plus or Medicaid.
- The claim is for a member who is enrolled in a Medicare Advantage Plan.

When submitting crossover claims directly, the following additional data may be required on the claim to identify the billing and rendering provider:

- The NPI (National Provider Identifier) that ForwardHealth has on file for the provider.
- The taxonomy code that ForwardHealth has on file for the provider.
- The ZIP+4 code that corresponds to the practice location address on file with ForwardHealth.

Providers may initiate a provider-submitted claim in one of the following ways:

- DDE (Direct Data Entry) through the ForwardHealth Provider Portal.
- 837I (837 Health Care Claim: Institutional) transaction, as applicable.
- 837P (837 Health Care Claim: Professional) transaction, as applicable.
- PES (Provider Electronic Solution) software.
- Paper claim form.

Topic #672

Definition of Medicare

Medicare is a health insurance program for people 65 years of age or older, for certain people with disabilities under age 65, and for people with ESRD (end-stage renal disease). Medicare is a federal government program created under Title XVIII of the Social Security Act.

Medicare coverage is divided into four parts:

- Part A (i.e., Hospital Insurance). Part A helps to pay for medically necessary services, including inpatient hospital services, services provided in critical access hospitals (i.e., small facilities that give limited inpatient services and outpatient services to beneficiaries who reside in rural areas), services provided in skilled nursing facilities, hospice services, and some home health services.
- Part B (i.e., Supplemental Medical Insurance). Part B helps to pay for medically necessary services, including physician

services, outpatient hospital services, and some other services that Part A does not cover (such as PT (physical therapy) services, OT (occupational therapy) services, and some home health services).
- Part C (i.e., Medicare Advantage).
- Part D (i.e., drug benefit).

Topic #684

Dual Eligibles

Dual eligibles are members who are eligible for coverage from Medicare (either Medicare Part A, Part B, or both) *and* Wisconsin Medicaid or BadgerCare Plus.

Dual eligibles may receive coverage for the following:

- Medicare monthly premiums for Part A, Part B, or both.
- Coinsurance, copayment, and deductible for Medicare-allowed services.
- BadgerCare Plus- or Medicaid-covered services, even those that are not allowed by Medicare.

Topic #669

Exhausting Medicare Coverage

Providers are required to exhaust Medicare coverage before submitting claims to ForwardHealth. This is accomplished by following these instructions. Providers are required to prepare complete and accurate documentation of efforts to bill Medicare to substantiate Medicare disclaimer codes used on any claim.

Adjustment Request for Crossover Claim
The provider may submit a paper or electronic adjustment request. If submitting a paper Adjustment/Reconsideration Request (F-13046 (10/08)) form, the provider should attach a copy of Medicare remittance information. (If this is a Medicare reconsideration, copies of the original and subsequent Medicare remittance information should be attached.)

Provider-Submitted Crossover Claim
The provider may submit a provider-submitted crossover claim in the following situations: • The claim is for a member who is enrolled in a Medicare Advantage Plan. • The automatic crossover claim is not processed by ForwardHealth within 30 days of the Medicare processing date. • ForwardHealth denied the automatic crossover claim and additional information may allow payment. • The claim is for a member who is enrolled in Medicare and commercial health insurance that is secondary to Medicare (e.g., Medicare Supplemental). • The claim is for a member who was not enrolled in BadgerCare Plus at the time the service was submitted to Medicare for payment, but the member was retroactively enrolled.* When submitting provider-submitted crossover claims, the provider is required to follow all claims submission requirements in addition to the following: • For electronic claims, indicate the Medicare payment. • For paper claims, the provider is required to the do the following: ◦ Attach Medicare's remittance information and refrain from indicating the Medicare payment. ◦ Indicate "MMC (Medicare Managed Care)" in the upper right corner of the claim for services provided to members enrolled in a Medicare Advantage Plan.

When submitting provider-submitted crossover claims for members enrolled in Medicare and commercial health insurance that is secondary to Medicare, the provider is also required to do the following:

- Refrain from submitting the claim to ForwardHealth until after the claim has been processed by the commercial health insurance.
- Indicate the appropriate other insurance indicator.

* In this situation, a timely filing appeals request may be submitted if the services provided are beyond the claims submission deadline. The provider is required to indicate "retroactive enrollment" on the provider-submitted crossover claim and submit the claim with the Timely Filing Appeals Request (F-13047 (10/08)) form. The provider is required to submit the timely filing appeals request within 180 days from the date the backdated enrollment was added to the member's file.

Claim for Services Denied by Medicare

When Medicare denies payment for a service provided to a dual eligible that is covered by BadgerCare Plus or Wisconsin Medicaid, the provider may proceed as follows:

- Bill commercial health insurance, if applicable.
- Submit a claim to ForwardHealth using the appropriate Medicare disclaimer code. If applicable, the provider should indicate the appropriate other insurance indicator. A copy of Medicare remittance information should not be attached to the claim.

Crossover Claim Previously Reimbursed

A crossover claim may have been previously reimbursed by Wisconsin Medicaid when one of the following has occured:

- Medicare reconsiders services that were previously not allowed.
- Medicare retroactively determines a member eligible.

In these situations, the provider should proceed as follows:

- Refund or adjust Medicaid payments for services previously reimbursed by Wisconsin Medicaid.
- Bill Medicare for the services and follow ForwardHealth's procedures for submitting crossover claims.

Topic #687

Medicare Advantage

Medicare services may be provided to dual eligibles or QMB-Only (Qualified Medicare Beneficiary-Only) members on a fee-for-service basis or through a Medicare Advantage Plan. Medicare Advantage was formerly known as Medicare Managed Care (MMC), Medicare + Choice (MPC), or Medicare Cost (Cost). Medicare Advantage Plans have a special arrangement with the federal CMS (Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services) and agree to provide all Medicare benefits to Medicare beneficiaries for a fee. Providers may contact Medicare for a list of Medicare Advantage Plans in Wisconsin and the insurance companies with which they are associated.

Paper Crossover Claims

Providers are required to indicate "MMC" in the upper right corner of provider-submitted crossover claims for services provided to members enrolled in a Medicare Advantage Plan. The claim must be submitted with a copy of the Medicare EOMB

(Explanation of Medicare Benefits). This is necessary in order for ForwardHealth to distinguish whether the claim has been processed as commercial managed care or Medicare managed care.

Reimbursement Limits

Reimbursement limits on Medicare Part B services are applied to all Medicare Advantage Plan copayment amounts in accordance with federal law. This may reduce reimbursement amounts in some cases.

Topic #688

Medicare Disclaimer Codes

Medicare disclaimer codes are used to ensure consistent reporting of common billing situations for dual eligibles. Refer to claim instructions for Medicare disclaimer codes and their descriptions. The intentional misuse of Medicare disclaimer codes to obtain inappropriate reimbursement from ForwardHealth constitutes fraud.

Medicare disclaimer codes identify the status and availability of Medicare benefits. The code allows a provider to be reimbursed correctly by ForwardHealth when Medicare benefits exist or when, for some valid reason, the provider is unable to obtain such benefits by reasonable means.

When submitting a claim for a covered service that was denied by Medicare, providers should resubmit the claim *directly* to ForwardHealth using the appropriate Medicare disclaimer code.

Documentation Requirements

Providers are required to prepare and maintain truthful, accurate, complete, legible, and concise documentation of efforts to bill Medicare to substantiate Medicare disclaimer codes used on any claim, according to DHS 106.02(9)(a), Wis. Admin. Code.

Topic #689

Medicare Enrollment

Some providers may become retroactively enrolled in Medicare. Providers should contact Medicare for more information about retroactive enrollment.

Services for Dual Eligibles

As stated in DHS 106.03(7), Wis. Admin. Code, a provider is required to be enrolled in Medicare if both of the following are true:

- He or she provides a Medicare Part A service to a dual eligible.
- He or she can be enrolled in Medicare.

If a provider can be enrolled in Medicare but chooses *not* to be, the provider is required to refer dual eligibles to another certified provider who is enrolled in Medicare.

Services for Qualified Medicare Beneficiary-Only Members

Because QMB-Only (Qualified Medicare Beneficiary-Only) members receive coverage from Wisconsin Medicaid only for services allowed by Medicare, providers who are not enrolled in Medicare are required to refer QMB-Only members to another

certified provider who is enrolled in Medicare.

Topic #8457

Medicare Late Fees

Medicare assesses a late fee when providers submit a claim after Medicare's claim submission deadline has passed. Claims that cross over to ForwardHealth with a Medicare late fee are denied for being out of balance. To identify these claims, providers should reference the Medicare remittance information and check for ANSI (American National Standards Institute) code B4 (late filing penalty), which indicates a late fee amount deducted by Medicare.

ForwardHealth considers a late fee part of Medicare's paid amount for the claim because Medicare would have paid the additional amount if the claim had been submitted before the Medicare claim submission deadline. ForwardHealth will not reimburse providers for late fees assessed by Medicare.

Resubmitting Medicare Crossover Claims with Late Fees

Providers may resubmit to ForwardHealth crossover claims denied because the claim was out of balance due to a Medicare late fee. The claim may be submitted on paper, submitted electronically using the ForwardHealth Portal, or submitted as an 837 (837 Health Care Claim) transaction.

Paper Claim Submissions

When resubmitting a crossover claim on paper, include a copy of the Medicare remittance information so ForwardHealth can determine the amount of the late fee and apply the correct reimbursement amount.

Electronic Claim Submissions

When resubmitting a claim via the Portal or an electronic 837 transaction (including PES (Provider Electronic Solutions) software submissions), providers are required to balance the claim's paid amount to reflect the amount Medicare would have paid before Medicare subtracted a late fee. This is the amount that ForwardHealth considers when adjudicating the claim. To balance the claim's paid amount, add the late fee to the paid amount reported by Medicare. Enter this amount in the Medicare paid amount field.

For example, the Medicare remittance information reports the following amounts for a crossover claim:

- Billed Amount: $110.00.
- Allowed Amount: $100.00.
- Coinsurance: $20.00.
- Late Fee: $5.00.
- Paid Amount: $75.00.

Since ForwardHealth considers the late fee part of the paid amount, providers should add the late fee to the paid amount reported on the Medicare remittance. In the example above, add the late fee of $5.00 to the paid amount of $75.00 for a total of $80.00. The claim should report the Medicare paid amount as $80.00.

Topic #690

Medicare Retroactive Eligibility

If a member becomes retroactively eligible for Medicare, the provider is required to refund or adjust any payments for the retroactive period. The provider is required to then bill Medicare for the services and follow ForwardHealth's procedures for submitting crossover claims. Claims found to be in conflict with this program requirement will be recouped.

Topic #692

Qualified Medicare Beneficiary-Only Members

QMB-Only (Qualified Medicare Beneficiary-Only) members are a limited benefit category of Medicaid members. They are eligible for coverage from Medicare (either Part A, Part B, or both) *and* limited coverage from Wisconsin Medicaid. QMB-Only members receive Medicaid coverage for the following:

- Medicare monthly premiums for Part A, Part B, or both.
- Coinsurance, copayment, and deductible for Medicare-allowed services.

QMB-Only members do not receive coverage from Wisconsin Medicaid for services not allowed by Medicare. Therefore, Wisconsin Medicaid will not reimburse for services if either of the following occur:

- Medicare does not cover the service.
- The provider is not enrolled in Medicare.

Topic #686

Reimbursement for Crossover Claims

Professional Crossover Claims

State law limits reimbursement for coinsurance and copayment of Medicare Part B-covered services provided to dual eligibles and QMB-Only (Qualified Medicare Beneficiary-Only) members.

Total payment for a Medicare Part B-covered service (i.e., any amount paid by other health insurance sources, any copayment or spenddown amounts paid by the member, and any amount paid by Wisconsin Medicaid) may not exceed the Medicare-allowed amount. Therefore, Medicaid reimbursement for coinsurance or copayment of a Medicare Part B-covered service is the lesser of the following:

- The *Medicare*-allowed amount less any amount paid by other health insurance sources and any copayment or spenddown amounts paid by the member.
- The *Medicaid*-allowed amount less any amount paid by other health insurance sources and any copayment or spenddown amounts paid by the member.

The following table provides three examples of how the limitations are applied.

Reimbursement for Coinsurance or Copayment of Medicare Part B-Covered Services			
Explanation	**Example**		
	1	**2**	**3**
Provider's billed amount	$120	$120	$120
Medicare-allowed amount	$100	$100	$100
Medicaid-allowed amount (e.g., maximum allowable fee, rate-per-visit)	$90	$110	$75
Medicare payment	$80	$80	$80

Medicaid payment	$10	$20	$0

Outpatient Hospital Crossover Claims

Detail-level information is used to calculate pricing for all outpatient hospital crossover claims and adjustments. Details that Medicare paid in full or that Medicare denied in full will not be considered when pricing outpatient hospital crossover claims. Medicare deductibles are paid in full.

Providers may use the following steps to determine how reimbursement was calculated:

1. Sum all of the detail Medicare-paid amounts to establish the Claim Medicare-paid amount.
2. Sum all of the detail Medicare coinsurance or copayment amounts to establish the Claim Medicare coinsurance or copayment amount.
3. Multiply the number of DOS (dates of service) by the provider's rate-per-visit. For example, $100 (rate-per-visit) x 3 (DOS) = $300. This is the Medicaid gross allowed amount.
4. Compare the Medicaid gross allowed amount calculated in step 3 to the Claim Medicare paid amount calculated in step 1. If the Medicaid gross allowed amount is less than or equal to the Medicare paid amount, Wisconsin Medicaid will make no further payment to the provider for the claim. If the Medicaid gross allowed amount is greater than the Medicare-paid amount, the difference establishes the Medicaid net allowed amount.
5. Compare the Medicaid net allowed amount calculated in step 4 and the Medicare coinsurance or copayment amount calculated in step 2. Wisconsin Medicaid reimburses the lower of the two amounts.

Inpatient Hospital Services

State law limits reimbursement for coinsurance, copayment and deductible of Medicare Part A-covered inpatient hospital services for dual eligibles and QMB-Only members.

Wisconsin Medicaid's total reimbursement for a Medicare Part A-covered inpatient hospital service (i.e., any amount paid by other health insurance sources, any copayment or deductible amounts paid by the member, and any amount paid by Wisconsin Medicaid or BadgerCare Plus) may not exceed the Medicare-allowed amount. Therefore, Medicaid reimbursement for coinsurance, copayment, and deductible of a Medicare Part A-covered inpatient hospital service is the *lesser* of the following:

- The difference between the *Medicaid*-allowed amount and the *Medicare*-paid amount.
- The sum of Medicare coinsurance, copayment, and deductible.

The following table provides three examples of how the limitations are applied.

Reimbursement for Medicare Part A-Covered Inpatient Hospital Services Provided To Dual Eligibles			
Explanation	**Example**		
	1	**2**	**3**
Provider's billed amount	$1,200	$1,200	$1,200
Medicare-allowed amount	$1,000	$1,000	$1,000
Medicaid-allowed amount (e.g., diagnosis-related group or per diem)	$1,200	$750	$750
Medicare-paid amount	$1,000	$800	$500
Difference between Medicaid-allowed amount and Medicare-paid amount	$200	($-50)	$250
Medicare coinsurance, copayment and deductible	$0	$200	$500
Medicaid payment	$0	$0	$250

Topic #770

Services Requiring Medicare Billing

If Wisconsin's EVS (Enrollment Verification System) indicates Medicare + Choice, the provider is required to bill the following services to the Medicare Advantage Plan before submitting claims to ForwardHealth:

- Ambulance services.
- Ambulatory surgery center services.
- Chiropractic services.
- Dental anesthesia services.
- Home health services (excluding PC (personal care) services).
- Hospital services, including inpatient or outpatient.
- Medicare-covered services.
- Osteopath services.
- Physician services.

If the EVS indicates Medicare Cost, the provider is required to bill the following services to the Medicare Advantage Plan before submitting claims to ForwardHealth:

- Ambulance services.
- Home health services (excluding PC services).
- Medicare-covered services.

ForwardHealth has identified services requiring commercial health insurance billing.

Other Coverage Information

Topic #4940

After Reporting Discrepancies

After receiving an Other Coverage Discrepancy Report (F-1159 (10/08)), ForwardHealth confirms the information and updates the member files.

It may take up to two weeks to process and update the member's enrollment information. During that time, ForwardHealth verifies the insurance information submitted and adds, changes, or removes the member's other coverage information as appropriate. If verification contradicts the provider's information, a written explanation is sent to the provider. The provider should wait to submit claims until one of the following occurs:

- The provider verifies through Wisconsin's EVS (Enrollment Verification System) that the member's other coverage information has been updated.
- The provider receives a written explanation.

Topic #4941

Coverage Discrepancies

Maintaining complete and accurate insurance information may result in fewer claim denials. Providers are an important source of other coverage information as they are frequently the first to identify coverage discrepancies.

Topic #609

Insurance Disclosure Program

ForwardHealth receives policyholder files from most major commercial health insurance companies on a monthly basis. ForwardHealth then compares this information with member enrollment files. If a member has commercial health insurance, ForwardHealth revises the member's enrollment file with the most current information.

The insurance company is solely responsible for the accuracy of this data. If the insurance company provides information that is not current, ForwardHealth's files may be inaccurate.

Topic #610

Maintaining Accurate and Current Records

ForwardHealth uses many sources of information to keep accurate and current records of a member's other coverage, including the following:

- Insurance Disclosure program.
- Providers who submit an Other Coverage Discrepancy Report (F-1159 (10/08)) form.
- Member certifying agencies.

- Members.

The information about a member's other health insurance coverage in the member files may be incomplete or incorrect if ForwardHealth received inaccurate information from the other health insurance source or the member's certifying agency.

Topic #4942

Reporting Discrepancies

Providers are encouraged to report discrepancies to ForwardHealth by submitting the Other Coverage Discrepancy Report (F-1159 (10/08)) form. Providers are asked to complete the form in the following situations:

- The provider is aware of other coverage information that is not indicated by Wisconsin's EVS (Enrollment Verification System).
- The provider received other coverage information that contradicts the information indicated by the EVS.
- A claim is denied because the EVS indicates commercial managed care coverage but the coverage is not available to the member (e.g., the member does not live in the plan's service area).

Providers should not use the Other Coverage Discrepancy Report form to update any information regarding a member's coverage in a state-contracted MCO (managed care organization).

When reporting discrepancies, providers should include photocopies of current insurance cards and any available documentation, such as remittance information and benefit coverage dates or denials.

Provider-Based Billing

Topic #660

Purpose of Provider-Based Billing

The purpose of provider-based billing is to reduce costs by ensuring that providers receive maximum reimbursement from other health insurance sources that are primary to BadgerCare Plus or Wisconsin Medicaid. For example, a provider-based billing claim is created when BadgerCare Plus or Wisconsin Medicaid pays a claim and later discovers that other coverage exists or was made retroactive. Since BadgerCare Plus and Wisconsin Medicaid benefits are secondary to those provided by most other health insurance sources, providers are required to seek reimbursement from the primary payer, as stated in DHS 106.03(7), Wis. Admin. Code.

Topic #658

Questions About Provider-Based Billing

For questions about provider-based billing claims that are within the 120-day limit, providers may call the Coordination of Benefits Unit at (608) 221-4746. Providers may fax the corresponding Provider-Based Billing Summary to (608) 221-4567 at the time of the telephone call.

For questions about provider-based billing claims that are *not* within the 120-day limit, providers may call Provider Services.

Topic #661

Receiving Notification

When a provider-based billing claim is created, the provider will receive the following:

- A notification letter.
- A Provider-Based Billing Summary. The Summary lists each claim from which a provider-based billing claim was created. The summary also indicates the corresponding primary payer for each claim.
- Provider-based billing claim(s). For each claim indicated on the Provider-Based Billing Summary, the provider will receive a prepared provider-based billing claim. This claim may be used to bill the other health insurance source; the claim includes all of the other health insurance source's information that is available.

If a member has coverage through multiple other health insurance sources, the provider may receive additional Provider-Based Billing Summaries and provider-based billing claims for each other health insurance source that is on file.

Topic #659

Responding to ForwardHealth After 120 Days

If a response is not received within 120 days, the amount originally paid by BadgerCare Plus or Wisconsin Medicaid will be withheld from future payments. This is not a final action. To receive payment after the original payment has been withheld, providers are required to submit the required documentation to the appropriate address as indicated in the following tables. For

DOS (dates of service) that are within claims submission deadlines, providers should refer to the first table. For DOS that are beyond claims submission deadlines, providers should refer to the second table.

Within Claims Submission Deadlines		
Scenario	**Documentation Requirement**	**Submission Address**
The provider discovers through the EVS (Wisconsin's Enrollment Verification System) that ForwardHealth has removed or enddated the other health insurance coverage from the member's file.	A claim according to normal claims submission procedures (do *not* use the prepared provider-based billing claim).	ForwardHealth Claims and Adjustments 6406 Bridge Rd Madison WI 53784-0002
The provider discovers that the member's other coverage information (i.e., enrollment dates) reported by the EVS is invalid.	• An Other Coverage Discrepancy Report (F-1159 (10/08)) form. • A claim according to normal claims submission procedures after verifying that the member's other coverage information has been updated by using the EVS (do *not* use the prepared provider-based billing claim).	Send the Other Coverage Discrepancy Report form to the address indicated on the form. Send the claim to the following address: ForwardHealth Claims and Adjustments 6406 Bridge Rd Madison WI 53784-0002
The other health insurance source reimburses or partially reimburses the provider-based billing claim.	• A claim according to normal claims submission procedures (do *not* use the prepared provider-based billing claim). • The appropriate other insurance indicator. • The amount received from the other health insurance source.	ForwardHealth Claims and Adjustments 6406 Bridge Rd Madison WI 53784-0002
The other health insurance source denies the provider-based billing claim.	• A claim according to normal claims submission procedures (do *not* use the prepared provider-based billing claim). • The appropriate other insurance indicator or Medicare disclaimer code.	ForwardHealth Claims and Adjustments 6406 Bridge Rd Madison WI 53784-0002
The commercial health insurance carrier does not respond to an initial *and* follow-up provider-based billing claim.	• A claim according to normal claims submission procedures (do *not* use the prepared provider-based billing claim). • The appropriate other insurance indicator.	ForwardHealth Claims and Adjustments 6406 Bridge Rd Madison WI 53784-0002

Beyond Claims Submission Deadlines		
Scenario	**Documentation Requirement**	**Submission Address**
The provider discovers through the EVS that ForwardHealth has removed or enddated the other health insurance coverage from the member's file.	• A claim (do *not* use the prepared provider-based billing claim). • A Timely Filing Appeals Request (F-13047 (10/08)) form according to normal timely filing appeals procedures.	ForwardHealth Timely Filing Ste 50 6406 Bridge Rd Madison WI 53784-0050
The provider discovers that the	• An Other Coverage Discrepancy Report form.	Send the Other Coverage

member's other coverage information (i.e., enrollment dates) reported by the EVS is invalid.	• *After* using the EVS to verify that the member's other coverage information has been updated, include both of the following: ○ A claim (do *not* use the prepared provider-based billing claim.) ○ A Timely Filing Appeals Request form according to normal timely filing appeals procedures.	Discrepancy Report form to the address indicated on the form. Send the timely filing appeals request to the following address: ForwardHealth Timely Filing Ste 50 6406 Bridge Rd Madison WI 53784-0050
The commercial health insurance carrier reimburses or partially reimburses the provider-based billing claim.	• A claim (do *not* use the prepared provider-based billing claim). • Indicate the appropriate other insurance indicator. • Indicate the amount received from the commercial insurance. • A Timely Filing Appeals Request form according to normal timely filing appeals procedures.	ForwardHealth Timely Filing Ste 50 6406 Bridge Rd Madison WI 53784-0050
The other health insurance source denies the provider-based billing claim.	• A claim (do *not* use the prepared provider-based billing claim). • The appropriate other insurance indicator or Medicare disclaimer code. • A Timely Filing Appeals Request form according to normal timely filing appeals procedures. • The Provider-Based Billing Summary. • Documentation of the denial, including any of the following: ○ Remittance information from the other health insurance source. ○ A written statement from the other health insurance source identifying the reason for denial. ○ A letter from the other health insurance source indicating a policy termination date that proves that the other health insurance source paid the member. ○ A copy of the insurance card or other documentation from the other health insurance source that indicates that the policy provides limited coverage such as pharmacy, dental, or Medicare supplemental coverage only. • The DOS, other health insurance source, billed amount, and procedure code indicated on the documentation must match the information on the Provider-Based Billing Summary.	ForwardHealth Timely Filing Ste 50 6406 Bridge Rd Madison WI 53784-0050
The commercial health insurance carrier does not respond to an initial and follow-up provider-based billing claim.	• A claim (do *not* use the prepared provider-based billing claim). • The appropriate other insurance indicator. • A Timely Filing Appeals Request form according	ForwardHealth Timely Filing Ste 50 6406 Bridge Rd

	to normal timely filing appeals procedures.	Madison WI 53784-0050

Topic #662

Responding to ForwardHealth Within 120 Days

Within 120 days of the date on the Provider-Based Billing Summary, the Provider-Based Billing Unit must receive documentation verifying that one of the following occurred:

- The provider discovers through the EVS (Enrollment Verification System) that ForwardHealth has removed or enddated the other health insurance coverage from the member's file.
- The provider verifies that the member's other coverage information reported by ForwardHealth is invalid.
- The other health insurance source reimbursed or partially reimbursed the provider-based billing claim.
- The other health insurance source denied the provider-based billing claim.
- The other health insurance source failed to respond to an initial *and* follow-up provider-based billing claim.

When responding to ForwardHealth within 120 days, providers are required to submit the required documentation to the appropriate address as indicated in the following table. If the provider's response to ForwardHealth does not include all of the required documentation, the information will be returned to the provider. The provider is required to send the complete information within the original 120-day limit.

Scenario	Documentation Requirement	Submission Address
The provider discovers through the EVS that ForwardHealth has removed or enddated the other health insurance coverage from the member's file.	• The Provider-Based Billing Summary. • Indication that the EVS no longer reports the member's other coverage.	ForwardHealth Provider-Based Billing PO Box 6220 Madison WI 53716-0220 Fax (608) 221-4567

The provider discovers that the member's other coverage information (i.e., enrollment dates) reported by the EVS is invalid.	• The Provider-Based Billing Summary.
	• One of the following:
	  ○ The name of the person with whom the provider spoke and the member's correct other coverage information.
	  ○ A printed page from an enrollment Web site containing the member's correct other coverage information.
		ForwardHealth
		Provider-Based Billing
		PO Box 6220
		Madison WI 53716-0220
		Fax (608) 221-4567

The other health insurance source reimburses or partially reimburses the provider-based billing claim.	• The Provider-Based Billing Summary. • A copy of the remittance information received from the other health insurance source. • The DOS (date of service), other health insurance source, billed amount, and procedure code indicated on the other insurer's remittance information must match the information on the Provider-Based Billing Summary. *Note:* In this situation, ForwardHealth will initiate an adjustment if the amount of the other health insurance payment does not exceed the allowed amount (even though an adjustment request should not be submitted). However, providers (except nursing home and hospital providers) may issue a cash refund. Providers who choose this option should include a refund check but should not use the Claim Refund form.	ForwardHealth Provider-Based Billing PO Box 6220 Madison WI 53716-0220 Fax (608) 221-4567

The other health insurance source denies the provider-based billing claim.	• The Provider-Based Billing Summary.
	• Documentation of the denial, including any of the following:
	  ○ Remittance information from the other health insurance source.
	  ○ A letter from the other health insurance source indicating a policy termination date that precedes the DOS.
	  ○ Documentation indicating that the other health insurance source paid the member.
	  ○ A copy of the insurance card or other documentation from the other health insurance source that indicates the policy provides limited coverage such as pharmacy, dental, or Medicare supplemental coverage.
	• The DOS, other health insurance source, billed amount, and procedure code indicated on the documentation must match the information on the Provider-Based Billing Summary.
		ForwardHealth
		Provider-Based Billing
		PO Box 6220
		Madison WI 53716-0220
		Fax (608) 221-4567

The other health insurance source fails to respond to the initial *and* follow-up provider-based billing claim.	• The Provider-Based Billing Summary. • Indication that no response was received by the other health insurance source. • Indication of the dates that the initial and follow-up provider-based billing claims were submitted to the other health insurance source.	ForwardHealth Provider-Based Billing PO Box 6220 Madison WI 53716-0220 Fax (608) 221-4567

Topic #663

Submitting Provider-Based Billing Claims

For each provider-based billing claim, the provider is required to send a claim to the appropriate other health insurance source. The provider may use the claim prepared by ForwardHealth or produce his or her own claim. If the other health insurance source requires information beyond what is indicated on the prepared claim, the provider should add that information to the claim. The providers should also attach additional documentation (e.g., Medicare's remittance information) if required by the other health insurance source.

Reimbursement for Services Provided for Accident Victims

Topic #657

Billing Options

Providers may choose to seek payment from either of the following:

- Civil liabilities (e.g., injuries from an automobile accident).
- Worker's compensation.

However, as stated in DHS 106.03(8), Wis. Admin. Code, BadgerCare Plus and Wisconsin Medicaid will not reimburse providers if they receive payment from either of these sources.

The provider may choose a different option for each DOS (date of service). For example, the decision to submit one claim to ForwardHealth does not mean that all claims pertaining to the member's accident must be submitted to ForwardHealth.

Topic #829

Points of Consideration

Providers should consider the time and costs involved when choosing whether to submit a claim to ForwardHealth or seek payment from a settlement.

Time

Providers are not required to seek payment from worker's compensation or civil liabilities, rather than seeking reimbursement from BadgerCare Plus or Wisconsin Medicaid, because of the time involved to settle these cases. While some worker's compensation cases and certain civil liability cases may be settled quickly, others may take several years before settlement is reached.

Costs

Providers may receive more than the allowed amount from the settlement; however, in some cases the settlement may not be enough to cover all costs involved.

Topic #826

Seeking Payment from Settlement

After choosing to seek payment from a settlement, the provider may *instead* submit the claim to ForwardHealth as long as it is submitted before the claims submission deadline. For example, the provider may instead choose to submit the claim to ForwardHealth because no reimbursement was received from the liability settlement or because a settlement has not yet been reached.

Topic #827

Submitting Claims to ForwardHealth

If the provider chooses to submit a claim to ForwardHealth, he or she may not seek further payment for that claim in any liability settlement that may follow. Once a claim is submitted to ForwardHealth, the provider may not decide to seek reimbursement for that claim in a liability settlement. Refunding payment and then seeking payment from a settlement may constitute a felony. If a settlement occurs, ForwardHealth retains the sole right to recover medical costs.

Providers are required to indicate when services are provided to an accident victim on claims submitted to ForwardHealth. If the member has other health insurance coverage, the provider is required to exhaust the other health insurance sources before submitting the claim to ForwardHealth.

Covered and Noncovered Services

4

Archive Date:01/03/2012

Covered and Noncovered Services:Codes

Topic #830

Diagnosis Codes

All diagnosis codes indicated on claims (and PA (prior authorization) requests when applicable) must be the most specific ICD-9-CM (International Classification of Diseases, Ninth Revision, Clinical Modification) diagnosis code. Providers are responsible for keeping current with diagnosis code changes. Etiology and manifestation codes may not be used as a primary diagnosis.

The required use of valid diagnosis codes includes the use of the most specific diagnosis code. Valid, most specific diagnosis codes may have up to five digits. Claims submitted with three- or four-digit codes where four- and five-digit codes are available may be denied.

Topic #2164

All diagnosis codes indicated on claims (and PA requests when applicable) must be from the ICD-9-CM (International Classification of Diseases, Ninth Revision, Clinical Modification) coding structure. Etiology ("E") and manifestation ("M") codes may not be used as a primary diagnosis. Providers are responsible for submitting PA requests and claims using the most current diagnosis codes. Claims submitted using out-dated or incorrect codes will be returned to the provider.

All claims for services provided to ventilator-dependent members must list ICD-9-CM code V46.11 (Dependence on respirator, status) as the primary diagnosis code on the claim form. Wisconsin Medicaid will not reimburse claims for respiratory services without this code.

Home health services claims that do not include services provided to a ventilator-dependent member do not require a specific diagnosis code.

Topic #2163

Modifiers

Home health providers are required to use nationally recognized modifiers with procedure codes on PA (prior authorization) requests and claims forms. No more than four modifiers can be entered for each day on the claim form.

Start-of-Shift Modifiers

Providers are required to use state-defined start-of-shift modifiers on claims. Start-of-shift modifiers are not required on PA requests.

Providers should choose the start-of-shift modifier that most closely represents the time each shift began. For each day, enter the modifiers in the order of occurrence. If a single shift spans over midnight from one day to the next, providers are required to use two start-of-shift modifiers.

Professional Status Modifiers

Home health agencies that provide PDN (private duty nursing) services to ventilator-dependent members are required to use one of two nationally recognized modifiers to indicate a nurse's professional status. Professional status modifiers are required on PA

requests and claims.

Topic #2162

Place of Service

When submitting PA (prior authorization) requests, providers are required to include a POS (place of service) code. Providers should choose the most appropriate POS when requesting PA. The following table lists examples of nationally recognized, two-digit POS codes.

Code	Description
03	School
12	Home
99	Other Place of Service

Topic #2161

Prior Authorization Number

Each PA (prior authorization) request is assigned a unique ten-digit number. When the POC (plan of care) is updated at times other than requesting PA, including the PA number on the POC is optional. Including the PA number on a POC that is not being submitted with a PA request is optional. However, Wisconsin Medicaid recommends that providers include the PA number on the POC even when it is optional. A PA number has record keeping advantages for the providers on the case and will make the POC easier to reference in the future.

Topic #2160

Procedure Code and Modifier Table

The following table lists the HCPCS (Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System) and CPT (Current Procedural Terminology) procedure codes providers should use when submitting claims and PA (prior authorization) requests. The table also lists the nationally recognized modifiers that apply to each procedure code.

Procedure Code and Description (Limited to Medicaid Covered Service)	National Modifier	State-Defined Start-of-Shift Modifier
90656 — Influenza virus vaccine, split virus, preservative free, for use in individuals 3 years and above, for intramuscular use	None	None
90658 — Influenza virus vaccine, split virus, for use in individuals 3 years of age and above, for intramuscular use	None	None
90732 — Pneumococcal polysaccharide vaccine, 23-valent, adult or immunosuppressed patient dosage, for use in individuals 2 years or older, for subcutaneous or intramuscular use	None	None
92507* — Treatment of speech, language,	None	**UJ —** Night (12 a.m. to 5:59 a.m.)

voice, communication, and/or auditory processing disorder (includes aural rehabilitation); individual [per visit]		**UF —** Morning (6 a.m. to 11:59 a.m.) **UG —** Afternoon (12 p.m. to 5:59 p.m.) **UH —** Evening (6 p.m. to 11:59 p.m.)
97139* — Unlisted therapeutic procedure (specify) [per visit]	None	**UJ —** Night (12 a.m. to 5:59 a.m.) **UF —** Morning (6 a.m. to 11:59 a.m.) **UG —** Afternoon (12 p.m. to 5:59 p.m.) **UH —** Evening (6 p.m. to 11:59 p.m.)
97799* — Unlisted physical medicine/rehabilitation service or procedure [per visit]	None	**UJ —** Night (12 a.m. to 5:59 a.m.) **UF —** Morning (6 a.m. to 11:59 a.m.) **UG —** Afternoon (12 p.m. to 5:59 p.m.) **UH —** Evening (6 p.m. to 11:59 p.m.)
99504 — Home visit for mechanical ventilation care [per hour]	**TE —** LPN (licensed practical nurse)/LVN (licensed vocational nurse)	**UJ —** Night (12 a.m. to 5:59 a.m.) **UF —** Morning (6 a.m. to 11:59 a.m.) **UG —** Afternoon (12 p.m. to 5:59 p.m.) **UH —** Evening (6 p.m. to 11:59 p.m.)
99504 — Home visit for mechanical ventilation care [per hour]	**TD —** RN (registered nurse)	**UJ —** Night (12 a.m. to 5:59 a.m.) **UF —** Morning (6 a.m. to 11:59 a.m.) **UG —** Afternoon (12 p.m. to 5:59 p.m.) **UH —** Evening (6 p.m. to 11:59 p.m.)
99600* — Unlisted home visit service or procedure [per visit]	None	**UJ —** Night (12 a.m. to 5:59 a.m.) **UF —** Morning (6 a.m. to 11:59 a.m.) **UG —** Afternoon (12 p.m. to 5:59 p.m.) **UH —** Evening (6 p.m. to 11:59 p.m.)
99600* — Unlisted home visit service or procedure [per visit]	**TS —** Follow-up service	**UJ —** Night (12 a.m. to 5:59 a.m.) **UF —** Morning (6 a.m. to 11:59 a.m.) **UG —** Afternoon (12 p.m. to 5:59 p.m.) **UH —** Evening (6 p.m. to 11:59 p.m.)
S9123 — Nursing care, in the home; by registered nurse, per hour	None	**UJ —** Night (12 a.m. to 5:59 a.m.) **UF —** Morning (6 a.m. to 11:59 a.m.) **UG —** Afternoon (12 p.m. to 5:59 p.m.) **UH —** Evening (6 p.m. to 11:59 p.m.)
S9124 — Nursing care, in the home; by licensed practical nurse, per hour	None	**UJ —** Night (12 a.m. to 5:59 a.m.) **UF —** Morning (6 a.m. to 11:59 a.m.) **UG —** Afternoon (12 p.m. to 5:59 p.m.) **UH —** Evening (6 p.m. to 11:59 p.m.)
T1001 — Nursing assessment/evaluation [per visit]	None	**UJ —** Night (12 a.m. to 5:59 a.m.) **UF —** Morning (6 a.m. to 11:59 a.m.) **UG —** Afternoon (12 p.m. to 5:59 p.m.) **UH —** Evening (6 p.m. to 11:59 p.m.)
T1021* — Home health aide or certified nurse assistant, per visit	None	**UJ —** Night (12 a.m. to 5:59 a.m.) **UF —** Morning (6 a.m. to 11:59 a.m.) **UG —** Afternoon (12 p.m. to 5:59 p.m.) **UH —** Evening (6 p.m. to 11:59 p.m.)
T1021* — Home health aide or certified nurse assistant, per visit	**TS —** Follow-up service	**UJ —** Night (12 a.m. to 5:59 a.m.) **UF —** Morning (6 a.m. to 11:59 a.m.) **UG —** Afternoon (12 p.m. to 5:59 p.m.) **UH —** Evening (6 p.m. to 11:59 p.m.)
T1502* — Administration of oral, intramuscular and/or subcutaneous	None	**UJ —** Night (12 a.m. to 5:59 a.m.) **UF —** Morning (6 a.m. to 11:59 a.m.)

medication by health care agency/professional, per visit		**UG —** Afternoon (12 p.m. to 5:59 p.m.) **UH —** Evening (6 p.m. to 11:59 p.m.)
*These procedure codes are billable under the Core Plan.		

Topic #2159

Procedure Codes

When submitting PA (prior authorization) requests and claims, home health providers should use HCPCS (Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System) procedure codes. Providers should refer to the DME Index (durable medical equipment) for a list of valid procedure codes for DME. Providers should refer to the DMS Index (disposable medical supplies) for a list of valid procedure codes for DMS.

Home health agencies providing PDN (private duty nursing) services to ventilator-dependent members should use CPT (Current Procedural Terminology) procedure codes on PA requests and claims.

Topic #2158

Revenue Codes

Providers are required to use a revenue code when submitting claims to ForwardHealth. The following table contains a list of revenue code examples. Providers should use the appropriate revenue code that best describes the service performed.

For the most current and complete list of revenue codes, contact the AHA NUBC (American Hospital Association National Uniform Billing Committee) by calling (312) 422-3390 or writing to the following address:

American Hospital Association National Uniform Billing Committee
29th Fl
1 N Franklin
Chicago IL 60606

For further information, refer to the NUBC Web site.

Revenue Code	Service Description
0550	General Skilled Nursing
0551	Skilled Nursing Visit
0552	Skilled Nursing Hourly Charge
0580	Other Home Health Services, Except Therapies
0420	Physical Therapy
0430	Occupational Therapy
0440	Speech and Language Pathology

Topic #2157

Units of Service

The number of services (visits or hours) billed must be listed on each detail line of the claim form.

Home health aide visits, home health skilled nursing visits, and home health therapy visits are billed as one unit of service per day. If the quantity billed is not an increment of a whole unit, the service is denied.

Providers are required to bill their PDN (private duty nursing) services in six-minute increments according to the conversion chart for billing PDN services. Services must be recorded as one tenth (0.1) of a unit. One unit equals one hour. Reimbursement is not available for less than six months of service. For example, a provider who works for seven hours and 55 minutes would bill 7.9 units.

Conversion Chart for Billing Private Duty Nursing Services

Time Worked in Minutes							Billable Units (Hours)
≥	0	&	<	6	=		0
≥	6	&	<	12	=		0.1
≥	12	&	<	18	=		0.2
≥	18	&	<	24	=		0.3
≥	24	&	<	30	=		0.4
≥	30	&	<	36	=		0.5
≥	36	&	<	42	=		0.6
≥	42	&	<	48	=		0.7
≥	48	&	<	54	=		0.8
≥	54	&	<	60	=		0.9
≥	60	&	<	66	=		1
≥	66	&	<	72	=		1.1
≥	72	&	<	78	=		1.2
≥	78	&	<	84	=		1.3
≥	84	&	<	90	=		1.4
≥	90	&	<	96	=		1.5
≥	96	&	<	102	=		1.6
≥	102	&	<	108	=		1.7
≥	108	&	<	114	=		1.8
≥	114	&	<	120	=		1.9
≥	120	&	<	126	=		2
≥	126	&	<	132	=		2.1
≥	132	&	<	138	=		2.2
≥	138	&	<	144	=		2.3
≥	144	&	<	150	=		2.4
≥	150	&	<	156	=		2.5
≥	156	&	<	162	=		2.6
≥	162	&	<	168	=		2.7
≥	168	&	<	174	=		2.8
≥	174	&	<	180	=		2.9
≥	180	&	<	186	=		3

Time Worked in Minutes							Billable Units (Hours)
≥	186	&	<	192	=		3.1
≥	192	&	<	198	=		3.2
≥	198	&	<	204	=		3.3
≥	204	&	<	210	=		3.4
≥	210	&	<	216	=		3.5
≥	216	&	<	222	=		3.6
≥	222	&	<	228	=		3.7
≥	228	&	<	234	=		3.8
≥	234	&	<	240	=		3.9
≥	240	&	<	246	=		4
≥	246	&	<	252	=		4.1
≥	252	&	<	258	=		4.2
≥	258	&	<	264	=		4.3
≥	264	&	<	270	=		4.4
≥	270	&	<	276	=		4.5
≥	276	&	<	282	=		4.6
≥	282	&	<	288	=		4.7
≥	288	&	<	294	=		4.8
≥	294	&	<	300	=		4.9
≥	300	&	<	306	=		5
≥	306	&	<	312	=		5.1
≥	312	&	<	318	=		5.2
≥	318	&	<	324	=		5.3
≥	324	&	<	330	=		5.4
≥	330	&	<	336	=		5.5
≥	336	&	<	342	=		5.6
≥	342	&	<	348	=		5.7
≥	348	&	<	354	=		5.8
≥	354	&	<	360	=		5.9
≥	360	&	<	366	=		6

Time Worked in Minutes					=	Billable Units (Hours)
≥	366	&	<	372	=	6.1
≥	372	&	<	378	=	6.2
≥	378	&	<	384	=	6.3
≥	384	&	<	390	=	6.4
≥	390	&	<	396	=	6.5
≥	396	&	<	402	=	6.6
≥	402	&	<	408	=	6.7
≥	408	&	<	414	=	6.8
≥	414	&	<	420	=	6.9
≥	420	&	<	426	=	7
≥	426	&	<	432	=	7.1
≥	432	&	<	438	=	7.2
≥	438	&	<	444	=	7.3
≥	444	&	<	450	=	7.4
≥	450	&	<	456	=	7.5
≥	456	&	<	462	=	7.6
≥	462	&	<	468	=	7.7
≥	468	&	<	474	=	7.8
≥	474	&	<	480	=	7.9
≥	480	&	<	486	=	8
≥	486	&	<	492	=	8.1
≥	492	&	<	498	=	8.2
≥	498	&	<	504	=	8.3
≥	504	&	<	510	=	8.4
≥	510	&	<	516	=	8.5
≥	516	&	<	522	=	8.6
≥	522	&	<	528	=	8.7
≥	528	&	<	534	=	8.8
≥	534	&	<	540	=	8.9
≥	540	&	<	546	=	9

Time Worked in Minutes					=	Billable Units (Hours)
≥	546	&	<	552	=	9.1
≥	552	&	<	558	=	9.2
≥	558	&	<	564	=	9.3
≥	564	&	<	570	=	9.4
≥	570	&	<	576	=	9.5
≥	576	&	<	582	=	9.6
≥	582	&	<	588	=	9.7
≥	588	&	<	594	=	9.8
≥	594	&	<	600	=	9.9
≥	600	&	<	606	=	10
≥	606	&	<	612	=	10.1
≥	612	&	<	618	=	10.2
≥	618	&	<	624	=	10.3
≥	624	&	<	630	=	10.4
≥	630	&	<	636	=	10.5
≥	636	&	<	642	=	10.6
≥	642	&	<	648	=	10.7
≥	648	&	<	654	=	10.8
≥	654	&	<	660	=	10.9
≥	660	&	<	666	=	11
≥	666	&	<	672	=	11.1
≥	672	&	<	678	=	11.2
≥	678	&	<	684	=	11.3
≥	684	&	<	690	=	11.4
≥	690	&	<	696	=	11.5
≥	696	&	<	702	=	11.6
≥	702	&	<	708	=	11.7
≥	708	&	<	714	=	11.8
≥	714	&	<	720	=	11.9
≥	720	&	<	726	=	12

Topic #643

Unlisted Procedure Codes

According to the HCPCS (Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System) code book, if a service is provided that is not accurately described by other HCPCS CPT (Current Procedural Terminology) procedure codes, the service should be reported using an unlisted procedure code.

Before considering using an unlisted, or NOC (not otherwise classified), procedure code, a provider should determine if there is another more specific code that could be indicated to describe the procedure or service being performed/provided. If there is no more specific code available, the provider is required to submit the appropriate documentation, which could include a PA (prior authorization) request, to justify use of the unlisted procedure code and to describe the procedure or service rendered. Submitting the proper documentation, which could include a PA request, may result in more timely claims processing.

Unlisted procedure codes should not be used to request adjusted reimbursement for a procedure for which there is a more specific code available.

Unlisted Codes That Do Not Require Prior Authorization or Additional Supporting Documentation

For a limited group of unlisted procedure codes, ForwardHealth has established specific policies for their use and associated reimbursement. These codes do not require PA or additional documentation to be submitted with the claim. Providers should refer to their service-specific area of the Online Handbook on the ForwardHealth Portal for details about these unlisted codes.

For most unlisted codes, ForwardHealth requires additional documentation.

Unlisted Codes That Require Prior Authorization

Certain unlisted procedure codes require PA. Providers should follow their service-specific PA instructions and documentation requirements for requesting PA. For a list of procedure codes for which ForwardHealth requires PA, refer to the service-specific interactive maximum allowable fee schedules.

In addition to a properly completed PA request, documentation submitted on the service-specific PA attachment or as additional supporting documentation with the PA request should provide the following information:

- Specifically identify or describe the name of the procedure/service being performed or billed under the unlisted code.
- List/justify why other codes are not appropriate.
- Include only relevant documentation.
- Include all required clinical/supporting documentation.

For most situations, once the provider has an approved PA request for the unlisted procedure code, there is no need to submit additional documentation along with the claim.

Unlisted Codes That Do Not Require Prior Authorization

If an unlisted procedure code does not require PA, documentation submitted with the claim to justify use of the unlisted code and to describe the procedure/service rendered must be sufficient to allow ForwardHealth to determine the nature and scope of the procedure and to determine whether or not the procedure is covered and was medically necessary, as defined in Wisconsin Administrative Code.

The documentation submitted should provide the following information related to the unlisted code:

- Specifically identify or describe the name of the procedure/service being performed or billed under the unlisted code.
- List/justify why other codes are not appropriate.
- Include only relevant documentation.

How to Submit Claims and Related Documentation

Claims including an unlisted procedure code and supporting documentation may be submitted to ForwardHealth in the following ways:

- On paper with supporting information/description included in Element 19 of the 1500 Health Insurance Claim Form.
- On paper with supporting documentation submitted on paper. This option should be used if Element 19 does not allow enough space for the description or when billing multiple unlisted procedure codes. Providers should indicate "See Attachment" in Element 19 of the paper claim and send the supporting documentation along with the paper claim.
- Electronically, either using DDE (Direct Data Entry) through the ForwardHealth Portal, PES (Provider Electronic Solutions) transactions, or 837 Health Care Claim electronic transactions, with supporting documentation included

electronically in the Notes field. The Notes field is limited to 80 characters.

- Electronically with an indication that supporting documentation will be submitted separately on paper. This option should be used if the Notes field does not allow enough space for the description or when billing multiple unlisted procedure codes. Providers should indicate "See Attachment" in the Notes field of the electronic transaction and submit the supporting documentation on paper.
- Upload claim attachments via the secure Provider area of the Portal.

Covered Services and Requirements

Topic #2156

An Overview of Covered Services

The following services are covered when provided by home health agencies:

- Home health skilled nursing services.
- Home health aide services.
- PDN (private duty nursing) services (for BadgerCare Plus Standard Plan and Medicaid members only).
- Home health therapy services.
- DME (durable medical equipment).
- DMS (disposable medical supplies).
- Personal care services (for BadgerCare Plus Standard Plan and Medicaid members only).

Topic #4296

Benchmark Plan Covered Home Care Services

Home care services covered under the BadgerCare Plus Benchmark Plan are the same as those covered under the BadgerCare Plus Standard Plan except for the following:

- PDN (private duty nursing) services.
- Personal care services.

Service Limitations

Under the Benchmark Plan, home health services are limited to 60 home health visits per member per enrollment year.

Topic #5497

Benchmark Plan Enrollment Year

Under the BadgerCare Plus Benchmark Plan, an enrollment year is defined as the continuous 12-month period beginning the first day of the calendar month in which a member is enrolled in the Benchmark Plan and ending on the last day of the 12th calendar month.

For example, a member completes her BadgerCare Plus application materials by September 25, 2008. During the month of October, the DHS (Department of Health Services) reviews the application materials and determines that the member is eligible for the Benchmark Plan effective September 1, 2008, the first day of the calendar month that the application materials were completed; however, the enrollment year for this member will not begin until October 1, 2008, the first day of the calendar month in which the DHS actively enrolled the member in the Benchmark Plan. The Benchmark Plan enrollment year for this member is defined as October 1, 2008, through September 30, 2009. Services received after eligibility is established and before the enrollment year begins are covered under the Benchmark Plan but do not count toward the service limitations.

Subsequent enrollment years begin on the first day of the calendar month immediately following the end of the previous enrollment

year, if there is no coverage gap. If there is a coverage gap for more than one day, the enrollment year will reset to begin on the first day of the month in which the DHS re-enrolls the member into the Benchmark Plan.

If a member switches from the Benchmark Plan to the BadgerCare Plus Standard Plan, the Benchmark Plan enrollment year does not reset. For example, a member's enrollment year under the Benchmark Plan begins March 1, 2008. During the third month, the member's income status changes and she is now eligible for the Standard Plan effective June 1, 2008. During August, the DHS determines that the member is no longer eligible for the Standard Plan and effective September 1, 2008, the member returns to the Benchmark Plan. Since there is not a gap in coverage, the initial Benchmark Plan enrollment year is still active. The member must adhere to limits for services received while covered under the Benchmark Plan during the enrollment year period March 1, 2008, through February 28, 2009.

The Benchmark Plan enrollment year is the time period used to determine service limitations for members in the Benchmark Plan. Services received while covered under the Standard Plan do not count toward the enrollment year service limitations in the Benchmark Plan and vice versa. If a member switches between the two plans during one enrollment year, service limitations will accumulate separately under each plan.

Topic #2155

Case Sharing

If more than one type of Medicaid-certified home care provider provides care to a member, the case becomes a shared case. All home health agencies sharing a case with other home health agencies, personal care agencies, or NIPs (nurses in independent practice) should document their communication with the other providers regarding member needs, POC (plan of care), and scheduling. This will ensure coordination of services and continuity of care, while also preventing duplication of services being provided to a member.

According to DHS 101.03(96m)(b)(6), Wis. Admin. Code, medically necessary services cannot be duplicative with respect to other services being provided to the member. When providers of more than one service type share a case, home health agencies need to integrate that information into the member's POC and the PA (prior authorization) request.

Topic #8138

Core Plan Covered Home Care Services

Effective for DOS (dates of service) on and after January 1, 2010, the BadgerCare Plus Core Plan covers medically necessary home health services (skilled nursing, home health aide, and therapy) for a 30-day contiguous period following a member's inpatient hospital stay.

In order for home health services to be covered under the Core Plan, the hospital discharge plan must specify the need for home health services, the name of the home health agency accepting the patient into care, and stipulate that discharge of the member is contingent on a home health agency accepting the member for care at the time of his or her discharge from the hospital. A copy of the member's hospital discharge plan must be kept with the member's medical record. For the services to be covered, the home health agency identified in the hospital discharge plan must accept the member into care immediately after the member's discharge from the hospital.

Service Limitations for the Core Plan

Home health services for the Core Plan are covered up to the following limits:

- The Core Plan covers home health visits for up to a contiguous 30-day post-hospitalization period.
- There are no daily limits on the various types of home health visits (skilled nursing, home health aide, and therapy visits).

- The total number of covered home health visits during the 30-day contiguous period is limited to 100 visits.
- The 30-day contiguous coverage period begins on the date of discharge following an inpatient hospital stay.
- The 30-day contiguous coverage period will be reset each time the patient is discharged from an inpatient hospital stay.
- If the member is readmitted as a hospital inpatient during the 30-day coverage period, allowable home health visits provided on the date of readmission are covered.

Home health visits that exceed the Core Plan service limitations are considered noncovered.

Topic #44

Definition of Covered Services

A covered service is a service, item, or supply for which reimbursement is available when *all* program requirements are met. DHS 101.03(35) and 107, Wis. Admin. Code, contain more information about covered services.

Topic #2154

Disposable Medical Supplies Included in the Home Care Reimbursement Rate

DMS (disposable medical supplies) are medically necessary items that have a limited life expectancy and are consumable, expendable, disposable, or nondurable.

The cost of routine DMS used by home health providers, personal care providers, and NIP (Nurses in Independent Practice) while caring for the member, including routine DMS mandated by OSHA (Occupational Safety and Health Administration), is covered in the reimbursement rate for the service provided. Home health providers, personal care providers, and NIP are expected to provide these supplies only during the billable hours in which they provide covered services. Providers are not expected to provide members with supplies for use when they are not directly providing covered services.

Note: None of the DMS covered in the reimbursement rate are separately reimbursable.

When DMS is included in the reimbursement rate, providers may *not* do any of the following:

- Charge the member for the cost of DMS.
- Use supplies obtained by the member and paid for by Wisconsin Medicaid.
- Submit claims to ForwardHealth for the cost of the supplies.

DMS included in the home care reimbursement rate include, but are not limited to, those listed in the following table.

Procedure Code	Modifier	Description
A4244	-	Alcohol or peroxide, per pint
A4402	-	Lubricant per ounce
A4455	-	Adhesive remover or solvent (for tape, cement or other adhesive), per ounce
A4456	-	Adhesive remover, wipes, any type, each
A4554	-	Disposable underpads, all sizes [when used for purposes *other than* incontinence or bowel and bladder programs]
A4626	59	Applicators

A4626	22	Cotton balls per 100
A4927	-	Gloves, non-sterile, per 100

The December 2002 *Wisconsin Medicaid and BadgerCare Recipient Update*, titled "Your home care provider is required to supply some disposable medical supplies used for your care," explains this policy to members who receive home care services. Providers are encouraged to share this information with new members.

Topic #2153

Durable Medical Equipment

DME (durable medical equipment) is equipment that can withstand repeated use, is primarily used for medical purposes, is generally not useful to a person in the absence of illness or injury, and is appropriate for use in the home.

DME is covered only when prescribed by a physician. Covered services are limited to items contained in the DME Index. Some items require PA (prior authorization). For further information, refer to the DME service area.

Topic #85

Emergencies

Certain program requirements and reimbursement procedures are modified in emergency situations. Emergency services are defined in DHS 101.03(52), Wis. Admin. Code, as "those services that are necessary to prevent the death or serious impairment of the health of the individual." Emergency services are not reimbursed unless they are covered services.

Additional definitions and procedures for emergencies exist in other situations, such as dental and mental health.

Program requirements and reimbursement procedures may be modified in the following ways:

- PA (prior authorization) or other program requirements may be waived in emergency situations.
- Noncertified providers may be reimbursed for emergency services.
- Non-U.S. citizens may be eligible for covered services in emergency situations.

Topic #2051

Limits on Authorized Services

The nurse providing PDN (private duty nursing) and/or PDN-Vent (PDN to ventilator-dependent) members may not provide nursing service in excess of 12 hours in a calendar day and 60 hours in a calendar week to all members and other patients under the nurse's care, as stated DHS 107.113(5)(d), and 107.12(4)(f) and 107.12(4)(g), Wis. Admin. Code.

The nurse is also required to take at least eight continuous and uninterrupted hours off duty in any 24-hour period during which he or she performs PDN and/or PDN-Vent services that are reimbursed by Wisconsin Medicaid, as stated in DHS 107.12(4)(g) and 107.113(5)(g) Wis. Admin. Code.

PDN and/or PDN-Vent services provided in excess of the calendar day and calendar week limits are not covered. Services provided when the nurse does not meet the off-duty requirements are also considered non-covered services.

Definitions for a Calendar Day and a Calendar Week

The following definitions are applicable to PDN and to PDN-Vent.

- A 24-hour period should not be confused with a calendar day. For the purpose of Wisconsin Medicaid PDN services, each calendar day is a 24-hour period that begins at midnight and ends at midnight.
- A calendar week begins with Sunday, ends with Saturday, and consists of seven consecutive calendar days.
- A 24-hour period consists of 24 consecutive hours and should not be confused with a calendar day.

Note: Exceptions to these rules may exist in extremely rare circumstances. Requests for exceptions should be made in writing to:

ForwardHealth Home Care Analyst
Division of Health Care Access and Accountability
Rm 350
1 West Wilson St
Madison WI 53703

Topic #2089

Medical Necessity

Wisconsin Medicaid reimburses certified home health agencies for medically necessary home health services as defined by DHS 101.03(96m), Wis. Admin. Code, provided to eligible members when prescribed by a physician. All services are required to be medically necessary and appropriate to the diagnosis and medical condition of the member. Wisconsin Medicaid may deny or recoup payment if a service fails to meet Medicaid medical necessity requirements.

Topic #86

Member Payment for Covered Services

Under state and federal laws, a Medicaid-certified provider may not collect payment from a member, or authorized person acting on behalf of the member, for covered services even if the services are covered but do not meet program requirements. Denial of a claim by ForwardHealth does not necessarily render a member liable. However, a covered service for which PA (prior authorization) was denied is treated as a noncovered service. (If a member chooses to receive an originally requested service instead of the service approved on a modified PA request, it is also treated as a noncovered service.) If a member requests a covered service for which PA was denied (or modified), the provider may collect payment from the member if certain conditions are met.

If a provider collects payment from a member, or an authorized person acting on behalf of the member, for a covered service, the provider may be subject to program sanctions including termination of Medicaid certification.

Topic #2088

Place of Residence

Home health services are covered by Wisconsin Medicaid only when they are performed at the member's place of residence.

A member's home or residence is considered to be the place where the member makes his or her home. The member's residence may be a single family home or an apartment unit. The member may reside with other household members. Hospital inpatient and nursing facilities are not allowable places of service while the member is receiving home health services.

The residence may be a CBRF (community-based residential facility); however, home health services may not exceed the limits established in chapter DHS 83, Wis. Admin. Code, and may not duplicate services that the CBRF is being paid to provide.

The following home health services are covered for members when the services are medically necessary and the member requires a considerable and taxing effort to leave the residence or cannot reasonably obtain these services outside the residence:

- Home health skilled nursing.
- PT (physical therapy).
- OT (occupational therapy).
- SLP (speech and language pathology).

A member may receive PDN (private duty nursing) services and home health aide services from a home health agency without any limitations on his or her homebound status. However, home health aide services must be provided only in the member's place of residence.

Topic #66

Program Requirements

For a covered service to meet program requirements, the service must be provided by a qualified Medicaid-certified provider to an enrolled member. In addition, the service must meet all applicable program requirements, including, but not limited to, medical necessity, PA (prior authorization), claims submission, prescription, and documentation requirements.

Topic #7897

Resetting Service Limitations

Service limitations used by a member enrolled in the BadgerCare Plus Benchmark Plan and the BadgerCare Plus Core Plan within their continuous 12-month enrollment year will reset in the following situations:

- A fee-for-service member is enrolled in an HMO.
- A member switches from one HMO to another HMO (only allowable within the first 90 days of Core Plan enrollment).
- A member is disenrolled from an HMO and moves to fee-for-service.

Note: When a member goes from fee-for-service into an HMO and subsequently moves back to fee-for-service, service limitations will not be reset for the services that were received under the initial fee-for-service enrollment period.

PA (prior authorization) requests for services beyond the covered service limitations will be denied.

Resetting service limitations does not change a member's Benchmark Plan enrollment year or a member's Core Plan enrollment year.

Topic #2152

Services Provided by Nurses in Independent Practice

Federal and state laws permit Wisconsin Medicaid to pay for home health skilled nursing services provided by an NIP (nurses in independent practice) *only* when no home health agency is available. An NIP is required to have PA (prior authorization) before providing home health services to a member.

The following conditions *must* be met before an NIP can submit claims to ForwardHealth for home health services:

- No home health agency is willing and able to provide care to the member. If an NIP submits claims to ForwardHealth, that nurse is required to submit documentation supporting this condition with the PA request. The NIP, the member, the member's family, or a discharge planner is first required to try to locate services by contacting *all* home health agencies serving the member's area. Documentation must include the following:
  - The name of each home health agency contacted.
  - The name of the person contacted at the home health agency.
  - The date and time of contact.
  - Information the caller provided to the home health agency contact.
  - A list of the questions the caller asked the home health agency contact.
  - The responses the home health agency contact gave to the caller's questions.
- The services must be medically necessary.
- Member requires a considerable and taxing effort to leave the residence or the member cannot reasonably obtain these services outside the residence or from a more appropriate provider.
- All rules in DHS 101-109, Wis. Admin. Code, must be followed. Home health services provided by an NIP are monitored after payment has been made. Payment for services that do not follow these guidelines will be recouped.

Topic #824

Services That Do Not Meet Program Requirements

As stated in DHS 107.02(2), Wis. Admin. Code, BadgerCare Plus and Wisconsin Medicaid may deny or recoup payment for covered services that fail to meet program requirements.

Examples of covered services that do not meet program requirements include the following:

- Services for which records or other documentation were not prepared or maintained.
- Services for which the provider fails to meet any or all of the requirements of DHS 106.03, Wis.Admin. Code, including, but not limited to, the requirements regarding timely submission of claims.
- Services that fail to comply with requirements or state and federal statutes, rules, and regulations.
- Services that the DHS (Department of Health Services), the PRO (Peer Review Organization) review process, or BadgerCare Plus determines to be inappropriate, in excess of accepted standards of reasonableness or less costly alternative services, or of excessive frequency or duration.
- Services provided by a provider who fails or refuses to meet and maintain any of the certification requirements under DHS 105, Wis. Admin. Code.
- Services provided by a provider who fails or refuses to provide access to records.
- Services provided inconsistent with an intermediate sanction or sanctions imposed by the DHS.

Topic #3367

Training Requirements

Home health agency providers will only be reimbursed for covered services provided by agency staffs who are properly trained, as indicated by licensure, certification, or other documentation of training in the provider's personnel file.

Topic #2087

Universal Precautions

All caregivers providing services are required to follow universal precautions for each member for whom services are provided. It is recommended that all caregivers are required to have the necessary orientation, education, and training in the epidemiology, modes of transmission, and prevention of transmissible infections.

HealthCheck "Other Services"

Topic #22

Definition of HealthCheck "Other Services"

HealthCheck is a federally mandated program known nationally as EPSDT (Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnosis, and Treatment). HealthCheck services consist of a comprehensive health screening of members under 21 years of age. On occasion, a HealthCheck screening may identify the need for health care services that are not otherwise covered or that exceed coverage limitations. These services are called HealthCheck "Other Services." Federal law requires that these services be reimbursed through HealthCheck "Other Services" if they are medically necessary and prior authorized. The purpose of HealthCheck "Other Services" is to assure that medically necessary medical services are available to BadgerCare Plus Standard Plan, BadgerCare Plus Benchmark Plan, and Medicaid members under 21 years of age.

Topic #1

Prior Authorization

To receive PA (prior authorization) for HealthCheck "Other Services," providers are required to submit a PA request via the ForwardHealth Portal or to submit the following via fax or mail:

- A completed PA/RF (Prior Authorization Request Form, F-11018 (10/08)) (or PA/DRF (Prior Authorization/Dental Request Form, F-11035 (10/08)), or PA/HIAS1 (Prior Authorization Request for Hearing Instrument and Audiological Services 1, F-11020 (10/08)).
    - The provider should mark the checkbox titled "HealthCheck Other Services" at the top of the form.
    - The provider may omit the procedure code if he or she is uncertain what it is. The ForwardHealth consultant will assign one for approved services.
- The appropriate service-specific PA attachment.
- Verification that a comprehensive HealthCheck screening has been provided within 365 days prior to ForwardHealth's receipt of the PA request. The date and provider of the screening must be indicated.
- Necessary supporting documentation.

Providers may call Provider Services for more information about HealthCheck "Other Services" and to determine the appropriate PA attachment.

Topic #41

Requirements

For a service to be reimbursed through HealthCheck "Other Services," the following requirements must be met:

- The condition being treated is identified in a HealthCheck screening that occurred within 365 days of the PA (prior authorization) request for the service.
- The service is provided to a member who is under 21 years of age.
- The service may be covered under federal Medicaid law.
- The service is medically necessary and reasonable.
- The service is prior authorized before it is provided.

- Services currently covered are not considered acceptable to treat the identified condition.

ForwardHealth has the authority to do all of the following:

- Review the medical necessity of all requests.
- Establish criteria for the provision of such services.
- Determine the amount, duration, and scope of services as long as limitations are reasonable and maintain the preventive intent of the HealthCheck program.

Home Health Aide Services

Topic #2125

Active Seizure Intervention

Active seizure intervention, including safety measures, reporting seizures, and administration of medication at the time of the active seizure, may be a delegated nursing act. Active seizure intervention may be medically necessary when the member has had active seizures requiring active intervention within the past 62 days. Active seizure intervention does not include administration of routine anti-seizure medication. When observation for seizures is the only service performed, it is not a Medicaid-reimbursed service.

Topic #2124

Activity of Daily Living Tasks

Assistance with the member's ADLs (activities of daily living) as listed in DHS 107.11(2)(b)2, Wis. Admin. Code, is considered a home health aide service only when provided in conjunction with a delegated nursing act that cannot be safely delegated to a PCW (personal care worker) as determined and documented by the delegating RN (registered nurse). ADL tasks are not generally provided to preschool children but may be covered when the tasks require special skills to assure safety or are provided incidental to a delegated nursing act.

Topic #2123

Assistance with Activities That Are Directly Supportive of Skilled Therapy Services

Assistance with activities that directly support skilled therapy services include those activities that do not require the skills of a therapy provider to be safely and effectively performed. Activities may include routine maintenance exercises, e.g., range of motion exercises and repetitive speech routines. In order to be medically necessary, the activities must be ordered in conjunction with an active home health therapy program or as the direct result of a therapy evaluation completed and signed by a therapy provider within the past six months.

Topic #2122

Complex Feeding

Complex feeding may be a delegated nursing act and medically necessary when there is a potential for aspiration and the physician's orders indicate special feeding precautions or techniques must be utilized to effect safe feeding.

Feeding via a gastrostomy tube may be a delegated nursing act when delegated by the RN (registered nurse) after assessment of the member's medical condition and the home health aide's training.

Topic #2121

Complex Repositioning

Complex repositioning is positioning to reduce spasticity or to decrease pressure and/or shear forces that can lead to decubitus ulcer formation (i.e., Bolsters/Side-Lyers). Complex repositioning may be medically necessary when the member has a demonstrated problem with frequent skin breakdown.

Topic #2120

Complex Transfers

Complex transfers are transfers that require the use of mechanical devices when there is an increased likelihood that a negative outcome would result if the transfer is not done correctly or when a complex transfer technique is used as part of a home health therapy program.

The following transfer techniques are part of the suggested personal care curriculum and *do not qualify as complex transfers*:

- Standing-pivot.
- Sliding board.
- Gait belts.

Complex transfers may be medically necessary when the member has no volitional movement or when simple transfer techniques have been demonstrated to be ineffective and unsafe.

Topic #2119

Definition

Home health aide services are services necessary to maintain the member's health or to facilitate treatment of the member's medical condition. There are three components to the services home health aides may provide in the home:

- Delegated nursing acts.
- ADL (activity of daily living) tasks.
- Household tasks.

For activities of daily living and/or household tasks incidental to direct care activities to be covered when provided by a home health aide, the home health aide must provide at least one RN- (registered nurse)delegated medically oriented task with each home health aide visit (DHS 107.11[2][b], Wis. Admin. Code). When no RN-delegated medically oriented task is to be provided, the activities might be covered as a personal care service. For more information regarding coverage of personal care services, refer to the Personal Care area of the Online Handbook.

Topic #2118

Delegated Nursing Acts

Delegated nursing acts are those medically necessary tasks that require some special medical knowledge or skill. Delegated nursing acts are usually reimbursed for minor children. Delegated nursing acts that may be safely delegated by an RN (registered nurse) may be reimbursable home health aide services. Delegated nursing acts include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Medication administration.
- Skin care.
- Dressing changes.

- Assistance with activities directly supportive of skilled therapy services.
- Vital signs.
- Glucometer readings.
- Complex transfers.
- Complex repositioning.
- Complex feeding.
- Donning or doffing of a prosthesis or orthosis.
- Active seizure intervention.

Topic #2117

Delegation of Tasks

Each home health aide task must be specifically assigned by an RN (registered nurse). The RN must determine that the home health aide is trained to perform each task in a manner that will not jeopardize the member's health. A home health aide may not be assigned to any task for which he or she is not trained.

Note: RNs may only delegate *nursing* acts to a home health aide. A *medical* act that has been delegated to an RN by a physician may not be re-delegated by the RN to any other provider.

In accordance with ch. N 6.03(3), Wis. Admin. Code, an RN should do all of the following in the supervision and direction of delegated nursing acts:

- Delegate tasks commensurate with education preparation and demonstrated abilities of the person supervised.
- Provide direction and assistance to those supervised.
- Observe and monitor the activities of those supervised.
- Evaluate the effectiveness of acts performed under supervision.

Home health agencies must document that these conditions are met when nursing acts are delegated to home health aides.

Topic #2116

Donning and Doffing of a Prosthesis or an Orthosis

Donning or doffing of a prosthesis or orthosis may be a delegated nursing act and medically necessary when part of a serial splinting program or when the member has a demonstrated problem with frequent skin breakdown that must be closely monitored.

Topic #2115

Dressing Changes

Some dressing changes may not require the skills of a licensed nurse and may be safely performed by a home health aide. Wounds or ulcers that show redness, edema, or induration — at times with epidural blistering or desquamation — do not ordinarily require skilled nursing care. Dressing changes may be medically necessary when the physician orders them for the treatment of a wound or sore, and no primary caregiver is willing or able to provide the care.

Topic #2114

Glucometer Readings

Taking glucometer readings and reporting them to the supervising nurse whenever the readings are outside the parameters established for the member by the physician may be medically necessary when the member's medical history supports the need for ongoing monitoring for early detection of readings outside the established parameters. Glucometer readings related to the noncompliance of a competent adult do not justify glucometer tests as medically necessary tasks.

Topic #2113

Home Health Aide Visits

Within home health aide services, Wisconsin Medicaid reimburses for only two types of home health visits:

- *Home Health Aide Initial Visit.* The member's first home health aide visit in a calendar day. For BadgerCare Plus and Medicaid purposes, an initial visit may last up to four hours. Only one home health aide initial visit is reimbursable per calendar day per member, regardless of the number of providers.
- *Home Health Aide Subsequent Visit.* Each additional home health aide visit following the initial visit per calendar day. For BadgerCare Plus and Medicaid purposes, a home health aide subsequent visit may last up to three hours.

A visit begins when the home health aide enters the residence to provide a covered service. The visit ends when the home health aide leaves the residence.

Upon completion of the covered service, additional visits per day may be covered only when necessary. Additional visits must only be used to provide medically necessary time-specific tasks, tasks that could not feasibly be provided in one visit, or when the provider obtains PA (prior authorization) for continuous visits. Examples of time-specific tasks include:

- Helping the member in and out of bed using a hoyer lift.
- Scheduled G-tube feedings.

Maximizing Visits

The time spent at home health aide visits must be maximized whenever possible before scheduling additional home health aide visits or personal care visits.

All cares that can be fulfilled utilizing the allotted four hours for an initial visit or the allotted three hours for a subsequent visit should be performed during that scheduled visit. Scheduling a subsequent visit or personal care visit later in the same day to complete cares that could have been completed during a previous visit that day would not be considered medically necessary because the previous visit was not maximized.

In addition, when case sharing with a personal care agency, home health aide visits must be maximized whenever possible before a PCW (personal care worker) begins providing care. The home health aide should perform all personal cares in addition to the delegated nursing acts during the visit.

Continuous Visits

All home health aide visits in excess of four hours must be prior authorized if the agency wishes to bill for more than one visit. These home health aide visits are referred to as continuous visits. Continuous visits may be medically necessary when there is a likelihood that immediate medical attention will be required at unpredictable intervals due to a member's medical condition. Immediate attention is classified as needing service within five minutes, leaving inadequate time for the member to call in a home health aide. The intervention must include a delegated nursing act.

When continuous visits of four or more hours are medically necessary, providers may bill for more than one visit when the visits

have PA. Providers may not bill multiple visits for continuous home health aide visits without PA. Providers are required to request PA for continuous visits regardless of the 30-visit threshold.

Topic #2112

Household Tasks

When a home health aide visits a member to provide a delegated nursing act, the home health aide may also perform some household tasks. Provision of household tasks must be incidental to delegated nursing acts and personal care tasks and must not be the primary reason for the home health aide visit.

Household tasks are typically provided by parents for their minor children. Most household tasks provided to minor children are not covered. Incidental household tasks may be reimbursed only when the tasks are incidental to covered delegated nursing acts or covered ADL (activity of daily living) tasks.

Topic #2111

Medication Administration

"Administer" is defined in the Pharmacy Examining Board Act, Chapter 450.01(1), Wis. Stats., as the direct application of a prescription drug or device, whether by injection, ingestion, or any other means, to the body of a patient.

Medication administration may be covered for an adult member when the member is unable to self-administer and there is no willing and able caregiver to administer the medication.

Parents typically administer medications to their minor children. However, medication administration may be reimbursed for minor children when the parents are unable to administer the medication. This includes times when parents are not allowed to leave work to administer medications and no other arrangements can be made.

General Agency Requirements Applicable to All Medication Administration by Home Health Aides

All home health agencies providing administration of a medication by a home health aide must meet the following conditions:

- The agency has policies and procedures designed to provide safe and accurate administration of medication. These policies must be followed by personnel assigned to administer medications (42 CFR s. 484.14[e]). This must include the required documentation of the name of the medication, the dose, the route of administration, the time of administration, and the identification of the person administering the medication.
- There is a written delegation of this nursing act (medication administration) by the RN (registered nurse) as specified in DHS 133.17(3), Wis. Admin. Code.
- There is documentation that gives evidence of the educational preparation of the caregiver who administers medications as stated in DHS 133.06(4)(b), Wis. Admin. Code.
- There is immediate and accessible supervisory support available to the caregiver administering medications as directed by DHS 133.18(2), Wis. Admin. Code.
- Members must be informed, prior to delivery of service, that their medications will be administered by unlicensed personnel as stated in DHS 133.08(2)(d), Wis. Admin. Code, and 42 CFR s. 484.10(c)(1).
- Supervision and direction of the delegated nursing act meets the requirements of ch. N 6.03(3), Wis. Admin. Code, which states that in the supervision and direction of delegated nursing acts, an RN shall do the following:
    - Delegate tasks commensurate with educational preparation and demonstrated abilities of the person supervised.
    - Provide direction and assistance to those supervised.

- Observe and monitor the activities of those supervised.
- Evaluate the effectiveness of acts performed under supervision.

Administration of Preselected Medication

A home health aide may administer medications to any member, regardless of age or functional capacity, when both of the following conditions are met:

- The medication is preselected by a nurse, pharmacist, member, or designated family member.
- All agency requirements are met.

Administration of Medication That Is Not Preselected

Administration of medication by home health aides may include selection of the medication and selection of the dose, along with direct application of the medication.

The act of administration of medication that has not been preselected may be provided by home health aides only when both of the following conditions are met and documented in the provider's records:

- When medication has not been preselected, there is documented evidence that the home health aide has been trained in the actions, uses, effects, adverse reactions, and toxic effects of all medications administered. Additionally, the home health aide must be trained relative to appropriate responses to adverse reactions to any medication administered. The delegating RN must verify the training by doing at least one return demonstration with each home health aide administering medication to a specific member as directed by DHS 133.06(4)(c), Wis. Admin. Code.
- All agency requirements are met.

Topic #2110

Place of Service

Services must be provided in the member's residence to be covered home health aide services.

Topic #2109

Providers of Services

Home health aides are required to be trained according to requirements issued by the DQA (Division of Quality Assurance). The completion of training and demonstration of competency to perform each assigned task should be documented in the home health aide's personnel record.

An RN (registered nurse), a physical therapist, an occupational therapist, or a speech-language pathologist is required to prepare written instructions for member services provided by a home health aide, as appropriate. Instructions may include duties, delegated nursing acts, a home therapy program, assistance with a member's activities of daily living, and household tasks incidental to direct care.

Topic #2108

Skin Care

Skin care may be a delegated nursing act and medically necessary when legend solutions, lotions, or ointments are ordered by the physician due to skin breakdown, wounds, open sores, etc. Typically, a legend drug is a medication not sold over-the-counter. PRN (pro re nata) or prophylactic skin care is an ADL (activity of daily living) task, not a delegated nursing act.

Topic #2107

Vital Signs

Taking vital signs may include, but is not limited to, taking the following readings from the member:

- Temperature.
- Blood pressure.
- Pulse.
- Pulse oximetry readings.
- Respiratory rate.

The member's vital signs are to be reported to the supervising nurse whenever they are outside the parameters established for the member by the physician. Taking vital signs may be medically necessary when the member's medical history supports the need for ongoing monitoring for early detection of an exacerbation, and the physician establishes parameters at which point a change in treatment may be required.

Home Health Skilled Nursing Services

Topic #2151

Catheters

Insertion and sterile irrigation and replacement of indwelling urinary catheters and care of suprapubic catheters are considered skilled nursing services. When the catheter is necessitated by a permanent or temporary loss of bladder control, medically necessary skilled nursing services that are provided at a frequency appropriate to the type of catheter in use are reimbursable.

When complications are absent, Foley catheters generally require skilled service once every 30 days and silicone catheters generally require skilled service once every 60-90 days. More frequent care may be reimbursed if documentation supports the medical necessity. This frequency of service is considered reasonable and medically necessary. In some instances, there are complications that require more frequent skilled services related to the catheter.

If intermittent catheterization is delegated to an LPN (licensed practical nurse) or home health aide by the RN (registered nurse), medical record documentation must support that the LPN or home health aide has been taught the procedure and has demonstrated competence in the procedure.

Topic #2150

Determining Skilled Nursing Services

In determining whether a service is skilled (i.e., requires the skills of an RN (registered nurse) or LPN (licensed practical nurse)), providers should consider the inherent complexity of the service, the condition of the member, and accepted standards of medical and nursing practice. Some services are classified as skilled nursing services on the basis of the complexity of the services alone, such as intravenous and intramuscular injections or insertion of catheters. However, the member's condition may be such that a service that would ordinarily be considered unskilled may be considered a skilled nursing service because the service can only be safely and effectively provided by a nurse.

Agencies should be aware that while some services may be provided by a licensed nurse, they may not be considered a Medicaid-covered service. For example, nonskilled services provided by a nurse due to the unavailability of a home health aide or PCW (personal care worker) to provide the nonskilled services, regardless of the importance of the services to the member, are not reimbursable as skilled nursing services.

Examples of Circumstances in Which Skilled Nursing May Be Required

There may be circumstances in which skilled nursing services may be required for services that might ordinarily be considered unskilled care. For example:

- A broken leg does not necessarily indicate a need for skilled care. However, if the member has a pre-existing circulatory condition, skilled nursing services may be needed to check for complications, to monitor medication administration for pain control, and to teach proper ambulation techniques to ensure proper bone alignment and healing.
- The condition of a member who has irritable bowel syndrome or who is recovering from rectal surgery may be such that only a nurse can safely and effectively give the member an enema. If the enema is necessary to treat the medical condition, the visit may be covered as a skilled nursing visit.

However, a service that, by its nature, requires the skills of a licensed nurse to be provided safely and effectively, continues to be

a skilled service even if it is taught to the member, the member's family, or other caregivers. For example, if a member is discharged from the hospital with an open draining wound that requires irrigation, packing, and dressing twice each day, the care is considered skilled nursing care, even if the family is taught to perform the care and provides it part or all of the time.

Topic #2149

Home Health Skilled Nursing Visits

Wisconsin Medicaid reimburses only two types of home health skilled nursing visits:

- *Home Health Skilled Nursing Initial Visit* — the member's first home health skilled nursing visit of any duration by an RN (registered nurse) or LPN (licensed practical nurse) in a calendar day. Only one initial visit is reimbursable per calendar day per member, regardless of the number of providers.
- *Home Health Skilled Nursing Subsequent Visit* — each additional home health skilled nursing visit of any duration following the initial visit per calendar day.

A visit begins when the RN or LPN enters the residence to provide a covered service. The visit ends when the RN or LPN leaves the residence at the conclusion of the covered service.

A visit made by a skilled nurse solely to train other home health providers is not a covered service. The home health agency is responsible for ensuring that its providers are properly trained to perform any service it furnishes. The cost of a skilled nurse's visit for the purpose of training home health agency staff is an administrative cost to the home health agency.

Topic #2148

Intake Evaluations

Federal regulations require home health agencies to have written policies concerning the acceptance of members by the agency. When personnel of the agency make an intake evaluation visit, the cost of the visit is considered an administrative cost of the agency and is not reimbursable separately as a skilled nursing visit since, at this point, the member has not been accepted for care.

If, however, during the course of this intake evaluation visit, the member is determined suitable for home health care by the agency and is also provided the first skilled nursing service as ordered by the POC (plan of care), the visit would become the first reimbursable home health skilled nursing visit.

Topic #2143

Member Enrollment for Services

According to DHS 107.11(2), Wis. Admin. Code, a member is eligible for home health skilled nursing services if he or she:

- Requires less than eight hours of direct, skilled nursing services in a 24-hour period according to the POC (plan of care).
- Does not reside in a hospital or nursing facility.
- Requires a considerable and taxing effort to leave the residence or cannot reasonably obtain services outside the residence.

Topic #2147

Nasopharyngeal and Tracheostomy Suctioning

Nasopharyngeal and tracheostomy suctioning are skilled nursing services and are covered as skilled nursing services if they are required to treat the member's medical condition.

Topic #2146

Ostomy Care

Ostomy care during the post-operative period and in the presence of associated complications where the need for skilled nursing care is clearly documented is a skilled nursing service. Teaching of ostomy care is reimbursable during the time that a skilled assessment or another covered skilled nursing care is required.

Topic #2145

Place of Service

Services must be provided in the member's place of residence to be covered home health skilled nursing services.

Topic #2144

Qualifying Hours of Care

A maximum of 30 calendar days of skilled nursing care may continue to be reimbursed as home health services, beginning on the day 8 hours or more of skilled nursing services became necessary. To continue medically necessary services after 30 days, PA (prior authorization) for PDN (private duty nursing) is required under DHS 107.12(2), Wis. Admin. Code.

To determine if a member receives less than eight hours of direct skilled nursing services, add up the total hours of direct skilled nursing care provided by all caregivers, including home health agencies, independent nurses, and skilled cares provided by family or friends. If this adds up to *less* than eight hours, the member may enroll for home health skilled nursing services.

If the member requires eight or *more* hours of direct skilled nursing services in a 24-hour period, he or she may enroll for PDN services. A member cannot be enrolled for both home health skilled nursing services and PDN services.

Topic #2142

Reimbursable Assessments

Assessment of a member's condition is always a part of required nursing supervision. However, the assessment of the member's condition may be reimbursable as a skilled nursing service when:

- The member's medical condition requires a nurse to identify and evaluate the need for possible modification of treatment. This may include when the following indications are present and documented:
  - Abnormal or fluctuating vital signs.
  - Weight changes.
  - Edema.
  - Symptoms of drug toxicity.
  - Abnormal or fluctuating lab values.
  - Respiratory changes on auscultation.

  A one-time visit by an RN (registered nurse) may be medically necessary to assess and evaluate the medical condition of

the member in response to a home health aide, PCW (personal care worker), the member or the member's family, or another person expressing concern that the member's medical condition may have changed. This assessment visit may be covered whether or not the visit results in intervention or a change in the POC (plan of care). Providers may request an amendment to a PA (prior authorization) to cover this visit.

The member's medical condition requires a nurse to initiate additional medical procedures until the member's treatment regimen stabilizes but is not part of an established pattern of care.

A member often requires a skilled nursing assessment during the first 30 days following hospital discharge or until the member's medical condition and treatment regimen stabilizes.

- There is a likelihood of complications or an acute episode requiring a nurse to identify and evaluate the member's need for possible modification of treatment or initiation of additional medical procedures until the member's treatment regimen is essentially stabilized.

  When a member is admitted to home health care for assessment because there is reasonable potential of a complication or further acute episode, the skilled assessment services are covered only for as long as there remains a reasonable potential for such a complication or acute episode. Medical record documentation must support the likelihood of a future complication or acute episode.

Examples of Reimbursable Assessments

The following are examples of reimbursable assessments:

- A member with arteriosclerotic heart disease with unstable congestive heart failure requires close observation by skilled nursing personnel for signs of decompensation or adverse affects from prescribed medication. Skilled assessment is needed to determine whether the drug regimen should be modified or whether other therapeutic measures should be considered until the member's treatment regimen is essentially stabilized.
- A member has undergone peripheral vascular disease treatment, including a bypass. The incision area is showing signs of potential infection, and the member has an elevated temperature. Skilled assessment of the perfusion of the legs and the integrity of the incision site is necessary until the signs of potential infection have abated.

Topic #2141

Reimbursable Ongoing Assessment Visits

When an assessment visit does not meet the guidelines for medical necessity, it may be reimbursed as an ongoing assessment (Title 19 re-evaluation) visit if all of the following criteria are met:

- The member's medical condition is stable (a medical condition is considered stable when the member's physical condition is non-acute and without substantial variability at the current time).
- The member has not received a covered skilled nursing service (including medication management), covered personal care service, or covered home visit by a physician within the past 62 days.
- A skilled assessment is required to re-evaluate the continuing appropriateness of the POC (plan of care).

In accordance with federal Medicaid regulations, the visit must be ordered by a physician in order to be covered. In the ongoing assessment visit, the RN (registered nurse) is required to do the following:

- Assess the member's current medical condition (including systems assessment, environmental assessment, psychosocial assessment, and functional assessment).
- Evaluate the member's progress or lack of progress towards meeting established goals.
- Modify the POC as needed.

The ongoing assessment visit is to be used to assess the member who is only receiving home health aide services or home health aide and home health therapy services. Persons receiving covered skilled nursing visits must be assessed during those covered visits. Skilled nursing services include the following:

- PDN (private duty nursing) provided by an RN or LPN (licensed practical nurse).
- PDN for ventilator-dependent members provided by an RN or LPN.
- Initial or subsequent home health nursing visits.
- Personal care supervisory visits.

Wisconsin Medicaid may reimburse for ongoing skilled nursing assessments and visits provided once every 55 calendar days.

PA (prior authorization) is not required for an ongoing assessment visit. Providers are required to submit claims using the ongoing assessment visit procedure code.

Examples of Non-Reimbursable Ongoing Assessments

The following are examples of non-reimbursable ongoing assessments:

- A physician orders one skilled nursing visit every two weeks and three PCW (personal care worker) visits each week for bathing and washing hair for a member whose recovery from a cerebral vascular accident has caused a residual weakness on the left side. The member's condition is stable and the member has reached the maximum functional independence. There are currently no underlying conditions that would necessitate a skilled assessment, therefore, an ongoing assessment visit would not be covered in this situation because a personal care visit is more appropriate.
- A visit that is made specifically for filling out paperwork, such as an OASIS (Outcome and Assessment Information Set), is not covered.

Topic #2140

Reimbursable Teaching and Training Activities

Teaching and training activities that require skilled nursing personnel to teach a member, the member's family, or unpaid caregivers how to manage the treatment regimen would constitute skilled nursing services only when provided to a member in conjunction with other reimbursable skilled nursing services.

When it becomes apparent after a reasonable period of time that the member, family, or caregiver is unwilling or unable to learn or be trained, further teaching and training ceases to be reasonable and medically necessary. The reason that the member, family, or caregiver is unwilling or unable to be trained should be documented in the medical record.

Examples of Reimbursable Teaching and Training Activities

The following are examples of reimbursable teaching and training activities:

- A physician has ordered skilled nursing services for a man who was hospitalized for a broken hip and has now been discharged to home. While hospitalized, the member was newly diagnosed with diabetes. Skilled nursing care is ordered to closely monitor blood glucose levels until the levels stabilize and to assess understanding of and compliance with a diabetic diet. In this case, teaching of self-injection and management of insulin, signs and symptoms of insulin shock, and actions to take in emergencies is reasonable and necessary to the treatment of the medical condition, since the member is receiving skilled care and cannot reasonably be expected to go to his physician for the instruction.
- A member with arteriosclerotic heart disease and congestive heart failure requires close observation by a nurse for signs of decompensation or adverse affects resulting from newly prescribed medication. When visiting the member to assess his or

her medical condition, teaching about the medication regimen is appropriate. (Under Wisconsin pharmacy law and Wisconsin Medicaid regulations, pharmacists are required to instruct the person picking up a prescription about the medication, including instructions for administration and signs of adverse reactions. In most cases, the person obtaining the prescription may also obtain this information over the telephone.)

Topic #2139

Reimbursable Venipunctures

Venipuncture is a skilled nursing service when the collection of the specimen is necessary to the diagnosis and treatment of the member's medical condition and when the venipuncture cannot be performed in the course of regularly scheduled absences from the home to acquire medical treatment. The frequency of visits for venipuncture must be reasonable within accepted standards of medical practice for treatment of the medical condition. Venipuncture is reasonable and necessary when the following occurs:

- The treatment is recognized as being reasonable and medically necessary to the treatment of the medical condition. The physician order for the venipuncture should clarify the need for the test when it is not diagnosis/illness specific.
- The frequency of the testing is consistent with accepted standards of medical practice for continued monitoring and assessment of a diagnosis, medical problem, or treatment regimen. Even when the laboratory results are consistently stable, periodic venipunctures may be reasonable and necessary because of the nature of the treatment.

Reimbursable Venipuncture for Prothrombin

Venipuncture may be reimbursable when the following is true:

- Documentation shows that the dosage is being adjusted and ongoing monitoring is ordered by the physician.
- The results are stable within non-therapeutic ranges. There must be documentation of other factors that would indicate why continued monitoring is reasonable and medically necessary.
- The results are stable within the therapeutic ranges. Monthly monitoring may be reasonable and necessary.

Examples of Reasonable and Necessary Venipunctures

The following are examples of reasonable and necessary venipuctures:

- Many medications may cause side effects, such as leukopenia and agranulocytosis, and it is standard medical practice to monitor the white blood cell count and differential count on a routine basis (every three months) when the results are stable and the member is asymptomatic.
- In monitoring phenytoin (e.g., Dilantin ®) administration, the difference between a therapeutic and a toxic level of phenytoin in the blood is very slight. It is therefore appropriate to monitor the level on a routine basis (every three months) when the results are stable and the member is asymptomatic.
- A member with coronary artery disease was hospitalized with atrial fibrillation and was subsequently discharged to the home health agency with orders for anticoagulation therapy. Monthly venipunctures as indicated are necessary to report prothrombin (protime) levels to the physician.

Topic #2138

Supervision

In accordance with licensure requirements and as stated in ch. N 6, Wis. Admin. Code, LPNs are required to be supervised by an RN or a physician. Ongoing supervision of a home health aide, LPN, or PCW must be provided in accordance with DHS 105.16(2)(b), Wis. Admin. Code.

Ongoing supervision of a home health aide, LPN, or PCW (personal care worker) must be provided in accordance with DHS 105.16(2)(b), Wis. Admin. Code.

Supervisory visits must include:

- A review and evaluation of the member's medical condition and medical needs according to the written POC (plan of care) during the period in which agency care is being provided.
- An evaluation of the appropriateness of the relationship between the direct care giver and the member.
- An assessment of the extent to which the member's goals are being met.
- A determination of whether or not the current level of home health services provided to the member continues to be appropriate to treat the member's medical condition.
- A determination of whether or not the services are medically necessary.
- A discussion and review with the member about the services received by the member.

After each supervisory visit, the RN must discuss the results of the supervisory visits with the home health aide, LPN, or PCW. The results of each supervisory visit must be documented in the member's medical record.

Separate reimbursement for supervisory visits is limited to PCW supervisory visits. Specific information on the supervision of PCWs is available in the Personal Care area of the Online Handbook.

Topic #2137

Tube Insertions and Feedings

Nasogastric, gastrostomy, and jejunostomy tube feeding are covered services. Replacement, stabilization, and suctioning of the tubes are also covered skilled nursing services.

If the feeding of a member via gastrostomy or jejunostomy tube is delegated to an LPN (licensed practical nurse), home health aide, or PCW (personal care worker), medical record documentation must support that the caregiver has been instructed in all aspects of tube feeding. This delegation may occur only when deemed appropriate by the supervising RN (registered nurse) after assessment of the member's medical condition.

Topic #2136

Wound Care

Wound care relates to the direct, hands-on skilled nursing care provided to members with wounds, including any necessary dressing changes on those wounds.

Wound care, including, but not limited to, ulcers, burns, pressure sores, open surgical sites, fistulas, and tube sites, is a skilled nursing service when the skills of a licensed nurse are needed to safely and effectively care for the wound. For skilled nursing care to be reasonable and necessary to treat a wound, the grade, size, depth, nature of drainage (color, odor, consistency, and quantity), condition, and appearance of the surrounding skin of the wound must be documented in the POC (plan of care). This allows an assessment of the need for skilled nursing to be made.

The POC must contain the specific instructions for the wound treatment. Where the physician has ordered appropriate active treatment (e.g., sterile or complex dressings, administration of prescription medications) of wounds with the following characteristics, the skills of a licensed nurse may be reasonable and necessary:

- Open wounds that are draining purulent exudate or that have a foul odor present and/or for which the member is receiving

antibiotic therapy.
- Wounds with a drain or T-tube that require interval position changes.
- Wounds that require irrigation or instillation of a sterile cleansing or medicated solution into several layers of tissue and skin and/or packing with sterile gauze.
- Recently debrided ulcers.
- Pressure sores (decubitus ulcers) that present the following characteristics:
    - Partial tissue loss with signs of infection, such as foul odor or purulent drainage.
    - Full thickness tissue loss that involves exposure of fat or invasion of other tissue, such as muscle or bone.
- Wounds with exposed internal vessels or a mass that may have a proclivity for hemorrhage when a dressing is changed.
- Open wounds or widespread skin complications following radiation therapy or that result from immune deficiencies or vascular insufficiencies.
- Post-operative wounds where there are complications, such as infection or allergic reaction, or there is an underlying disease that has a reasonable potential to adversely affect healing (e.g., diabetes).
- Third degree burns and second degree burns, where the size of the burn or presence of complications causes skilled nursing care to be needed.
- Other open or complex wounds that require treatment that can be safely and effectively provided only by a licensed nurse.

For skilled nursing services to continue, there must be ongoing medical record documentation of the grade, size, depth, nature of drainage, and condition of the wound and appearance of surrounding skin.

Skilled nursing care is ordinarily not required for wounds or ulcers that show redness, edema and induration, at times with epidermal blistering or desquamation. Wounds that only require an antibacterial ointment, nonsterile covering, occlusive covering, opsite or duoderm, and wounds with minimal serous or serosanguinous drainage also do not require skilled nursing care.

However, while the initial care for a wound might not require the services of a skilled nurse, the wound may still require skilled monitoring and assessment for signs and symptoms of infection or complication.

Home Health Therapy Services

Topic #2135

Cotreatment

Cotreatment (interdisciplinary treatment) is simultaneous treatment by two providers of different therapy disciplines during the same time period. If a member requires multiple therapies, and each therapy has a unique approach to the member's treatment, the therapies should be separately and independently provided to give the member the maximum benefit and opportunity for rehabilitation. Providers are also required to meet PA requirements for cotreatment.

Topic #2134

Definition

As stated in DHS 107.11(2), Wis. Admin. Code, the following types of medically necessary skilled therapy services provided by a home health agency are covered:

- PT (physical therapy).
- OT (occupational therapy).
- SLP (speech and language pathology).

Topic #2133

Examples

The following are examples of reimbursable home health therapy visits:

- A member with a diagnosis of multiple sclerosis has recently been discharged from the hospital following an exacerbation of her condition that has left her wheelchair bound and, for the first time, without any expectation of achieving ambulation again. The physician has ordered OT (occupational therapy) to select the proper wheelchair for her long-term use, to teach the member and her family safe use of the wheelchair and safe transfer techniques in her home. OT would be reasonable and necessary to evaluate the member's overall needs, to make the selection of the proper wheelchair, and to teach the member and/or family safe use of the wheelchair, proper transfer techniques, and other self-care activities.
- A physician prescribes PT (physical therapy) treatments three times a week for 45 days for a member who has been discharged from the hospital following a recent hip fracture. The member was discharged using a walker for seven days from the start of home care. The POC (plan of care) shows that the member was discharged from the hospital with restricted mobility in ambulation, transfers, and climbing of stairs. The member has an unsafe gait that indicates a need for gait training, and the member had not been instructed in stair climbing and a home exercise program. The goal of the PT will be to increase strength and range of motion, to progress from walker to cane with safe gait, and to address stair climbing. The services are reasonable and necessary for the treatment of the member's medical condition.

Topic #2132

Home Health Therapy Visits

A home heath therapy visit is a visit of any duration by a physical therapist, occupational therapist, or speech-language pathologist for a period of therapy service. Only one PT (physical therapy) visit, OT (occupational therapy) visit, and SLP (speech-language pathology) visit, per member, per day, is reimbursable by Wisconsin Medicaid.

A visit begins when the therapy provider enters the residence to provide a covered service. The visit ends when the therapy provider leaves the residence.

A visit made by a therapy provider solely to train other home health providers is not a covered service. The home health agency is responsible for ensuring that its providers are properly trained to perform any service it furnishes. The cost of a skilled therapy provider's visit for the purpose of training home health agency providers is an administrative cost to the home health agency.

Topic #2131

Medically Necessary Skilled Therapy Services

Services that may only be performed safely and effectively by a skilled physical therapist, occupational therapist, or speech-language pathologist are considered skilled therapy services. Wisconsin Medicaid will cover only skilled therapy services that are medically necessary. The skilled therapy services must be consistent with the nature and severity of the member's medical condition and functional status. The amount, frequency, and duration of the services must also be medically necessary and must not duplicate other services being provided.

The skilled therapy services must be provided with the expectation of *one* of the following outcomes, based on the physician's assessment of the member's rehabilitation potential:

- The condition of the member is expected to improve materially in a reasonable and generally predictable period of time.
- The services are necessary to the establishment of a safe and effective maintenance program.

Also, the member must show the following:

- Motivation, interest, or desire to participate in home health therapy. The frequency and amount of home health therapy should depend on the member's demonstrated response to current therapy and/or estimated response to proposed therapy.
- Progress toward meeting or maintaining established measurable goals or show carryover (follow-through of activities or skills learned) within six months of treatment at home.

The skilled therapy services must be considered, under accepted standards of medical practice, to be specific and effective treatment for the member's condition.

Services of skilled therapy providers that are for the purpose of teaching the member or the member's family or caregivers necessary techniques, exercises, or precautions are covered to the extent that they are reasonable and necessary to treat the medical condition. Direct treatment must be provided during family or caregiver education session(s).

The therapy provider is required to provide a summary of all therapy activities, including goals and outcomes, to the member's physician at least every 62 days, and also upon the completion of therapy services to the member.

Topic #2130

Place of Service

BadgerCare Plus and Medicaid therapy services provided through home health agencies must be provided in the member's place of residence except when federal regulations allow services to be provided elsewhere due to the need for special equipment.

Topic #2129

Providers of Services

Home health therapy services are provided by physical therapists, occupational therapists, and speech-language pathologists through home health agencies. The therapy providers may be any of the following:

- Employed by the home health agency.
- Employed by an agency under contract with the home health agency.
- Independent providers under contract with the home health agency.

Therapy providers employed by, or under contract with, home health agencies are required to meet all Medicaid certification requirements, but they are not required to be individually certified by Wisconsin Medicaid. The home health agency is required to maintain records showing that its individual providers meet Medicaid requirements.

Topic #2128

Supervision of Assistants

A physical therapist, occupational therapist, or speech-language pathologist is required to be physically present at a member's residence to supervise an assistant. The supervising physical therapist, occupational therapist, or speech-language pathologist is required to be of the same therapy discipline as the assistant. The agency may bill for the services of either the physical therapist, occupational therapist, speech-language pathologist, or the assistant during any one visit; the agency may not bill for both professionals at the same time.

Topic #2127

Therapy Evaluation

A therapy evaluation must be completed prior to the development of a therapy POC (plan of care). The evaluation must be reviewed, signed, and dated by the rendering therapy provider, who must be identified as such on the evaluation. The evaluation must include the comprehensive results of formal/informal tests and measurements that provide a baseline for the member's functional limitations from which a POC is established. The evaluation must include written instructions for follow through or carryover by the member and/or caregiver. Follow through or carryover must be realistically achievable by the member and/or caregiver at the place of residence.

Topic #2126

Therapy Plan of Care

A therapy POC (plan of care) must be completed prior to the provision of home health therapy services. The therapy POC must contain specific and measurable goals that are related to an identified deficit and are appropriate to the member's chronological or developmental age, way of life, and home situation. The therapy goals must be medical in nature, rather than educational, social, or vocational.

Medication Management and Administration

Topic #2106

Available Alternatives to Medication Management Visits

Several alternatives are available to assist in meeting members' medication needs and should be considered when determining the medical necessity and frequency of medication management visits.

A variety of dispensing devices, adaptive aids, and delivery systems are available to assist a member in dispensing his or her own medication. Examples of these include:

- Insulin pens.
- Medication dispensers.
- Medication organizers.
- Alarms.

Providers should contact the member's physician to determine if prescribing one of these products would be appropriate for the member.

Insulin Pens

For each fill, Wisconsin Medicaid covers up to a three-month supply of prefilled insulin pens and cartridges through the pharmacy benefit. A pharmacy can submit claims to ForwardHealth for prescriptions for insulin products and supplies.

Combining Services

In consultation with the member's physician, home health agencies should determine the best combination of medication management visits and use of alternative dispensing devices, adaptive aids, and delivery systems appropriate to the member's condition.

Topic #2105

Community Vaccination Clinics

Home health agencies may submit claims to ForwardHealth for medically necessary influenza and pneumococcal vaccinations provided at community vaccination clinics. There must be established written protocol, policy, and guidelines that are approved by the agency's medical director.

Providers are required to submit a separate UB-04 claim form using the appropriate procedure code for each member receiving these vaccines. ForwardHealth does not accept rosters of members who received vaccines.

Topic #2104

Eye Drops and Topical Ointments

The administration of eye drops and topical ointments does not require the skills of a licensed nurse. Therefore, even if the

administration of eye drops or ointments is necessary for the treatment of an illness or injury and the member cannot self-administer them, and there is no one available to administer them, the visits cannot be covered as a skilled nursing service. However, administration can be provided during a covered skilled nursing visit for observation and assessment of the member's condition.

Topic #2103

Home Vaccination

Home health agencies may administer the influenza and pneumococcal vaccines to members who they are currently serving when there is a physician order for the vaccination.

A nurse is required to administer the vaccine during an already scheduled home health skilled nursing visit. Wisconsin Medicaid does not reimburse for a home health skilled nursing visit if administration of the vaccination is the only purpose for the visit.

Providers should submit claims for influenza and pneumococcal vaccinations using the UB-04 claim form. When billing for a vaccine, providers should list both the procedure code appropriate for the type of home health skilled nursing visit (initial or subsequent) and the procedure code for the type of vaccine administered.

Coverage for Influenza Services

The following ForwardHealth programs cover medically necessary influenza services (both 2009 H1N1 and seasonal influenza):

- BadgerCare Plus Benchmark Plan.
- BadgerCare Plus Core Plan for Adults with No Dependent Children.
- BadgerCare Plus Standard Plan.
- Express Enrollment for Children.
- Express Enrollment for Pregnant Women.
- Medicaid.

Topic #2102

Intravenous, Intramuscular, or Subcutaneous Injections and Infusions or Intravenous Feedings

Intravenous, intramuscular, or subcutaneous injections and infusions or intravenous feedings require the skills of a nurse to be performed safely and effectively. The medication being administered must be accepted as safe and effective treatment of the member's medical condition, and there must be a medical reason that the medication cannot be taken orally. With the exception of intravenous medications and infusions, these tasks are reimbursable only as medication management visits.

The frequency and duration of the administration of the medication must be within accepted standards of medical practice, or there must be a valid explanation regarding the extenuating circumstances that justify the need for additional injections.

Insulin Injections

Insulin injections by a nurse are not usually considered skilled nursing services. Insulin is customarily self-injected by members or injected by their families, although assistive devices may sometimes be required. However, the injections would be considered a reasonable and necessary skilled nursing service when a member cannot reasonably obtain services outside the residence, is either physically or mentally unable to self-inject insulin (even with the aid of assistive devices), and there is no other person who is able

and willing to inject the member. These services are not covered when a member is eligible for insulin injections and other home health services through Medicare or another insurance provider.

Vitamin B-12 Injections

Vitamin B-12 injections are considered specific therapy only for the following conditions:

- Alcohol neuropathies.
- Anastomosis or partial resection of small intestines.
- Anemia, fish tapeworm.
- Anemia, macrocytic.
- Anemia, megaloblastic.
- Anemia, pernicious.
- Anemia, post-bowel resection.
- Anemia, post-gastrectomy syndrome.
- Blind loop syndrome.
- Cancer of stomach, liver, intestines, and colon.
- Crohn's disease.
- Posterolateral sclerosis.
- Sprue or other malabsorption states.
- Strictures of small intestine.

Synagis® Injections

Synagis® injections are covered only when they are part of an already scheduled, covered skilled nursing visit, and there is a physician's order for the service. Wisconsin Medicaid does not reimburse for skilled nursing visits where the administration of Synagis® is the only purpose for the visit.

Tuberculosis Skin Test

Tuberculosis skin tests and the reading of those tests are covered only when they are part of an already scheduled, covered skilled nursing visit, and there is a physician's order for the service. Wisconsin Medicaid does not reimburse for skilled nursing visits when the administration of a tuberculosis skin test is the only purpose for the visit.

Topic #2101

Medication Management Coverage Guidelines

Medication management visits must adhere to the following guidelines:

- *All nursing services must be consolidated into one visit whenever possible.* A medication management visit *may* be billable on the same DOS (date of service) as a home health skilled nursing visit or personal care supervisory visit when more than one visit is *medically necessary.*
- An ongoing assessment visit is not covered if the member has received a medication management visit within the past 62 days.
- The 30-visit home health PA (prior authorization) threshold includes medication management visits.
- If a member is unable to fill his or her own insulin syringes by the many methods available, prefilled insulin pens are not an appropriate alternative, and a pharmacy is unavailable to fill syringes, medication management visits to fill syringes may be authorized.
- Medication set up may be medically necessary to ensure the medication program is followed correctly, especially when a

member is taking multiple prescriptions at various times during the day. It may also be necessary to allow safe delegation of administration to an unlicensed caregiver.
    - Alternatives to setting up medications, such as picture charts, color coding, and alarm caps, should be considered.
    - Medication set up is normally done on a biweekly basis. Requests for a more frequent set up schedule must be documented as medically necessary and will be determined on a case-by-case basis.
    - Any additional visit to set up missing medications is not covered because Wisconsin Medicaid only reimburses for a completed service, not a partial service. For example, if a medication was not reordered appropriately to completely fill out a member's two-week planner, an additional visit to finish filling out the planner would not be covered.
- In some cases, a mix of home health skilled nursing visits and medication management visits is appropriate. To determine if a visit is for the purpose of medication management or home health skilled nursing, the provider should ask "If no medication management services were needed, would the visit otherwise qualify as a covered home health skilled nursing visit?"
- Medication management visits may be medically necessary and appropriate on a PRN (pro re nata), or "as needed," basis. Such PRN visits may be included in PA requests that include documentation that the request is reasonable.

Topic #2100

Medication Management Covered Services

A medication management visit may include the following services:

- Administering medication, other than intravenous, requiring the skills of a nurse when administration cannot be delegated safely to a home health aide or PCW (personal care worker).
    - Intravenous fluid or medication administration may be billed as a home health skilled nursing visit.
    - Intramuscular and subcutaneous injections are considered medication management visits. This includes sliding scale insulin injections.
- Prefilling syringes for self-injection when the member is not capable and a pharmacy is not available.
- Setting up medication for self-administration, administration, or assistance with administration by an unlicensed caregiver when the member is not capable and a pharmacy is not available. Medication set up includes changing medications, programming an electronic medication dispenser, and instructing the member about the medication program and use of the dispenser.
- Providing other services directly related to a medication program, such as teaching related to a member medication regimen, determined on a case-by-case basis.

Topic #2099

Medication Management Overview

A medication management visit is a medically necessary visit in which a nurse provides medication management when the member is physically or cognitively unable to follow a medication program without assistance, and no other willing and able caregiver is available.

Only a nurse may provide medication management services for the member. The following tasks may be delegated by an RN (registered nurse) to either a home health aide or PCW (personal care worker):

- Assistance with medication administration.
- Medication administration other than by intramuscular or subcutaneous injection, nasogastric, or intravenous administration.

Providers cannot submit claims using procedure code T1502 (Administration of oral, intramuscular and/or subcutaneous medication by health care agency/professional, per visit) for medication assistance or administration provided by a home health aide or PCW.

If skilled nursing services are provided in conjunction with medication management services, the visit is considered a home health skilled nursing visit.

Topic #2098

Oral Medications

The administration of oral medications to a member is not a reasonable or medically necessary skilled nursing service except when the complexity of the member's condition, the nature of the drugs prescribed, and the number of drugs prescribed require the skills of a licensed nurse to detect and evaluate side effects or reactions. The medical record must document the specific circumstances that cause administration of an oral medication to require skilled observation and assessment.

Topic #2097

Psychiatric Medication Management Visits

Medication management services for members with mental illness are generally provided under other BadgerCare Plus or Medicaid benefits.

Medication management services are provided as part of CSP (community support program) services; therefore, they are not covered home health services for members receiving covered CSP services as stated in DHS 107.11(5)(h), Wis. Admin. Code. Refer to the CSP service area for further information. Medication management services are also not covered home health services when these services are provided under outpatient psychotherapy and day treatment services, according to DHS 107.11(5)(h), Wis. Admin. Code.

PA (prior authorization) requests must document information on a member's enrollment status in a CSP, day treatment, or other mental health service that can provide medication management services to the member.

All home health skilled nursing criteria apply when medication management services for mental health members are provided under home health services. This includes the following:

- The services are medically necessary, and the member requires a considerable and taxing effort to leave the residence or cannot reasonably obtain these services outside the residence.
- The medication management service must meet the criteria of the home health benefit.

If providers are not certain what resources are available for a particular mental health member, contact the member's county community services board per ch. 51.42, Wis. Stats. This agency, as specified under ch. 51, Wis. Stats., is responsible for providing or arranging services for its citizens with mental health needs. Contact the member's local county or tribal agency for the agency's contact information.

Noncovered Services

Topic #9337

Basic Plan Noncovered Services

The following are among the services that are not covered under the BadgerCare Plus Basic Plan:

- Case management.
- Certain visits over the 10-visit limit.
- CRS (Community Recovery Services).
- Enteral nutrition.
- HealthCheck.
- Health education services.
- Hearing services, including hearing instruments, cochlear implants, and bone-anchored hearing aids, hearing aid batteries, and repairs.
- Home care services (home health, personal care, PDN (private duty nursing)).
- Inpatient mental health and substance abuse treatment services.
- Non-emergency transportation (i.e., common carrier, SMV (specialized medical vehicle)).
- Nursing home.
- Obstetrical care and delivery.
- Outpatient mental health and substance abuse services.
- PNCC (prenatal care coordination).
- Provider-administered drugs.
- Routine vision examinations billed with CPT (Current Procedural Terminology) codes 92002-92014 (without a qualifying diagnosis), determination of refractive state billed with CPT code 92015; vision materials such as glasses, contact lenses, and ocular prosthetics; repairs to vision materials; and services related to the fitting of contact lenses and spectacles.
- SBS (school-based services).
- Transplants and transplant-related services.

Billing Members for Noncovered Services

Basic Plan members may request noncovered services from providers. In those cases, providers may collect payment for the noncovered service from the member if the member accepts responsibility for payment and makes payment arrangements with the provider. Providers are strongly encouraged to obtain a written statement in advance documenting that the member has accepted responsibility for payment of the service.

Providers may bill members up to their usual and customary charge for noncovered services. Basic Plan members do not have appeal rights for noncovered services.

Topic #5517

Core Plan Noncovered Services

The following services are not covered under the BadgerCare Plus Core Plan:

- Case management.
- CRS (Community Recovery Services).

- Enteral nutrition products.
- Hearing services, including hearing instruments, cochlear implants, bone-anchored hearing aids, hearing aid batteries, and repairs.
- Home care services (home health, personal care, PDN (private duty nursing)).
- Inpatient mental health and substance abuse treatment services.
- Non-emergency transportation (i.e., common carrier, SMV (specialized medical vehicle)).
- Nursing home.
- PNCC (prenatal care coordination).
- Routine vision examinations billed with CPT (Current Procedural Terminology) codes 92002-92014 (without a qualifying diagnosis), determination of refractive state billed with CPT code 92015; vision materials such as glasses, contact lenses, and ocular prosthetics; repairs to vision materials; and services related to the fitting of contact lenses and spectacles.
- SBS (school-based services).

Services that exceed a service limitation established under the Core Plan are considered noncovered. Providers are required to follow certain procedures for billing members who receive these services.

Billing Members for Noncovered Services

Services rendered during a noncovered home health visit will not be reimbursed by ForwardHealth. Providers are encouraged to inform the member when he or she has reached a service limitation. If a member requests a service that exceeds the limitation, the member is responsible for payment. Providers should make payment arrangements with the member in advance. Providers may bill members up to their usual and customary charges for noncovered services.

Topic #68

Definition of Noncovered Services

A noncovered service is a service, item, or supply for which reimbursement is not available. DHS 101.03(103) and 107, Wis. Admin. Code, contain more information about noncovered services. In addition, DHS 107.03, Wis. Admin. Code, contains a general list of noncovered services.

Topic #104

Member Payment for Noncovered Services

A provider may collect payment from a member for noncovered services if certain conditions are met.

Providers may not collect payment from a member, or authorized person acting on behalf of the member, for certain noncovered services or activities provided in connection with covered services, including the following:

- Charges for missed appointments.
- Charges for telephone calls.
- Charges for time involved in completing necessary forms, claims, or reports.
- Translation services.

Missed Appointments

The federal CMS (Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services) does not allow state Medicaid programs to permit providers to collect payment from a member, or authorized person acting on behalf of the member, for a missed appointment.

Avoiding Missed Appointments

ForwardHealth offers the following suggestions to help avoid missed appointments:

- Remind members of upcoming appointments (by telephone or postcard) prior to scheduled appointments.
- Encourage the member to call for NEMT (non-emergency medical transportation) services. Most members may receive NEMT services through LogsitiCare. Refer to the NEMT service area for more information.
- If the appointment is made through the HealthCheck screening or targeted case management programs, encourage the staff from those programs to ensure that the scheduled appointments are kept.

Translation Services

Translation services are considered part of the provider's overhead cost and are not separately reimbursable. Providers may not collect payment from a member, or authorized person acting on behalf of the member, for translation services.

Providers should call the Affirmative Action and Civil Rights Compliance Officer at (608) 266-9372 for information about when translation services are required by federal law. Providers may also write to the following address:

AA/CRC Office
1 W Wilson St Rm 561
PO Box 7850
Madison WI 53707-7850

Private Duty Nursing Services

Topic #2025

Daylight Savings Time

Wisconsin Medicaid reimburses only for the number of hours actually worked. Providers who work when daylight savings time ends are still required to adhere to the limitations on authorized services. Nurses are expected to adjust their schedules in advance to accommodate changes in the clock time.

Providers should adhere to the limits on authorized PDN (private duty nursing services) services.

Topic #2096

Emergency Procedures

As required by DHS 105.16(10)(e), Wis. Admin. Code, all agencies providing PDN (private duty nursing) are required to have the following back-up and emergency procedures in place:

- Have identified another nurse on the case as a backup to provide services to the member in the event the scheduled nurse is temporarily unable to provide services. Providers are required to inform members of the backup nurse's name before the backup nurse provides services.
- Have a written plan for member-specific emergency procedures in the case of a life-threatening situation, fire, or severe weather warnings. Home health agencies are required to give this plan to the member and all caregivers prior to the initiation of these procedures.
- Take appropriate action in the case of any significant accident, injury, or adverse change in the member's condition. Nurses are required to immediately notify the member's physician, guardian (if any), and any other responsible person designated in writing by the member or member's legal representative.

Topic #2092

Member Eligibility for Services

According to DHS 107.12(1)(a), Wis. Admin. Code, a member is eligible for PDN (private duty nursing) services if he or she:

- Requires a total of eight or more hours of direct skilled nursing services in a 24-hour period according to the POC (plan of care).
- Does not reside in a hospital or nursing facility.
- Has a written POC specifying the medical necessity for PDN services.

Ventilator-Dependent Members

In accordance with DHS 107.113(1), Wis. Admin. Code, a ventilator-dependent member is eligible for respiratory care when he or she meets all of the criteria for PDN services and meets the following requirements:

- Is medically dependent on a ventilator for life support at least six hours per day. In addition, the member is required to meet one of the following two conditions:

    - Has been hospitalized for at least 30 consecutive days for his or her respiratory condition. The 30 consecutive days may occur in more than one hospital or nursing facility.
    - If the member has been hospitalized for less than 30 days, the member's enrollment for services will be determined by the DHCAA (Division of Health Care Access and Accountability) Chief Medical Officer on a case-by-case basis. The Chief Medical Officer's determination may include discussions with the member's pulmonologist and/or primary care physician to evaluate the member's diagnosis, prognosis, history of hospitalizations for the respiratory condition, and weaning attempts, when appropriate.
- Has adequate social support to be treated at home and desires to be treated at home.
- May have ventilator care safely provided at home.

Topic #2091

Member Medical Record

Home health agencies are required to maintain a medical record for each member receiving PDN (private duty nursing) services as stated in DHS 105.16(10)(d), Wis. Admin. Code. The record must document the nature and scope of all services provided and be systematically organized and readily accessible to ForwardHealth. The medical record must include all of the following:

- Member identification information.
- The member's condition, problems, progress, and all services rendered.
- Appropriate hospital information supplied by the hospital, including discharge information, diagnosis, current patient status, and post-discharge POC (plan of care).
- An admission evaluation and assessment of the member.
- All medical orders, including the current physician written POC and all interim physician's orders. The Plan of Care chapter contains further information about a physician's verbal orders.
- A consolidated list of medications, including start and stop dates, dosage, route of administration, and frequency. This list must be reviewed and updated for each nursing visit, if necessary.
- Progress notes posted as frequently as necessary to clearly and accurately document the member's status and services provided. A "progress note" is a written notation, timed, dated, and signed by a member of the health team providing covered services, that summarizes facts about the care furnished and the member's response during a given period of time.
- Clinical notes written, timed, signed, and dated the day service is provided and incorporated into the medical record within seven days. A copy of these notes should be maintained in the record in the member's home. These notes are a notation of contact with a member that document the PDN services provided and should do the following:
    - Describe the member's medical status, including signs and symptoms.
    - List the time and date of the contact, a description of treatment and drugs administered, and the member's reaction.
    - Describe any changes in the member's physical or emotional condition and any nursing intervention.

      Nurses are encouraged to write clinical notes as services are provided and complete them by the end of each shift. These notes should be utilized by nurses performing services during subsequent shifts in order to maintain continuity of care.
- Written summaries of the member's care provided by the nurse to the physician at least every 62 days.

The following information must be included in the documentation concurrent to the notation of service in both progress notes and clinical notes:

- The date and time of service.
- The signature and title of the rendering provider.

All physician-ordered treatments and interventions included in the POC must be documented in the member's medical record.

For ventilator-dependent members, the ventilator settings, parameters, and the ventilator checks must also be documented in the

member's medical record at least for each nurses' shift.

The results of each supervisory visit must be documented in the member's medical record.

Topic #4897

Members with Changing Nursing Needs

During a member's course of treatment, the number of hours of nursing services he or she requires may change. As a result, the member may transition from home health services to PDN (private duty nursing) services or the member may no longer require PDN services. When a change in the level of service occurs, providers are required to submit a new PA/RF (Prior Authorization Request Form, HCF 11018) to Wisconsin Medicaid.

Members Changing to Private Duty Nursing

If the condition of a member receiving home health skilled nursing services changes to the point that eight or more hours of direct, skilled nursing care are required in a calendar day, the member is no longer eligible for home health skilled nursing services. For reimbursement of covered services, the provider should request PA (prior authorization) for PDN services.

Topic #2095

Place of Service

As stated in DHS 107.12(1)(a), Wis. Admin. Code, members who are authorized to receive PDN (private duty nursing) services in the home may make use of approved hours of service outside the home setting during those hours when a member's normal life activities take him or her outside the home setting.

Topic #2094

Providers of Services

Only RNs (registered nurses) and LPNs (licensed practical nurses) can provide PDN (private duty nursing). The following PDN services can only be performed by an RN:

- The initial evaluation visit.
- Initiating the physician's POC (plan of care) and any necessary revisions.
- Providing those services that require the care of an RN as defined in ch. N 6, Wis. Admin Code.
- Initiating appropriate preventive and rehabilitative procedures.
- Regularly evaluating the member's needs.
- Acting as the PDN PAL (prior authorization liaison).

Nursing services not requiring an RN may be provided by an LPN under the supervision of an RN. An LPN's duties include the following:

- Performing nursing acts delegated by an RN under ch. N 6.03, Wis. Admin. Code.
- Assisting the member in learning appropriate self-care techniques.
- Meeting the nursing needs of the member according to the written POC. All nursing acts performed must be within the professional scope of practice for the LPN.

In accordance with DHS 105.16(10)(a)3, Wis. Admin. Code, both RNs and LPNs are required to do the following:

- Arrange for or provide health care counseling within the scope of nursing practice to the member and the member's family in meeting the needs related to the member's condition.
- Provide coordination of care for the member, including ensuring that provision is made for all required hours of care for the member.
- Accept only those delegated medical acts for which there are written or verbal orders and for which the nurse has appropriate training or experience.
- Within 24 hours of providing service, prepare written clinical notes that document the care provided and incorporate them into the member's medical record within seven days.
- Promptly inform the physician and other personnel participating in the member's care of changes in the member's condition and needs.

Ventilator-Dependent Members

Only RNs and LPNs may provide PDN services to ventilator-dependent members. The provider is required to document that the appropriate home health agency staff are qualified to perform all of the following services:

- *Tracheostomy care*. Stoma care, suctioning, humidification, changing a tracheostomy tube, and emergency procedures for tracheostomy care.
- *Oxygen therapy*. Operation of oxygen systems and auxiliary oxygen devices, and written documentation of the member's oxygen needs.
- *Operation and interpretation of monitoring devices*. Types of cardio-respiratory monitoring, pulse oximetry, and capnography.
- *Operation of ventilators*. Positive pressure or negative pressure ventilation.
- *Other respiratory therapies*. Continuous positive airway pressure, chest physiotherapy, respiratory assessment, and operation of aerosol and humidity devices.
- *Pulmonary rehabilitation*. Maintenance and restoration of the member's physical functioning, modification of the member's immediate living environment, assessment of the member's activities of daily living.

Topic #2093

Qualifying Hours of Care

To determine if a member receives eight or more hours of direct skilled nursing services, add up the total hours of direct skilled nursing care provided by all caregivers, including home health agencies, independent nurses, and skilled cares provided by family or friends. If the total time required daily for these cares is equivalent to eight or more hours, the member is eligible for PDN (private duty nursing). The POC (plan of care) is required to include the actual amount of time to be spent on medically necessary direct cares that require the skills of a licensed nurse.

For this purpose, Medicaid-covered skilled nursing services may include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Injections.
- Intravenous feedings.
- Gastrostomy feedings (include the time needed to begin, disconnect, and flush — not the entire time the feeding is dispensing).
- Nasopharyngeal and tracheostomy suctioning.
- Insertion and sterile irrigation of catheters.
- Application of dressings involving prescription medications and aseptic techniques.
- Treatment of extensive decubitus ulcers or other widespread skin disorders.

Reasonable time for record keeping, travel, staff training, supervision, and case management are allowable costs that have been

included in the rates established for PDN hours. Therefore, the time spent on these activities is not separately reimbursable.

If the member requires fewer than eight hours of direct skilled nursing services in a 24-hour period, he or she may be eligible for home health skilled nursing services. A member cannot be concurrently enrolled for both PDN and intermittent part-time skilled visits provided by nurses.

Topic #2090

Reimbursement Requirements

Wisconsin Medicaid reimburses PDN (private duty nursing) services as part of the PDN benefit if the services:

- Meet the criteria to be classified as PDN services.
- Are prior authorized.
- Are prescribed by a physician in accordance with s. 49.46(2), Wis. Stats.
- Are provided to members enrolled under s. 49.47(6)(a), Wis. Stats.
- Are implemented according to DHS 107, Wis. Admin. Code.
- Are provided in accordance with the member's POC (plan of care). Services provided to the member that are not on the POC are not covered services.

Topic #8598

Work Hour Limitations

The nurse providing PDN (private duty nursing) and/or PDN-Vent (private duty nursing to members depending on a ventilator) may not provide nursing service in excess of 12 hours in a calendar day and 60 hours in a calendar week to all members and other patients under the nurse's care, as stated in DHS 107.113(5)(d), and 107.12(4)(f) and (g), Wis. Admin. Code.

The nurse is also required to take at least eight continuous and uninterrupted hours off duty in any 24-hour period during which he or she performs PDN and/or PDN-Vent services that are reimbursed by Wisconsin Medicaid, as stated in DHS 107.12(4)(g) and 107.113(5)(g) Wis. Admin. Code.

PDN and/or PDN-Vent services provided in excess of the calendar day and calendar week limits are not covered. Services provided when the nurse does not meet the off-duty requirements are also considered noncovered services.

Definitions for a Calendar Day and a Calendar Week

The following definitions are applicable to PDN and to PDN-Vent.

- A 24-hour period should not be confused with a calendar day. For the purpose of ForwardHealth PDN services, each calendar day is a 24-hour period that begins at midnight and ends at midnight.
- A calendar week begins with Sunday, ends with Saturday, and consists of seven consecutive calendar days.
- A 24-hour period consists of 24 consecutive hours and should not be confused with a calendar day.

Note: Exceptions to these rules may exist in extremely rare circumstances. Requests for exceptions should be made in writing to:

ForwardHealth Home Care Analyst
Division of Health Care Access and Accountability
Rm 350
1 West Wilson St
Madison WI 53703

Managed Care

5

Archive Date:01/03/2012

Managed Care:Claims

Topic #385

Appeals to BadgerCare Plus and Wisconsin Medicaid

The provider has 60 calendar days to file an appeal with BadgerCare Plus or Wisconsin Medicaid after the HMO (health maintenance organization) or SSI (Supplemental Security Income) HMO either does not respond in writing within 45 calendar days or if the provider is dissatisfied with the HMO's or SSI HMO's response.

BadgerCare Plus or Wisconsin Medicaid will not review appeals that were not first made to the HMO or SSI HMO. If a provider sends an appeal directly to BadgerCare Plus or Wisconsin Medicaid without first filing it with the HMO or SSI HMO, the appeal will be returned to the provider.

Appeals will only be reviewed for enrollees who were eligible for and who were enrolled in a BadgerCare Plus HMO or Medicaid SSI HMO on the date of service in question.

Appeals must be made in writing and must include:

- A letter, clearly marked "APPEAL," explaining why the claim should be paid or a completed Managed Care Program Provider Appeal (Managed Care Program Provider Appeal, F-12022 (03/09)) form.
- A copy of the claim, clearly marked "APPEAL."
- A copy of the provider's letter to the HMO or SSI HMO.
- A copy of the HMO's or SSI HMO's response to the provider.
- Any documentation that supports the case.

The appeal will be reviewed and any additional information needed will be requested from the provider or the HMO or SSI HMO. Once all pertinent information is received, BadgerCare Plus or Wisconsin Medicaid has 45 calendar days to make a final decision.

The provider and the HMO or SSI HMO will be notified in writing of the final decision. If the decision is in favor of the provider, the HMO or SSI HMO is required to pay the provider within 45 calendar days of the final decision. The decision is final, and all parties must abide by the decision.

Topic #384

Appeals to HMOs and SSI HMOs

Providers are required to first file an appeal directly with the BadgerCare Plus HMO (health maintenance organization) or Medicaid SSI (Supplemental Security Income) HMO within 60 calendar days of receipt of the initial denial. Providers are required to include a letter explaining why the HMO or SSI HMO should pay the claim. The appeal should be sent to the address indicated on the HMO's or SSI HMO's denial notice.

The HMO or SSI HMO then has 45 calendar days to respond in writing to the appeal. The HMO or SSI HMO decides whether to pay the claim and sends the provider a letter stating the decision.

If the HMO or SSI HMO does not respond in writing within 45 calendar days, or if the provider is dissatisfied with the HMO's or SSI HMO's response, the provider may send a written appeal to ForwardHealth within 60 calendar days.

Topic #386

Claims Submission

BadgerCare Plus HMOs (health maintenance organizations) and Medicaid SSI (Supplemental Security Income) HMOs have requirements for timely filing of claims, and providers are required to follow HMO and SSI HMO claims submission guidelines. Contact the enrollee's HMO or SSI HMO for organization-specific submission deadlines.

Topic #387

Extraordinary Claims

Extraordinary claims are BadgerCare Plus or Medicaid claims for a BadgerCare Plus HMO (health maintenance organization) or Medicaid SSI (Supplemental Security Income) HMO enrollee that have been denied by an HMO or SSI HMO but may be paid as fee-for-service claims.

The following are some examples of extraordinary claims situations:

- The enrollee was not enrolled in an HMO or SSI HMO at the time he or she was admitted to an inpatient hospital, but then enrolled in an HMO or SSI HMO during the hospital stay. In this case, all claims related to the stay (including physician claims) should be submitted to fee-for-service. For the physician claims associated with the inpatient hospital stay, the provider is required to include the date of admittance and date of discharge in Element 18 of the paper 1500 Health Insurance Claim Form.
- The claims are for orthodontia/prosthodontia services that began before HMO or SSI HMO coverage. Include a record with the claim of when the bands were placed.

Submitting Extraordinary Claims

When submitting an extraordinary claim, include the following:

- A legible copy of the completed claim form, in accordance with billing guidelines.
- A letter detailing the problem, any claim denials, and any steps taken to correct the situation.

Submit extraordinary claims to:

ForwardHealth
Managed Care Extraordinary Claims
PO Box 6470
Madison WI 53716-0470

Topic #388

Medicaid as Payer of Last Resort

Wisconsin Medicaid is the payer of last resort for most covered services, even when a member is enrolled in a BadgerCare Plus HMO (health maintenance organization) or Medicaid SSI (Supplemental Security Income) HMO. Before submitting claims to HMOs and SSI HMOs, providers are required to submit claims to other health insurance sources. Contact the enrollee's HMO or SSI HMO for more information about billing other health insurance sources.

Topic #389

Provider Appeals

When a BadgerCare Plus HMO (health maintenance organization) or Medicaid SSI (Supplemental Security Income) HMO denies a provider's claim, the HMO or SSI HMO is required to send the provider a notice informing him or her of the right to file an appeal.

An HMO or SSI HMO network or non-network provider may file an appeal to the HMO or SSI HMO when:

- A claim submitted to the HMO or SSI HMO is denied payment.
- The full amount of a submitted claim is not paid.

Providers are required to file an appeal with the HMO or SSI HMO *before* filing an appeal with ForwardHealth.

Covered and Noncovered Services

Topic #390

Covered Services

HMOs

HMOs (health maintenance organizations) are required to provide at least the same benefits as those provided under fee-for-service arrangements. Although ForwardHealth requires contracted HMOs and Medicaid SSI (Supplemental Security Income) HMOs to provide all medically necessary covered services, the following services may be provided by BadgerCare Plus HMOs at their discretion:

- Dental.
- Chiropractic.

If the HMO does not include these services in their benefit package, the enrollee receives the services on a fee-for-service basis.

Topic #391

Noncovered Services

The following are not covered by BadgerCare Plus HMOs (health maintenance organizations) or Medicaid SSI (Supplemental Security Income) HMOs but are provided to enrollees on a fee-for-service basis provided the member's fee-for-service plan covers the service:

- CRS (Community Recovery Services).
- CSP (Community Support Program) benefits.
- Crisis intervention services.
- Environmental lead inspections.
- CCC (child care coordination) services.
- Pharmacy services and diabetic supplies.
- PNCC (prenatal care coordination) services.
- Provider-administered drugs, including all "J" codes, drug-related "Q" codes, and a limited number of related administration codes.
- SBS (school-based services).
- Targeted case management services.
- NEMT (non-emergency medical transportation) services for most Wisconsin Medicaid and BadgerCare Plus members. Wisconsin Medicaid and BadgerCare Plus members who are enrolled in an HMO in Milwaukee, Waukesha, Washington, Ozaukee, Kenosha, and Racine counties receive NEMT services from their respective HMOs.
- DOT (directly observed therapy) and monitoring for TB-only (Tuberculosis-Only Related Services).

Enrollment

Topic #392

Disenrollment and Exemptions

In some situations, a member may be exempt from enrolling in a BadgerCare Plus HMO (health maintenance organization) or Medicaid SSI (Supplemental Security Income) HMO. Exempted members receive health care under fee-for-service. Exemptions allow members to complete a course of treatment with a provider who is not contracted with the member's HMO or SSI HMO. For example, in certain circumstances, women in high-risk pregnancies or women who are in the third trimester of pregnancy when they are enrolled in an HMO or SSI HMO *may* qualify for an exemption.

The contracts between the DHS (Department of Health Services) and the HMO or SSI HMO provide more detail on the exemption and disenrollment requirements.

Topic #393

Enrollee Grievances

Enrollees have the right to file grievances about services or benefits provided by a BadgerCare Plus HMO (health maintenance organization) or Medicaid SSI (Supplemental Security Income) HMO. Enrollees also have the right to file a grievance when the HMO or SSI HMO refuses to provide a service. All HMOs and SSI HMOs are required to have written policies and procedures in place to handle enrollee grievances. Enrollees should be encouraged to work with their HMO's or SSI HMO's customer service department to resolve problems first.

If enrollees are unable to resolve problems by talking to their HMO or SSI HMO, or if they would prefer to speak with someone outside their HMO or SSI HMO, they should contact the Enrollment Specialist or the Ombudsman Program.

The contracts between the DHS (Department of Health Services) and the HMO or SSI HMO describes the responsibilities of the HMO or SSI HMO and the DHS regarding enrollee grievances.

Topic #397

Enrollment Eligibility

BadgerCare Plus HMOs

Members enrolled in the BadgerCare Plus Standard Plan, BadgerCare Plus Benchmark Plan, and the BadgerCare Plus Core Plan are eligible for enrollment in a BadgerCare Plus HMO (health maintenance organization).

An individual who receives the TB-Only (Tuberculosis-Related Services-Only) benefit, SeniorCare, or Wisconsin Well Woman Medicaid cannot be enrolled in a BadgerCare Plus HMO.

Information about a member's HMO enrollment status and commercial health insurance coverage may be verified by using Wisconsin's EVS (Enrollment Verification System) or the ForwardHealth Portal.

SSI HMOs

Members of the following subprograms are eligible for enrollment in a Medicaid SSI (Supplemental Security Income) HMO:

- Individuals ages 19 and older, who meet the SSI and SSI-related disability criteria.
- Dual eligibles for Medicare and Medicaid.

Individuals who are living in an institution, nursing home, or participating in a Home and Community-Based Waiver program are not eligible to enroll in an SSI MCO (managed care organization).

Topic #394

Enrollment Periods

HMOs

Members are sent enrollment packets that explain the BadgerCare Plus HMOs (health maintenance organizations) and the enrollment process and provide contact information. Once enrolled, enrollees may change their HMO assignment within the first 90 days of enrollment in an HMO (whether they chose the HMO or were auto-assigned). If an enrollee no longer meets the criteria, he or she will be disenrolled from the HMO.

SSI HMOs

Members are sent enrollment packets that explain the Medicaid SSI (Supplemental Security Income) HMO's enrollment process and provide contact information. Once enrolled, enrollees may disenroll after a 60-day trial period and up to 120 days after enrollment and return to Medicaid fee-for-service if they choose.

Topic #395

Enrollment Specialist

The Enrollment Specialist provides objective enrollment, education, outreach, and advocacy services to BadgerCare Plus HMO (health maintenance organization) and Medicaid SSI (Supplemental Security Income) HMO enrollees. The Enrollment Specialist is a knowledgeable single point of contact for enrollees, solely dedicated to managed care issues. The Enrollment Specialist is not affiliated with any health care agency.

The Enrollment Specialist provides the following services to HMO and SSI HMO enrollees:

- Education regarding the correct use of HMO and SSI HMO benefits.
- Telephone and face-to-face support.
- Assistance with enrollment, disenrollment, and exemption procedures.

Topic #398

Member Enrollment

HMOs

BadgerCare Plus HMO (health maintenance organization) enrollment is either mandatory or voluntary based on ZIP code-defined enrollment areas as follows:

- Mandatory enrollment — Enrollment is mandatory for eligible members who reside in ZIP code areas served by two or more BadgerCare Plus HMOs. Some members may meet criteria for exemption from BadgerCare Plus HMO enrollment.
- Voluntary enrollment — Enrollment is voluntary for members who reside in ZIP code areas served by only one BadgerCare Plus HMO.

Members living in areas where enrollment is mandatory are encouraged to choose their BadgerCare Plus HMO. Automatic assignment to a BadgerCare Plus HMO occurs if the member does not choose a BadgerCare Plus HMO. In general, all members of a member's immediate family eligible for enrollment must choose the same HMO.

Members in voluntary enrollment areas can choose whether or not to enroll in a BadgerCare Plus HMO. There is no automatic assignment for members who live within ZIP codes where enrollment is voluntary.

SSI HMOs

Medicaid SSI (Supplemental Security Income) HMO enrollment is either mandatory or voluntary as follows:

- Mandatory enrollment — Most SSI and SSI-related members are required to enroll in an SSI HMO. A member may choose the SSI HMO in which he or she wishes to enroll.
- Voluntary enrollment — Some SSI and SSI-related members may choose to enroll in an SSI HMO on a voluntary basis.

Topic #396

Ombudsman Program

The Ombudsmen, or Ombuds, are resources for enrollees who have questions or concerns about their BadgerCare Plus HMO (health maintenance organization) or Medicaid SSI (Supplemental Security Income) HMO. Ombuds provide advocacy and assistance to help enrollees understand their rights and responsibilities in the grievance and appeal process.

Ombuds can be contacted at the following address:

BadgerCare Plus HMO/Medicaid SSI HMO Ombudsmen
PO Box 6470
Madison WI 53716-0470

Topic #399

Release of Billing or Medical Information

ForwardHealth supports BadgerCare Plus HMO (health maintenance organization) and Medicaid SSI (Supplemental Security Income) HMO enrollee rights regarding the confidentiality of health care records. ForwardHealth has specific standards regarding the release of an HMO or SSI HMO enrollee's billing information or medical claim records.

Managed Care Information

Topic #401

BadgerCare Plus HMO Program

An HMO (health maintenance organization) is a system of health care providers that provides a comprehensive range of medical services to a group of enrollees. HMOs receive a fixed, prepaid amount per enrollee from ForwardHealth (called a capitation payment) to provide medically necessary services.

BadgerCare Plus HMOs are responsible for providing or arranging all contracted covered medically necessary services to enrollees. BadgerCare Plus members enrolled in state-contracted HMOs are entitled to at least the same benefits as fee-for-service members; however, HMOs may establish their own requirements regarding PA (prior authorization), claims submission, adjudication procedures, etc., which may differ from fee-for-service policies and procedures. BadgerCare Plus HMO network providers should contact their HMO for more information about its policies and procedures.

Topic #405

Managed Care

Managed Care refers to the BadgerCare Plus HMO (health maintenance organization) program, the Medicaid SSI (Supplemental Security Income) HMO program, and the several special managed care programs available.

The primary goals of the managed care programs are:

- To improve the quality of member care by providing continuity of care and improved access.
- To reduce the cost of health care through better care management.

Topic #402

Managed Care Contracts

The contract between the DHS (Department of Health Services) and the BadgerCare Plus HMO (health maintenance organization) or Medicaid SSI (Supplemental Security Income) HMO takes precedence over other ForwardHealth provider publications. Information contained in ForwardHealth publications is used by the DHS to resolve disputes regarding covered benefits that cannot be handled internally by HMOs and SSI HMOs. If there is a conflict, the HMO or SSI HMO contract prevails. If the contract does not specifically address a situation, Wisconsin Administrative Code ultimately prevails. HMO and SSI HMO contracts can be found on the Managed Care Organization area of the ForwardHealth Portal.

Topic #404

SSI HMO Program

Medicaid SSI (Supplemental Security Income) HMOs (health maintenance organizations) provide the same benefits as Medicaid fee-for-service (e.g. medical, dental, mental health/substance abuse, vision, and prescription drug coverage) at no cost to their enrollees through a care management model. Medicaid members and SSI-related Medicaid members in certain counties may be

eligible to enroll in an SSI HMO.

SSI-related Medicaid members receive coverage from Wisconsin Medicaid because of a disability determined by the Disability Determination Bureau.

Member Enrollment

Members who meet the following criteria are eligible to enroll in an SSI HMO:

- Medicaid-eligible individuals living in a service area that has implemented an SSI managed care program.
- Individuals ages 19 and older.
- Individuals who are enrolled in Wisconsin Medicaid and SSI or receive SSI-related Medicaid.

Individuals who are living in an institution or nursing home or are participating in a home and community-based waiver program or FamilyCare are not eligible to enroll in an SSI HMO.

Ozaukee and Washington Counties

Most SSI and SSI-related Medicaid members who reside in Ozaukee and Washington counties are required to choose the HMO in which they wish to enroll. Dual eligibles (members receiving Medicare and Wisconsin Medicaid) are not required to enroll. After a 60-day trial period and up to 120 days after enrollment, enrollees may disenroll and return to Medicaid fee-for-service if they choose.

Southwestern Wisconsin Counties

SSI members and SSI-related Medicaid members who reside in Buffalo, Jackson, La Crosse, Monroe, Trempealeau, and Vernon counties may choose to receive coverage from the HMO or remain in Wisconsin Medicaid fee-for-service.

Continuity of Care

Special provisions are included in the contract for SSI HMOs for continuity of care for SSI members and SSI-related Medicaid members. These provisions include the following:

- Coverage of services provided by the member's current provider for the first 60 days of enrollment in the SSI program or until the first of the month following completion of an assessment and care plan, whichever comes later. The contracted provider should get a referral from the member's HMO after this.
- Honoring a PA (prior authorization) that is currently approved by Wisconsin Medicaid. The PA must be honored for 60 days or until the month following the HMO's completion of the assessment and care plan, whichever comes later.
- Coverage of drugs that an SSI member is currently taking until a prescriber orders different drugs.

Topic #403

Special Managed Care Programs

Wisconsin Medicaid has several special managed care programs that provide services to individuals who are elderly and/or who have disabilities. These members may be eligible to enroll in voluntary regional managed care programs such as Family Care, the PACE (Program of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly), and the Family Care Partnership Program. Additional information about these special managed care programs may be obtained from the Managed Care Organization area of the ForwardHealth Portal.

Prior Authorization

Topic #400

Prior Authorization Procedures

BadgerCare Plus HMOs (health maintenance organizations) and Medicaid SSI (Supplemental Security Income) HMOs may develop PA (prior authorization) guidelines that differ from fee-for-service guidelines. However, the application of such guidelines may not result in less coverage than fee-for-service. Contact the enrollee's HMO or SSI HMO for more information regarding PA procedures.

Provider Information

Topic #406

Copayments

Providers cannot charge Medicaid SSI (Supplemental Security Income) HMO (health maintenance organization) enrollees copayments for covered services except in cases where the Medicaid SSI HMO does not cover services such as dental, chiropractic, and pharmacy. When services are provided through fee-for-service or to members enrolled in a BadgerCare Plus HMO, copayments will apply.

Topic #407

Emergencies

Non-network providers may provide services to BadgerCare Plus HMO (health maintenance organization) and Medicaid SSI (Supplemental Security Income) HMO enrollees in an emergency without authorization or in urgent situations when authorized by the HMO or SSI HMO. The contract between the DHS (Department of Health Services) and the HMO or SSI HMO defines an emergency situation and includes general payment requirements.

Unless the HMO or SSI HMO has a written agreement with the non-network provider, the HMO or SSI HMO is only liable to the extent fee-for-service would be liable for an emergency situation, as defined in 42 CFR s. 438.114. Billing procedures for emergencies may vary depending on the HMO or SSI HMO. For specific billing instructions, non-network providers should always contact the enrollee's HMO or SSI HMO.

Topic #408

Non-network Providers

Providers who do not have a contract with the enrollee's BadgerCare Plus HMO (health maintenance organization) or Medicaid SSI (Supplemental Security Income) HMO are referred to as non-network providers. (HMO and SSI HMO network providers agree to payment amounts and billing procedures in a contract with the HMO or SSI HMO.) Non-network providers are required to direct enrollees to HMO or SSI HMO network providers except in the following situations:

- When a non-network provider is treating an HMO or SSI HMO enrollee for an emergency medical condition as defined in the contract between the DHS (Department of Health Services) and the HMO or SSI HMO.
- When the HMO or SSI HMO has authorized (in writing) an out-of-plan referral to a non-network provider.
- When the service is not provided under the HMO's or SSI HMO's contract with the DHS (such as dental, chiropractic, and pharmacy services).

Non-network providers may not serve BadgerCare Plus HMO or Medicaid SSI HMO enrollees as private-pay patients.

Topic #409

Out-of-Area Care

BadgerCare Plus HMOs (health maintenance organizations) and Medicaid SSI (Supplemental Security Income) HMOs may cover medically necessary care provided to enrollees when they travel outside the HMO's or SSI HMO's service area. The HMO or SSI HMO is required to authorize the services before the services are provided, except in cases of emergency. If the HMO or SSI HMO does not authorize the services, the enrollee may be held responsible for the cost of those services.

Topic #410

Provider Participation

Providers interested in participating in a BadgerCare Plus HMO (health maintenance organization) or Medicaid SSI (Supplemental Security Income) HMO or changing HMO or SSI HMO network affiliations should contact the HMO or SSI HMO for more information. Conditions and terms of participation in an HMO or SSI HMO are pursuant to specific contract agreements between HMOs or SSI HMOs and providers. An HMO or SSI HMO has the right to choose whether or not to contract with any provider.

Topic #411

Referrals

Non-network providers may at times provide services to BadgerCare Plus HMO (health maintenance organization) and Medicaid SSI (Supplemental Security Income) HMO enrollees on a referral basis. Non-network providers are always required to contact the enrollee's HMO or SSI HMO. Before services are provided, the non-network provider and the HMO or SSI HMO should discuss and agree upon billing procedures and fees for all referrals. Non-network providers and HMOs or SSI HMOs should document the details of any referral in writing before services are provided.

Billing procedures for out-of-plan referrals may vary depending on the HMO or SSI HMO. For specific billing instructions, non-network providers should always contact the enrollee's HMO or SSI HMO.

Topic #412

Services Not Provided by HMOs or SSI HMOs

If an enrollee's BadgerCare Plus HMO (health maintenance organization) or Medicaid SSI (Supplemental Security Income) HMO benefit package does not include a covered service, such as chiropractic or dental services, any Medicaid-certified provider may provide the service to the enrollee and submit claims to fee-for-service.

Member Information

6

Archive Date:01/03/2012

Member Information:Birth to 3 Program

Topic #792

Administration and Regulations

In Wisconsin, Birth to 3 services are administered at the local level by county departments of community programs, human service departments, public health agencies, or any other public agency designated or contracted by the county board of supervisors. The DHS (Department of Health Services) monitors, provides technical assistance, and offers other services to county Birth to 3 agencies.

The enabling federal legislation for the Birth to 3 Program is 34 CFR Part 303. The enabling state legislation is s. 51.44, Wis. Stats., and the regulations are found in ch. DHS 90, Wis. Admin. Code.

Providers may contact the appropriate county Birth to 3 agency for more information.

Topic #790

Enrollment Criteria

A child from birth up to (but not including) age 3 is eligible for Birth to 3 services if the child meets one of the following criteria:

- The child has a diagnosed physical or mental condition that has a high probability of resulting in a developmental delay.
- The child has at least a 25 percent delay in one or more of the following areas of development:
  - Cognitive development.
  - Physical development, including vision and hearing.
  - Communication skills.
  - Social or emotional development.
  - Adaptive development, which includes self-help skills.
- The child has atypical development affecting his or her overall development, as determined by a qualified team using professionally acceptable procedures and informed clinical opinion.

BadgerCare Plus provides Birth to 3 information because many children enrolled in the Birth to 3 Program are also BadgerCare Plus members.

Topic #791

Individualized Family Service Plan

A Birth to 3 member receives an IFSP (Individualized Family Service Plan) developed by an interdisciplinary team that includes the child's family. The IFSP provides a description of the outcomes, strategies, supports, services appropriate to meet the needs of the child and family, and the natural environment settings where services will be provided. All Birth to 3 services must be identified in the child's IFSP.

Topic #788

Requirements for Providers

Title 34 CFR Part 303 for Birth to 3 services requires all health, social service, education, and tribal programs receiving federal funds, including Medicaid providers, to do the following:

- Identify children who may be eligible for Birth to 3 services. These children must be referred to the appropriate county Birth to 3 program within *two working days* of identification. This includes children with developmental delays, atypical development, disabilities, and children who are substantiated as abused or neglected. For example, if a provider's health exam or developmental screen indicates that a child may have a qualifying disability or developmental delay, the child must be referred to the county Birth to 3 program for evaluation. (Providers are encouraged to explain the need for the Birth to 3 referral to the child's parents or guardians.)
- Cooperate and participate with Birth to 3 service coordination as indicated in the child's IFSP (Individualized Family Services Plan). Birth to 3 services must be provided by providers who are employed by, or under agreement with, a Birth to 3 agency to provide Birth to 3 services.
- Deliver Birth to 3 services in the child's natural environment, unless otherwise specified in the IFSP. The child's natural environment includes the child's home and other community settings where children without disabilities participate. (Hospitals contracting with a county to provide therapy services in the child's natural environment must receive separate certification as a therapy group to be reimbursed for these therapy services.)
- Assist parents or guardians of children receiving Birth to 3 services to maximize their child's development and participate fully in implementation of their child's IFSP. For example, an occupational therapist is required to work closely with the child's parents and caretakers to show them how to perform daily tasks in ways that maximize the child's potential for development.

Topic #789

Services

The Birth to 3 Program covers the following types of services when they are included in the child's IFSP (Individualized Family Services Plan):

- Evaluation and assessment.
- Special instruction.
- OT (occupational therapy).
- PT (physical therapy).
- SLP (speech and language pathology).
- Audiology.
- Psychology.
- Social work.
- Assistive technology.
- Transportation.
- Service coordination.
- Certain medical services for diagnosis and evaluation purposes.
- Certain health services to enable the child to benefit from early intervention services.
- Family training, counseling, and home visits.

Enrollment Categories

Topic #785

BadgerCare Expansion for Certain Pregnant Women

As a result of 2005 Wisconsin Act 25, the 2005-07 biennial budget, BadgerCare has expanded coverage to the following individuals:

- Pregnant non-U.S. citizens who are not qualified aliens but meet other eligibility criteria for BadgerCare.
- Pregnant individuals detained by legal process who meet other eligibility criteria for BadgerCare.

The BadgerCare Expansion for Certain Pregnant Women is designed to provide better birth outcomes.

Women are eligible for all covered services from the first of the month in which their pregnancy is verified or the first of the month in which the application for BadgerCare Plus is filed, whichever is later. Members are enrolled through the last day of the month in which they deliver or the pregnancy ends. Postpartum care is reimbursable *only* if provided as part of global obstetric care. Even though enrollment is based on pregnancy, these women are eligible for *all* covered services. (They are not limited to pregnancy-related services.)

These women are not presumptively eligible. Providers should refer them to the appropriate county/tribal social or human services agency where they can apply for this coverage.

Fee-for-Service

Pregnant non-U.S. citizens who are not qualified aliens and pregnant individuals detained by legal process receive care only on a fee-for-service basis. Providers are required to follow all program requirements (e.g., claims submission procedures, PA (prior authorization) requirements) when providing services to these women.

Emergency Services for Non-U.S. Citizens

When BadgerCare Plus enrollment ends for pregnant non-U.S. citizens who are not qualified aliens, they receive coverage for emergency services. These women receive emergency coverage for 60 days after the pregnancy ends; this coverage continues through the end of the month in which the 60th day falls (e.g., a woman who delivers on June 20, 2006, would be enrolled through the end of August 2006).

Topic #9297

BadgerCare Plus Basic Plan

The BadgerCare Plus Basic Plan is a self-funded plan that focuses on providing BadgerCare Plus Core Plan waitlist members with access to vital, cost-effective primary and preventive care. This option will allow members to have some minimal form of coverage until space becomes available in the Core Plan and will help prevent bankruptcy due to excessive medical debt.

Member participation or non-participation in the Basic Plan does not affect an individual's status on the Core Plan waitlist.

Services for the Basic Plan are covered under fee-for-service. Basic Plan members will not be enrolled in state-contracted HMOs (health maintenance organizations).

As of March 19, 2011, new enrollment into the Basic Plan ended. The Basic Plan will continue for members already enrolled in the Basic Plan.

Conditions That End Member Enrollment in the Basic Plan

A member's enrollment in the Basic Plan will end if the member:

- Becomes eligible for Medicare, Medicaid, the BadgerCare Plus Standard Plan, the BadgerCare Plus Benchmark Plan, or the Core Plan.
- Becomes incarcerated or becomes institutionalized in an IMD (institution for mental disease).
- Becomes pregnant. (*Note:* A Basic Plan member who becomes pregnant should be referred to Member Services for more information about enrollment in the Standard Plan or the Benchmark Plan.)
- No longer resides in the state of Wisconsin.
- Obtains health insurance coverage.
- Turns 65 years of age.
- Fails to pay the monthly premium.

Note: Enrollment in the Basic Plan does not end if the member's income increases.

Providers are reminded that the Basic Plan does not cover obstetrical services or delivery services.

Providers are required to notify ForwardHealth if they have reason to believe that a person is misusing or abusing BadgerCare Plus or Medicaid benefits or the ForwardHealth identification card.

Basic Plan Member Fact Sheets

Fact sheets providing additional member information about the Basic Plan are available.

Enrollment Certification Period for Basic Plan Members

A member's enrollment will begin on the first of the month and will continue through the end of the 12th month. For example, if the individual's enrollment in the Basic Plan begins on July 1, 2010, the enrollment certification period will continue through June 30, 2011, unless conditions occur that end enrollment.

Premium payments are due on the fifth of each month, prior to the month of coverage. Members who fail to pay the monthly premium will have their benefits terminated and will also be subject to a 12-month restrictive re-enrollment period.

Basic Plan Members Enrolled in Wisconsin Chronic Disease Program

For Basic Plan members who are also enrolled in WCDP (Wisconsin Chronic Disease Program), providers should submit claims for all covered services to the Basic Plan first and then to WCDP. For pharmacy services, if both programs deny the pharmacy claim, providers should submit the claim to BadgerRx Gold.

Basic Plan Members and HIRSP Coverage

Basic Plan members may also be enrolled in the HIRSP (Health Insurance Risk-Sharing Plan) as long as the member meets the eligibility requirements for both the Basic Plan and HIRSP. For Basic Plan members who are also enrolled in HIRSP, providers should submit claims for all Basic Plan covered services to HIRSP first and then to the Basic Plan.

Basic Plan members may not be enrolled in the Basic Plan and the Federal Temporary High Risk Insurance Pool. Information that

is being distributed to Core Plan members on the waitlist regarding HIRSP and the Federal Temporary High Risk Insurance Pool is available.

Alternatives to the BadgerCare Plus Basic Plan

Before enrolling in the BadgerCare Plus Basic Plan, you should consider two other insurance options available to some Wisconsin residents. Enrolling in BadgerCare Plus Basic will make you ineligible for coverage under the Federal Pool option described below.

Option 1: Health Insurance Risk-Sharing Plan (HIRSP)

You may qualify for HIRSP if:

1. You recently lost your employer-sponsored insurance coverage; or
2. You have been rejected for coverage in the private insurance market; or
3. You have HIV/AIDS; or
4. You have Medicare because of a disability.

HIRSP offers comprehensive medical and pharmacy benefits including coverage of brand name drugs and $150 of first dollar coverage on routine/preventive services. HIRSP will not cover medical services for a preexisting condition for the first six months of coverage. The preexisting condition waiting period does not apply to drug coverage. The medical services preexisting condition waiting period does not apply if you qualify for HIRSP because you have recently lost your employer-sponsored coverage.

If your annual household income is below $33,000, you may be entitled to a premium and deductible subsidy. For example, a 25 year old man with an annual income of less than $10,000 would pay $89 per month for a $2,500 deductible insurance plan.

HIRSP members can also be enrolled in the BadgerCare Plus Basic or Core Plan.

Option 2: Federal Temporary High Risk Insurance Pool

You may qualify for the new Federal Pool if:

1. You are a citizen or national of the United States, or are lawfully present;
2. You have a preexisting medical condition; and
3. You have been uninsured for at least 6 months before applying for coverage.

The Federal Pool will offer the same medical and drug benefits as HIRSP. There is no preexisting condition waiting period under the Federal Pool.

In most cases, the Federal Pool premium will be lower than the HIRSP premium.
Enrollment is expected to begin in July 2010, for coverage beginning August 1, 2010.

If you enroll in BadgerCare Plus Basic or HIRSP now, you will not be eligible for the Federal Pool. You should determine which program best serves your needs. For more information about HIRSP or the Federal Pool and your insurance options, please contact HIRSP Customer Service at 1.800.828.4777 or visit *www.hirsp.org*

Topic #5557

BadgerCare Plus Core Plan

The BadgerCare Plus Core Plan covers basic health care services including primary care, preventive care, certain generic and OTC (over-the-counter) drugs, and a limited number of brand name drugs.

Applicant Enrollment Requirements

An applicant must meet the following enrollment requirements in order to qualify for the Core Plan:

- Is a Wisconsin resident.
- Is a United States citizen or legal immigrant.
- Is between the ages of 19 and 64.
- Does not have any children under age 19 under his or her care.
- Is not pregnant.
- Is not eligible for or enrolled in Medicaid, the BadgerCare Plus Standard Plan, or the BadgerCare Plus Benchmark Plan. This would not include benefits provided under Family Planning Only Services or those benefits provided to individuals who qualify for the TB-Only (Tuberculosis-Related Services Only) Benefit.
- Is not eligible for or enrolled in Medicare.
- Has a monthly gross income that does not exceed 200 percent of the FPL (federal poverty level).
- Is not covered by health insurance currently or in the previous 12 months.
- Has not had access to employer-sponsored insurance in the previous 12 months and does not have access to employer-subsidized insurance during the month of application or any of the three months following application.

Application Process for New Members

Individuals who wish to enroll may apply for the Core Plan using the ACCESS tool online or via the ESC (Enrollment Services Center). A pre-screening tool will help determine which individuals may be eligible to enroll in the Core Plan. Applications for Core Plan members will be processed centrally by the ESC, not by county agencies.

To complete the application process, applicants must meet the following requirements:

- Complete a Health Survey.
- Pay a non-refundable, annual processing fee of $60.00 per individual or per couple for married couples. The fee will be waived for homeless individuals. There are no monthly premiums.

Medicaid-certified providers cannot pay the $60.00 application processing fee on behalf of Core Plan applicants. An offer by a Medicaid-certified provider to pay a fee on behalf of a prospective Medicaid member may violate federal laws against kickbacks. These laws are federal criminal statutes that are interpreted and enforced by federal agencies such as the United States DOJ (Department of Justice) and the Department of HHS (Health and Human Services') OIG (Office of the Inspector General).

Conditions That End Member Enrollment in the Core Plan

A member's enrollment will end if the member:

- Becomes eligible for Medicare, Medicaid, the Standard Plan, or the Benchmark Plan.
- Becomes incarcerated or institutionalized in an IMD (Institution for Mental Disease).
- Becomes pregnant.
- No longer resides in the state of Wisconsin.
- Obtains health insurance coverage.
- Turns 65 years of age.

Providers are reminded that the Core Plan does not cover obstetrical services, including the delivery of a child or children. A Core Plan member who becomes pregnant should be referred to the ESC for more information about enrollment in the Standard Plan or the Benchmark Plan.

Enrollment Certification Period for Core Plan Members

Once determined eligible for enrollment in the Core Plan, a member's enrollment will begin either on the first or 15th of the month, whichever is first, and will continue through the end of the 12th month. For example, if the individual submits all of his or her application materials, including the application fee, by September 17, 2009, and the DHS (Department of Health Services) reviews the application and approves it on October 6, 2009, the individual is eligible for enrollment beginning on October 15, 2009, the next possible date of enrollment. The enrollment certification period will continue through October 31, 2010.

The enrollment certification period for individuals who qualify for the Core Plan is 12 months, regardless of income changes.

Core Plan Members Enrolled in Wisconsin Chronic Disease Program

For Core Plan members who are also enrolled in WCDP (Wisconsin Chronic Disease Program), providers should submit claims for all covered services to the Core Plan first and then to WCDP. For pharmacy services, if both programs deny the pharmacy claim, providers should submit claims to BadgerRx Gold.

Core Plan Members with HIRSP Coverage

Core Plan members may also be enrolled in HIRSP (Health Insurance Risk Sharing Plan) as long as the member meets the eligibility requirements for both the Core Plan and HIRSP. For Core Plan members who are also enrolled in HIRSP, providers should submit claims for all Core Plan covered services to the Core Plan. For services not covered by the Core Plan, providers should submit claims to HIRSP. For members enrolled in the Core Plan, HIRSP is always the payer of last resort.

Note: HIRSP will only cover noncovered Core Plan services if the services are covered under the HIRSP benefit.

Topic #225

BadgerCare Plus Standard Plan and Benchmark Plan

BadgerCare Plus is a state-sponsored health care program that expands coverage of Wisconsin residents and ensures that all children in Wisconsin have access to affordable health care.

The key initiatives of BadgerCare Plus are:

- To ensure that all Wisconsin children have access to affordable health care.
- To ensure that 98 percent of Wisconsin residents have access to affordable health care.
- To streamline program administration and enrollment rules.
- To expand coverage and provide enhanced benefits for pregnant women.
- To promote prevention and healthy behaviors.

BadgerCare Plus expands enrollment in state-sponsored health care to the following:

- All uninsured children.
- More pregnant women.
- More parents and caretaker relatives.
- Parents with children in foster care who are working to reunify their families.
- Young adults exiting out-of-home care, such as foster care, because they have turned 18 years of age.

- Certain farmers and other self-employed parents and caretaker relatives.

Where available, BadgerCare Plus members are enrolled in BadgerCare Plus HMOs (health maintenance organizations). In those areas of Wisconsin where HMOs are not available, services will be reimbursed on a fee-for-service basis.

Topic #6917

Benefit Plans Under BadgerCare Plus

BadgerCare Plus is comprised of four benefit plans, the BadgerCare Plus Standard Plan, the BadgerCare Plus Benchmark Plan, the BadgerCare Plus Core Plan, and the BadgerCare Plus Basic Plan.

BadgerCare Plus Standard Plan

The Standard Plan covers children, parents and caretaker relatives, young adults aging out of foster care, and pregnant women with incomes at or below 200 percent of the FPL (Federal Poverty Level). The services covered under the Standard Plan are the same as the Wisconsin Medicaid program.

BadgerCare Plus Benchmark Plan

The Benchmark Plan was adapted from Wisconsin's largest commercial, low-cost health care plan. The Benchmark Plan is for children and pregnant women with incomes above 200 percent of the FPL and certain self-employed parents, such as farmers with incomes above 200 percent of the FPL. The services covered under the Benchmark Plan are more limited than those covered under the Wisconsin Medicaid program.

BadgerCare Plus Core Plan

The Core Plan provides adults who were previously not eligible to enroll in state and federal health care programs with access to basic health care services including primary care, preventive care, certain generic and OTC (over-the-counter) drugs, and a limited number of brand name drugs.

BadgerCare Plus Basic Plan

The Basic Plan provides Core Plan waitlist members with access to vital, cost-effective primary and preventive care. This option allows members to have some form of minimal coverage until space becomes available in the Core Plan.

Topic #230

Express Enrollment for Children and Pregnant Women

The EE (Express Enrollment) for Pregnant Women Benefit is a limited benefit category that allows a pregnant woman to receive immediate pregnancy-related outpatient services while her application for full-benefit BadgerCare Plus is processed. Enrollment is not restricted based on the member's other health insurance coverage. Therefore, a pregnant woman who has other health insurance may be enrolled in the benefit.

The EE for Children Benefit allows certain members through 18 years of age to receive BadgerCare Plus benefits under the BadgerCare Plus Standard Plan while an application for BadgerCare Plus is processed.

Fee-for-Service

Women and children who are temporarily enrolled in BadgerCare Plus through the EE process are not eligible for enrollment in an HMO until they are determined eligible for full benefit BadgerCare Plus by the county/tribal office.

Topic #226

Family Planning Only Services

Family Planning Only Services is a limited benefit program that provides routine contraceptive-related services to low-income individuals who are at least 15 years of age who are otherwise not eligible for Wisconsin Medicaid or BadgerCare Plus. There is no upper age limit for Family Planning Only Services enrollment as long as the member is of childbearing age. Members receiving Family Planning Only Services must be receiving routine contraceptive-related services.

The goal of Family Planning Only Services is to provide members with information and services to assist them in preventing pregnancy, making BadgerCare Plus enrollment due to pregnancy less likely. Providers should explain the purpose of Family Planning Only Services to members and encourage them to contact their certifying agency to determine their enrollment options if they are not interested in, or do not need, contraceptive services.

Members enrolled in Family Planning Only Services receive routine services to prevent or delay pregnancy and are not eligible for other services (e.g., PT (physical therapy) services, dental services). Even if a medical condition is discovered during a family planning visit, treatment for the condition is not covered under Family Planning Only Services unless the treatment is identified in the list of allowable procedure codes for Family Planning Only Services.

Members are also not eligible for certain other services that are covered under the Wisconsin Medicaid and BadgerCare Plus family planning benefit (e.g., mammograms and hysterectomies). If a medical condition, other than an STD (sexually transmitted disease), is discovered during contraceptive-related services, treatment for the medical condition is not covered under Family Planning Only Services.

Colposcopies and treatment for STDs are only covered through Family Planning Only Services if they are determined medically necessary during routine contraceptive-related services. A colposcopy is a covered service when an abnormal result is received from a pap test, prior to the colposcopy, while the member is enrolled in Family Planning Only Services and receiving contraceptive-related services.

Family Planning Only Services members diagnosed with cervical cancer, precancerous conditions of the cervix, or breast cancer may be eligible for Wisconsin Well Woman Medicaid. Providers should assist eligible members with the enrollment process for Well Woman Medicaid.

Providers should inform members about other service options and provide referrals for care not covered by Family Planning Only Services.

Temporary Enrollment for Family Planning Only Services

Members whose providers are submitting an initial Family Planning Only Services application on their behalf and who meet the enrollment criteria may receive routine contraceptive-related services immediately through TE (temporary enrollment) for Family Planning Only Services for up to two months. Services covered under the TE for Family Planning Only Services are the same as those covered under Family Planning Only Services and must be related to routine contraceptive management.

To determine enrollment for Family Planning Only Services, providers should use the income limit for 300 percent of the FPL (Federal Poverty Level).

TE for Family Planning Only Services providers may issue white paper TE for Family Planning Only Services identification cards for members to use until they receive a ForwardHealth identification card. Providers should remind members that the benefit is

temporary, despite their receiving a ForwardHealth card.

Topic #4757

ForwardHealth and ForwardHealth interChange

ForwardHealth brings together many DHS (Department of Health Services) health care programs with the goal to create efficiencies for providers and to improve health outcomes for members. ForwardHealth interChange is the DHS claims processing system that supports multiple state health care programs and Web services, including:

- BadgerCare Plus.
- BadgerCare Plus and Medicaid managed care programs.
- SeniorCare.
- WCDP (Wisconsin Chronic Disease Program).
- WIR (Wisconsin Immunization Registry).
- Wisconsin Medicaid.
- Wisconsin Well Woman Medicaid.
- WWWP (Wisconsin Well Woman Program).

ForwardHealth interChange is supported by the state's fiscal agent, HP (Hewlett-Packard).

Topic #229

Limited Benefit Categories Overview

Certain members may be enrolled in a limited benefit category. These limited benefit categories include the following:

- BadgerCare Plus Expansion for Certain Pregnant Women.
- EE (Express Enrollment) for Children.
- EE for Pregnant Women.
- Family Planning Only Services, including TE (Temporary Enrollment) for Family Planning Only Services.
- QDWI (Qualified Disabled Working Individuals).
- QI-1 (Qualifying Individuals 1).
- QMB Only (Qualified Medicare Beneficiary Only).
- SLMB (Specified Low-Income Medicare Beneficiary).
- TB-Only (Tuberculosis-Related Services-Only) Benefit.

Members may be enrolled in full-benefit Medicaid or BadgerCare Plus and also be enrolled in certain limited benefit programs, including QDWI, QI-1, QMB Only, and SLMB. In those cases, a member has full Medicaid or BadgerCare Plus coverage in addition to limited coverage for Medicare expenses.

Members enrolled in BadgerCare Plus Expansion for Certain Pregnant Women, Family Planning Only Services, EE for Children, EE for Pregnant Women, or the TB-Only Benefit cannot be enrolled in full-benefit Medicaid or BadgerCare Plus. These members receive benefits through the limited benefit category.

Providers should note that a member may be enrolled in more than one limited benefit category. For example, a member may be enrolled in Family Planning Only Services and the TB-Only Benefit.

Providers are strongly encouraged to verify dates of enrollment and other coverage information using the EVS (Wisconsin's Enrollment Verification System) to determine whether a member is in a limited benefit category, receives full-benefit Medicaid or BadgerCare Plus, or both.

Providers are responsible for knowing which services are covered under a limited benefit category. If a member of a limited benefit category requests a service that is not covered under the limited benefit category, the provider may collect payment from the member if certain conditions are met.

Topic #228

Medicaid

Medicaid is a joint federal/state program established in 1965 under Title XIX of the Social Security Act to pay for medical services for selected groups of people who meet the program's financial requirements.

The purpose of Medicaid is to provide reimbursement for and assure the availability of appropriate medical care to persons who meet the criteria for Medicaid. Wisconsin Medicaid is also known as the Medical Assistance Program, WMAP (Wisconsin Medical Assistance Program), MA (Medical Assistance), Title XIX, or T19.

A Medicaid member is any individual entitled to benefits under Title XIX of the Social Security Act and under the Medical Assistance State Plan as defined in ch. 49, Wis. Stats.

Wisconsin Medicaid enrollment is determined on the basis of financial need and other factors. A citizen of the United States or a "qualified immigrant" who meets low-income financial requirements may be enrolled in Wisconsin Medicaid if he or she is in one of the following categories:

- Age 65 and older.
- Blind.
- Disabled.

Some needy and low-income people become eligible for Wisconsin Medicaid by qualifying for programs such as:

- Katie Beckett.
- Medicaid Purchase Plan.
- Subsidized adoption and foster care programs.
- SSI (Supplemental Security Income).
- WWWP (Wisconsin Well Woman Program).

Providers may advise these individuals or their representatives to contact their certifying agency for more information. The following agencies certify people for Wisconsin Medicaid enrollment:

- Local county or tribal agencies.
- Medicaid outstation sites.
- SSA (Social Security Administration) offices.

In limited circumstances, some state agencies also certify individuals for Wisconsin Medicaid.

Medicaid fee-for-service members receive services through the traditional health care payment system under which providers receive a payment for each unit of service provided. Some Medicaid members receive services through state-contracted MCOs (managed care organizations).

Topic #10217

Members Enrolled in the Wisconsin Well Woman

Program and the BadgerCare Plus Basic Plan

Women may be enrolled in the WWWP (Wisconsin Well Woman Program) and the BadgerCare Plus Basic Plan at the same time. Women who are diagnosed with breast cancer or cervical cancer while enrolled in WWWP are eligible to be enrolled in WWWMA (Wisconsin Well Woman Medicaid) through the WWWP. WWWMA covers the same services as Wisconsin Medicaid; therefore, enrollment in WWWMA enables members to receive comprehensive treatment, including services not related to their diagnosis.

Once a woman is enrolled in WWWMA, she is no longer eligible for the Basic Plan.

Topic #232

Qualified Disabled Working Individual Members

QDWI (Qualified Disabled Working Individual) members are a limited benefit category of Medicaid members. They receive payment of Medicare monthly premiums for Part A.

QDWI members are certified by their local county or tribal agency. To qualify, QDWI members are required to meet the following qualifications:

- Have income under 200 percent of the FPL (Federal Poverty Level).
- Be entitled to, but not necessarily enrolled in, Medicare Part A.
- Have income or assets too high to qualify for QMB Only (Qualified Medicare Beneficiary-Only) and SLMB (Specified Low-Income Medicare Beneficiaries).

Topic #234

Qualified Medicare Beneficiary-Only Members

QMB-Only (Qualified Medicare Beneficiary-Only) members are a limited benefit category of Medicaid members. They receive payment of the following:

- Medicare monthly premiums for Part A, Part B, or both.
- Coinsurance, copayment, and deductible for Medicare-allowed services.

QMB-Only members are certified by their local county or tribal agency. QMB-Only members are required to meet the following qualifications:

- Have an income under 100 percent of the FPL (Federal Poverty Level).
- Be entitled to, but not necessarily enrolled in, Medicare Part A.

Topic #235

Qualifying Individual 1 Members

QI-1 (Qualifying Individual 1) members are a limited benefit category of Medicaid members. They receive payment of Medicare monthly premiums for Part B.

QI-1 members are certified by their local county or tribal agency. To qualify, QI-1 members are required to meet the following

qualifications:

- Have income between 120 and 135 percent of the FPL (Federal Poverty Level).
- Be entitled to, but not necessarily enrolled in, Medicare Part A.

Topic #236

Specified Low-Income Medicare Beneficiaries

SLMB (Specified Low-Income Medicare Beneficiary) members are a limited benefit category of Medicaid members. They receive payment of Medicare monthly premiums for Part B.

SLMB members are certified by their local county or tribal agency. To qualify, SLMB members are required to meet the following qualifications:

- Have an income under 120 percent of the FPL (Federal Poverty Level).
- Be entitled to, but not necessarily enrolled in, Medicare Part A.

Topic #262

Tuberculosis-Related Services-Only Benefit

The TB-Only (Tuberculosis-Related Services-Only) Benefit is a limited benefit category that allows individuals with TB (tuberculosis) infection or disease to receive covered TB-related outpatient services.

Topic #240

Wisconsin Well Woman Medicaid

Wisconsin Well Woman Medicaid provides full Medicaid benefits to underinsured or uninsured women ages 35 to 64 who have been screened and diagnosed by WWWP (Wisconsin Well Woman Program) or Family Planning Only Services, meet all other enrollment requirements, and are in need of treatment for any of the following:

- Breast cancer.
- Cervical cancer.
- Precancerous conditions of the cervix.

Services provided to women who are enrolled in WWWMA (Wisconsin Well Woman Medicaid) are reimbursed through Medicaid fee-for-service.

Members Enrolled into Wisconsin Well Woman Medicaid from Benchmark Plan or Core Plan

Women diagnosed with breast cancer or cervical cancer while enrolled in the BadgerCare Plus Benchmark Plan or BadgerCare Plus Core Plan are eligible to be enrolled in WWWMA. Wisconsin Well Woman Medicaid covers the same services as Wisconsin Medicaid and enables members to receive comprehensive treatment, including services not related to their diagnosis.

Women who are diagnosed with breast cancer, cervical cancer, or a precancerous condition of the cervix must have the diagnosis of their condition confirmed by one of the following Medicaid-certified providers:

- Nurse practitioners, for cervical conditions only.
- Osteopaths.
- Physicians.

Women with Medicare or other insurance that covers treatment for her cancer are not allowed to be enrolled into WWWMA.

Covered and Noncovered Services

Wisconsin Well Woman Medicaid covers the same services as Wisconsin Medicaid regardless of whether the service is related to her cancer treatment.

Reimbursement

Providers will be reimbursed for services provided to members enrolled in WWWMA at the Wisconsin Medicaid rate of reimbursement for covered services.

Copayments

There are no copayments for any Medicaid-covered service for WWWMA members who have been enrolled into WWWMA from the Benchmark or the Core Plan. Providers are required to reimburse members for any copayments members paid on or after the date of diagnosis while still enrolled in the Benchmark Plan or the Core Plan.

Enrollment Responsibilities

Topic #241

General Information

Members have certain responsibilities per DHS 104.02, Wis. Admin. Code, and the ForwardHealth Enrollment and Benefits (P-00079 (10/11)) booklet.

Topic #243

Loss of Enrollment — Financial Liability

Some covered services consist of a series of sequential treatment steps, meaning more than one office visit is required to complete treatment.

In most cases, if a member loses enrollment midway through treatment, BadgerCare Plus and Medicaid will *not* reimburse services (including prior authorized services) after enrollment has lapsed.

Members are financially responsible for any services received after their enrollment has been terminated. If the member wishes to continue treatment, it is a decision between the provider and the member whether the service should be given and how the services will be paid. The provider may collect payment from the member if the member accepts responsibility for payment of a service and certain conditions are met.

To avoid misunderstandings, it is recommended that providers remind members that they are financially responsible for any continued care after enrollment ends.

To avoid potential reimbursement problems that can arise when a member loses enrollment midway through treatment, the provider is encouraged to verify the member's enrollment using the EVS (Enrollment Verification System) or the ForwardHealth Portal prior to providing each service, even if an approved PA (prior authorization) request is obtained for the service.

Topic #707

Member Cooperation

Members are responsible for giving providers full and accurate information necessary for the correct submission of claims. If a member has other health insurance, it is the member's obligation to give full and accurate information to providers regarding the insurance.

Topic #269

Members Should Present Card

It is important that providers determine a member's enrollment and other insurance coverage *prior to* each DOS (date of service) that services are provided. Pursuant to DHS 104.02(2), Wis. Admin. Code, a member should inform providers that he or she is enrolled in BadgerCare Plus or Wisconsin Medicaid and should present a current ForwardHealth identification card before

receiving services.

Note: Due to the nature of their specialty, certain providers — such as anesthesiologists, radiologists, DME (durable medical equipment) suppliers, independent laboratories, and ambulances — are not always able to see a member's ForwardHealth identification card because they might not have direct contact with the member prior to providing the service. In these circumstances, it is still the provider's responsibility to obtain member enrollment information.

Topic #244

Prior Identification of Enrollment

Except in emergencies that preclude prior identification, members are required to inform providers that they are receiving benefits and must present their ForwardHealth identification card before receiving care. If a member forgets his or her ForwardHealth card, providers may verify enrollment without it.

Topic #245

Reporting Changes to Caseworkers

Members are required to report certain changes to their caseworker at their certifying agency. These changes include, but are not limited to, the following:

- A new address or a move out of state.
- A change in income.
- A change in family size, including pregnancy.
- A change in other health insurance coverage.
- Employment status.
- A change in assets for members who are over 65 years of age, blind, or disabled.

Enrollment Rights

Topic #246

Appealing Enrollment Determinations

Applicants and members have the right to appeal certain decisions relating to BadgerCare Plus or Medicaid enrollment. An applicant, a member, or authorized person acting on behalf of the applicant or member, or former member may file the appeal with the DHA (Division of Hearings and Appeals).

Pursuant to HA 3.03, Wis. Admin. Code, an applicant, member, or former member may appeal any adverse action or decision by an agency or department that affects their benefits. Examples of decisions that may be appealed include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Individual was denied the right to apply.
- Application for BadgerCare Plus or Wisconsin Medicaid was denied.
- Application for BadgerCare Plus or Wisconsin Medicaid was not acted upon promptly.
- Enrollment was unfairly discontinued, terminated, suspended, or reduced.

In the case when enrollment is cancelled or terminated, the date the member, or authorized person acting on behalf of the member, files an appeal with the DHA determines what continuing coverage, if any, the member will receive until the hearing decision is made. The following scenarios describe the coverage allowed for a member who files an appeal:

- If a member files an appeal before his or her enrollment ends, coverage will continue pending the hearing decision.
- If a member files an appeal within 45 days after his or her enrollment ends, a hearing is allowed but coverage is not reinstated.

If the member files an appeal more than 45 days after his or her enrollment ends, a hearing is not allowed. Members may file an appeal by submitting a Request for Fair Hearing (DHA-28 (08/09)) form.

Claims for Appeal Reversals

If a claim is denied due to termination of enrollment, a hearing decision that reverses that determination will allow the claim to be resubmitted and paid. The provider is required to obtain a copy of the appeal decision from the member, attach the copy to the previously denied claim, and submit both to ForwardHealth at the following address:

ForwardHealth
Specialized Research
Ste 50
6406 Bridge Rd
Madison WI 53784-0050

If a provider has not yet submitted a claim, the provider is required to submit a copy of the hearing decision along with a paper claim to Specialized Research.

As a reminder, claims submission deadlines still apply even to those claims with hearing decisions.

Topic #247

Freedom of Choice

Members may receive covered services from *any* willing Medicaid-certified provider, unless they are enrolled in a state-contracted MCO (managed care organization) or assigned to the Pharmacy Services Lock-In Program.

Topic #248

General Information

Members are entitled to certain rights per DHS 103, Wis. Admin. Code.

Topic #250

Notification of Discontinued Benefits

When the DHS (Department of Health Services) intends to discontinue, suspend, or reduce a member's benefits, or reduce or eliminate coverage of services for a general class of members, the DHS sends a written notice to members. This notice is required to be provided at least 10 days before the effective date of the action.

Topic #252

Prompt Decisions on Enrollment

Individuals applying for BadgerCare Plus or Wisconsin Medicaid have the right to prompt decisions on their applications. Enrollment decisions are made within 60 days of the date the application was signed for those with disabilities and within 30 days for all other applicants.

Topic #254

Requesting Retroactive Enrollment

An applicant has the right to request retroactive enrollment when applying for BadgerCare Plus or Wisconsin Medicaid. Enrollment may be backdated to the first of the month three months prior to the date of application for eligible members. Retroactive enrollment does not apply to QMB-Only (Qualified Medicare Beneficiary-Only) members.

Identification Cards

Topic #9357

ForwardHealth Basic Plan Identification Cards

Members enrolled in the BadgerCare Plus Basic Plan will receive a ForwardHealth Basic Plan card. All identification cards include the member's name and 10-digit member identification number. The identification cards may be used to verify a member's enrollment, but possession of an identification card does not guarantee enrollment. It is possible that a member will present a card when he or she is not enrolled; therefore, it is essential that providers verify enrollment before providing services.

Providers should always check enrollment for a member who presents a ForwardHealth card to verify if the member is enrolled in the Basic Plan or in one of the other ForwardHealth programs. (Providers may use the same methods of enrollment verification under the Basic Plan as they do for other ForwardHealth programs such as Medicaid. These methods include the ForwardHealth Portal, WiCall, magnetic stripe readers, and the 270/271 (270/271 Health Care Eligibility/Benefit Inquiry and Information Response) transactions.) Members who present a ForwardHealth card or a ForwardHealth Basic Plan card may have been enrolled in a different plan since the card was issued. Providers should be careful to verify the plan in which the member is enrolled and know which services are covered under that plan.

Basic Plan members should call Member Services with questions about premiums and covered services. The ForwardHealth Basic Plan cards include the Member Services telephone number on the back.

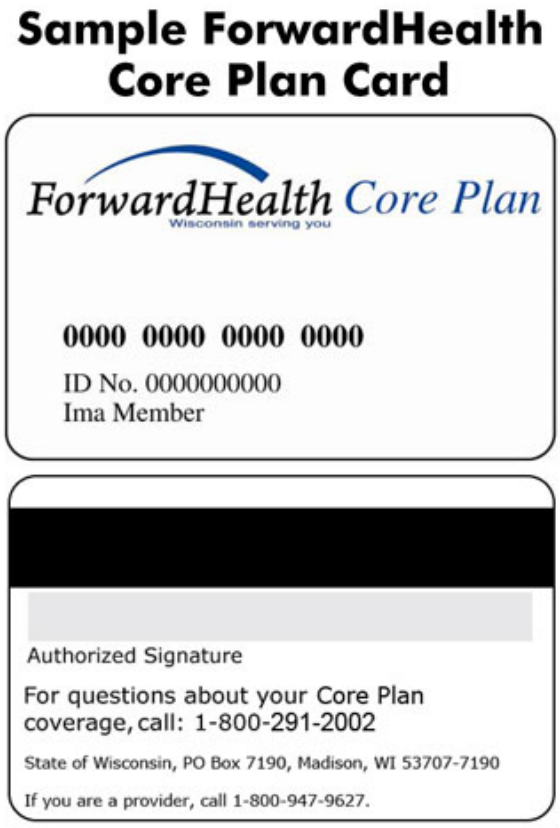
Topic #6977

ForwardHealth Core Plan Identification Cards

Members enrolled in the BadgerCare Plus Core Plan will receive a ForwardHealth Core Plan card. All identification cards include the member's name and 10-digit member identification number. The identification cards may be used to verify a member's enrollment, but possession of an identification card does not guarantee enrollment. It is possible that a member will present a card when he or she is not enrolled; therefore, it is essential that providers verify enrollment before providing services.

Core Plan members should call Member Services with questions about enrollment criteria, HMO (health maintenance organization) enrollment, and covered services.

Providers should always check enrollment for a member who presents a ForwardHealth card to verify if the member is enrolled in the Core Plan or in one of the other ForwardHealth programs. Members who present a ForwardHealth card or a ForwardHealth Core Plan card may have been enrolled in a different plan since the card was issued. Providers should be careful to verify the plan in which the member is enrolled and know which services are covered under that plan.



Topic #266

ForwardHealth Identification Cards

Each enrolled member receives an identification card. Possession of a program identification card does not guarantee enrollment. It is possible that a member will present a card during a lapse in enrollment; therefore, it is essential that providers verify enrollment before providing services. Members are told to keep their cards even though they may have lapses in enrollment.

ForwardHealth Identification Card Features

The ForwardHealth identification card includes the member's name, 10-digit member ID, magnetic stripe, signature panel, and the Member Services telephone number. The card also has a unique, 16-digit card number on the front for internal program use.

The ForwardHealth card does not need to be signed to be valid; however, adult members are encouraged to sign their cards. Providers may use the signature as another means of identification.

The toll-free number on the back of each of the cards is for member use only. The address on the back of each card is used to return a lost card to ForwardHealth if it is found.

If a provider finds discrepancies with the identification number or name between what is indicated on the ForwardHealth card and the provider's file, the provider should verify enrollment with Wisconsin's EVS (Enrollment Verification System).

Identification Number Changes

Some providers may question whether services should be provided if a member's 10-digit identification number on his or her ForwardHealth card does not match the EVS response. If the EVS indicates the member is enrolled, services should be provided.

A member's identification number may change, and the EVS will reflect that change. However, ForwardHealth does not automatically send a replacement ForwardHealth card with the new identification number to the member. ForwardHealth cross-references the old and new identification numbers so a provider may submit claims with either number. The member may request a replacement ForwardHealth card that indicates the new number.

Member Name Changes

If a member's name on the ForwardHealth card is different than the response given from Wisconsin's EVS, providers should use the name from the EVS response. When a name change is reported and on file, a new card will automatically be sent to the member.

Deactivated Cards

When any member identification card has been replaced for any reason, the previous identification card is deactivated. If a member presents a deactivated card, providers should encourage the member to discard the deactivated card and use only the new card.

Although a member identification card may be deactivated, the member ID is valid and the member still may be enrolled in a ForwardHealth program.

If a provider swipes a ForwardHealth card using a magnetic stripe card reader and finds that it has been deactivated, the provider may request a second form of identification if he or she does not know the member. After the member's identity has been verified, providers may verify a member's enrollment by using one of the EVS methods such as AVR (Automated Voice Response).

Defective Cards

If a provider uses a card reader for a ForwardHealth card and the magnetic stripe is defective, the provider should encourage the member to call Member Services at the number listed on the back of the member's card to request a new card.

If a member presents a ForwardHealth card with a defective magnetic stripe, providers may verify the member's enrollment by using an alternate enrollment verification method. Providers may also verify a member's enrollment by entering the member ID or 16-digit card number on a touch pad, if available, or by calling WiCall or Provider Services.

Lost Cards

If a member needs a replacement ForwardHealth card, he or she may call Member Services to request a new one.

If a member lost his or her ForwardHealth card or never received one, the member may call Member Services to request a new one.

Managed Care Organization Enrollment Changes

Members do not receive a new ForwardHealth card if they are enrolled in a state-contracted MCO (managed care organization) or change from one MCO to another. Providers should verify enrollment with the EVS every time they see a member to ensure they have the most current managed care enrollment information.

Topic #268

Temporary Enrollment for Family Planning Only Services Identification Cards

Qualified providers may issue white paper TE (Temporary Enrollment) for Family Planning Only Services identification cards for members to use temporarily until they receive a ForwardHealth identification card. The identification card is included with the TE for Family Planning Only Services Application (F-10119).

The TE for Family Planning Only Services identification cards have the following message printed on them: "Temporary Identification Card for Temporary Enrollment for Family Planning Only Services." Providers should accept the white TE for Family Planning Only Services identification cards as proof of enrollment for the dates provided on the cards and are encouraged to keep a photocopy of the card.

Topic #267

Temporary Express Enrollment Cards

There are two types of temporary EE (Express Enrollment) identification cards. One is issued for pregnant women and the other for children that are enrolled in BadgerCare Plus through EE. The EE cards are valid for 14 days. Samples of temporary EE cards for children and pregnant women are available.

Providers may assist pregnant women with filling out an application for temporary ambulatory prenatal care benefits through the online EE process. EE identification cards are included on the bottom portion of the enrollment notice that is printed out and provided to the member after the online enrollment process is completed.

The paper application may also be used to apply for temporary ambulatory prenatal benefits for pregnant women. A beige paper identification card is attached to the last page of the application and provided to the woman after she completes the enrollment process.

The online EE process is also available for adults to apply for full BadgerCare Plus benefits for children. EE identification cards are included on the bottom portion of the enrollment notice that is printed out and provided to the member after the online enrollment process is completed. This temporary identification card is different, since providers may see more than one child listed if multiple children in one household are enrolled through EE. However, each child will receive his or her own ForwardHealth card after the application is submitted.

Each member who is enrolled through EE will receive a ForwardHealth card usually within three business days after the EE application is submitted and approved. To ensure children and pregnant women receive needed services in a timely manner, providers should accept the printed paper EE cards for children and either the printed paper EE card or the beige identification cards for pregnant women as proof of enrollment for the dates provided on the cards. Providers may use Wisconsin's EVS (Enrollment Verification System) to verify enrollment for DOS (dates of service) after those printed on the card. Providers are encouraged to keep a photocopy of the card.

Sample Express Enrollment Cards

Which benefit?	Status of your benefits?
BadgerCare Plus temporary enrollment for pregnant women	You applied for BadgerCare Plus Express Enrollment on **06/26/2008**. You are temporarily enrolled in BadgerCare Plus for outpatient pregnancy-related services. Your enrollment will end on or before **07/31/2008**. To learn more, see your Rights and Responsibilities. To get regular BadgerCare Plus or Wisconsin Medicaid, you must apply online, by mail or in person: • Online at http://access.wi.gov • By mail or in person at: Dane County Job Center 1819 Aberg Ave. Madison, WI 53704 (608) 242-7400
To learn more, see your Rights and Responsibilities.	

To the Provider

The individual listed has been temporarily enrolled through BadgerCare Plus Express Enrollment in accordance with Wis. Stat. s. 49.471. This card entitles this individual to receive pregnancy related outpatient care including pharmacy services through BadgerCare Plus from any certified BadgerCare Plus provider for the period specified on this card. (See card effective dates.) For additional information, call Provider Services at (800) 947-9627 or see the All Provider Handbook.

NOTE:

It is important to provide services when this card is presented. Providers who render services based on the enrollment dates on this card will receive payment for those services as long as other reimbursement requirements are met. All policies regarding covered services apply during the temporary enrollment period, including the prohibition against billing recipients. Refer to the All Provider Handbook for further information regarding this temporary ID card. Providers are encouraged to keep a photocopy of this card.

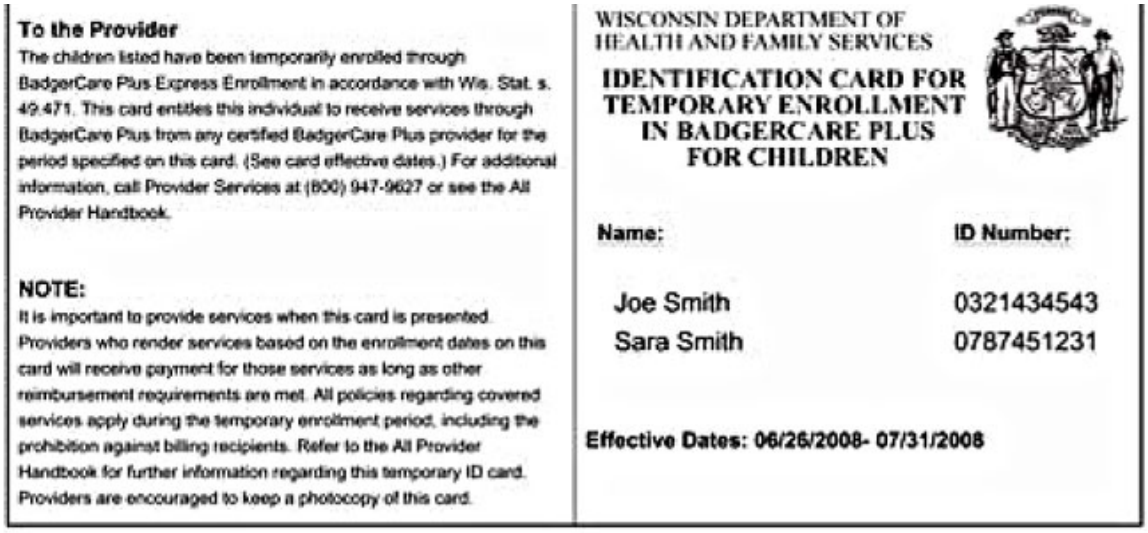
WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND FAMILY SERVICES

IDENTIFICATION CARD FOR TEMPORARY ENROLLMENT IN BADGERCARE PLUS FOR PREGNANT WOMEN

Name:	ID Number:
Jane Smith	0454782131

Effective Dates: 06/26/2008- 07/31/2008

Which benefit?	Status of your benefits?
BadgerCare Plus temporary enrollment for children	You applied for BadgerCare Plus Express Enrollment on **06/26/2008**. The following individual(s) is/are temporarily enrolled in BadgerCare Plus: • **Joe Smith** • **Sara Smith** This temporary enrollment will end on or before **07/31/2008**. To learn more, see your Rights and Responsibilities. In order to continue receiving BadgerCare Plus you must apply through one of the following methods: • Online at http://access.wi.gov • By mail or in person at: Dane County Job Center 1819 Aberg Ave. Madison, WI 53704 (608) 242-7400
To learn more, see your Rights and Responsibilities.	



To the Provider

The children listed have been temporarily enrolled through BadgerCare Plus Express Enrollment in accordance with Wis. Stat. s. 49.471. This card entitles this individual to receive services through BadgerCare Plus from any certified BadgerCare Plus provider for the period specified on this card. (See card effective dates.) For additional information, call Provider Services at (800) 947-9627 or see the All Provider Handbook.

NOTE:

It is important to provide services when this card is presented. Providers who render services based on the enrollment dates on this card will receive payment for those services as long as other reimbursement requirements are met. All policies regarding covered services apply during the temporary enrollment period, including the prohibition against billing recipients. Refer to the All Provider Handbook for further information regarding this temporary ID card. Providers are encouraged to keep a photocopy of this card.

WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND FAMILY SERVICES

IDENTIFICATION CARD FOR TEMPORARY ENROLLMENT IN BADGERCARE PLUS FOR CHILDREN

Name:	ID Number:
Joe Smith	0321434543
Sara Smith	0787451231

Effective Dates: 06/26/2008- 07/31/2008

Topic #270

Temporary ForwardHealth Identification Cards

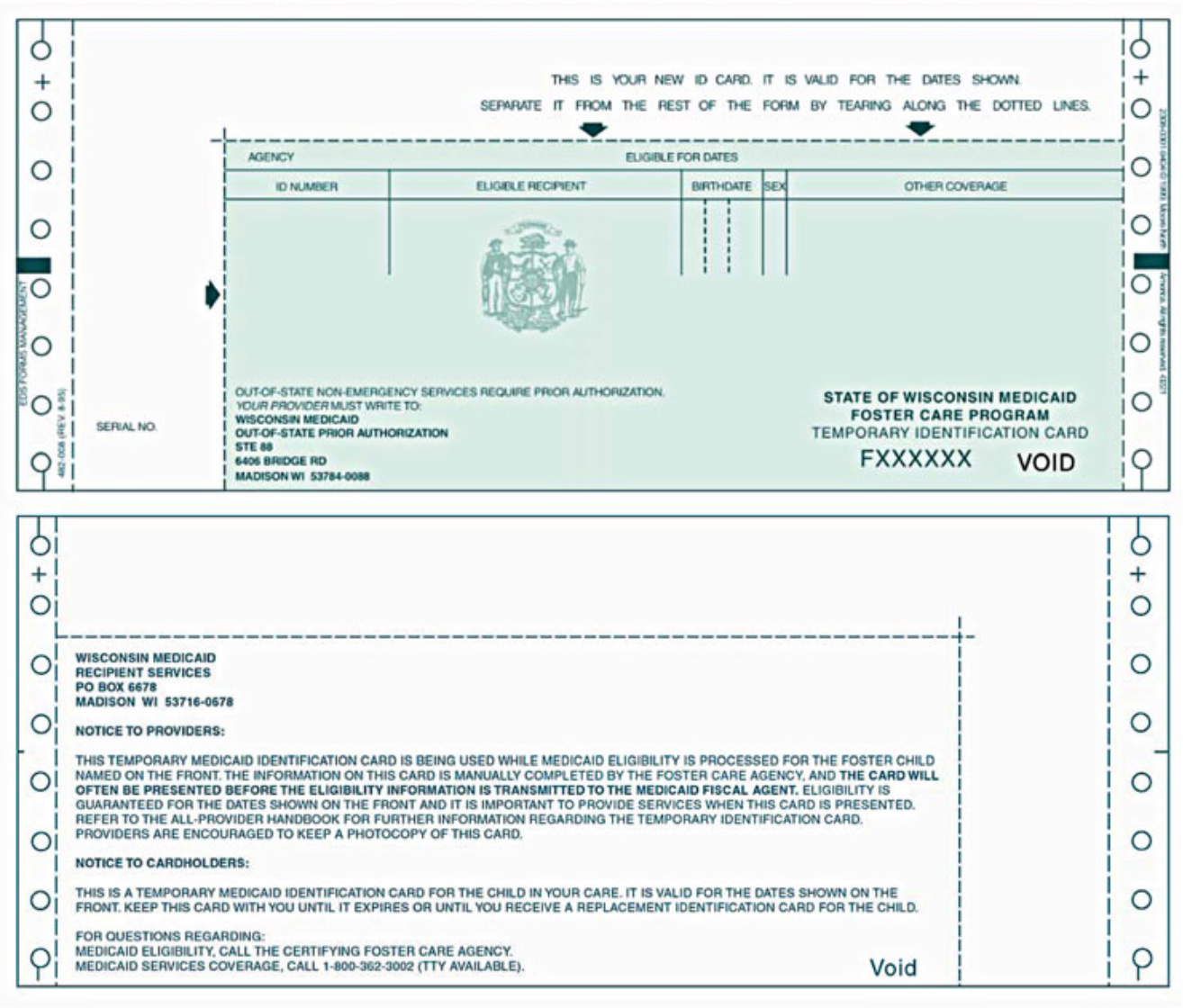
All Medicaid certifying agencies have the authority to issue green paper temporary identification cards to applicants who meet enrollment requirements. Temporary cards are usually issued only when an applicant is in need of medical services prior to receiving the ForwardHealth card. Providers should accept temporary cards as proof of enrollment. Eligible applicants may receive covered services for the dates shown on the card.

Providers are encouraged to keep a photocopy of the temporary card and should delay submitting claims for one week from the enrollment start date until the enrollment information is transmitted to ForwardHealth.

ForwardHealth accepts properly completed and submitted claims for covered services provided to applicants possessing a temporary card as long as the DOS (date of service) is within the dates shown on the card.

If a claim is denied with an enrollment-related explanation, even though the provider verified the member's enrollment before providing the service, a good faith claim may be submitted.

Sample Temporary Medicaid Card



Topic #1435

Types of Identification Cards

ForwardHealth members receive an identification card upon initial eligibility determination. Identification cards may be in any of the following formats:

- White plastic ForwardHealth cards.
- White plastic ForwardHealth Core Plan cards.
- White plastic ForwardHealth Basic Plan cards.
- White plastic SeniorCare cards.
- Green paper temporary cards.
- Paper printout temporary card for EE (Express Enrollment) for children.
- Paper printout temporary card for EE for pregnant women.
- Beige paper temporary card for EE for pregnant women.

- White paper TE (Temporary Enrollment) for Family Planning Only Services cards.

Misuse and Abuse of Benefits

Topic #271

Examples of Member Abuse or Misuse

Examples of member abuse or misuse are included in DHS 104.02(5), Wis. Admin. Code.

Topic #272

Notifying ForwardHealth

Providers are required to notify ForwardHealth if they have reason to believe that a person is misusing or abusing BadgerCare Plus or Medicaid benefits or the ForwardHealth identification card. Section 49.49, Wis. Stats., defines actions that represent member misuse or abuse of benefits and the resulting sanctions that may be imposed. Providers are under no obligation to inform the member that they are doing so. A provider may not confiscate a ForwardHealth card from a member in question.

If a provider suspects that a member is abusing his or her benefits or misusing his or her ForwardHealth card, providers are required to notify ForwardHealth by calling Provider Services or by writing to the following office:

Division of Health Care Access and Accountability
Bureau of Program Integrity
PO Box 309
Madison WI 53701-0309

ForwardHealth monitors member records and can impose sanctions on those who misuse or abuse their benefits. For more information on member misuse and abuse and the resulting sanctions, refer to s. 49.49, Wis. Stats.

Topic #274

Pharmacy Services Lock-In Program

Information is available for DOS (dates of service) before April 1, 2011.

Overview of the Pharmacy Services Lock-In Program

The purpose of the Pharmacy Services Lock-In Program is to coordinate the provision of health care services for members who abuse or misuse Medicaid, BadgerCare Plus, or SeniorCare benefits by seeking duplicate or medically unnecessary services, particularly for controlled substances. The Pharmacy Services Lock-In Program focuses on the abuse or misuse of prescription benefits for controlled substances. Abuse or misuse is defined under Recipient Duties in DHS 104.02, Wis. Admin. Code.

Coordination of member health care services is intended to:

- Curb the abuse or misuse of controlled substance medications.
- Improve the quality of care for a member.
- Reduce unnecessary physician utilization.

The Pharmacy Services Lock-In Program focuses on the abuse or misuse of prescription benefits for controlled substances. Abuse or misuse is defined under Recipient Duties in DHS 104.02, Wis. Admin. Code. The abuse and misuse definition includes:

- Not duplicating or altering prescriptions.
- Not feigning illness, using false pretense, providing incorrect enrollment status, or providing false information to obtain service.
- Not seeking duplicate care from more than one provider for the same or similar condition.
- Not seeking medical care that is excessive or not medically necessary.

The Pharmacy Services Lock-In Program applies to members in fee-for-service as well as members enrolled in Medicaid SSI (Supplemental Security Income) HMOs and BadgerCare Plus HMOs. Members remain enrolled in the Pharmacy Services Lock-In Program for two years and are continuously monitored for their prescription drug usage. At the end of the two-year enrollment period, an assessment is made to determine if the member should continue enrollment in the Pharmacy Services Lock-In Program.

Members enrolled in the Pharmacy Services Lock-In Program will be locked into one pharmacy where prescriptions for restricted medications must be filled and one prescriber who will prescribe restricted medications. Restricted medications are most controlled substances, carisoprodol, and tramadol. Referrals will be required only for restricted medication services.

Fee-for-service members enrolled in the Pharmacy Services Lock-In Program may choose physicians and pharmacy providers from whom to receive prescriptions and medical services not related to restricted medications. Members enrolled in an HMO must comply with the HMO's policies regarding care that is not related to restricted medications.

Referrals of members as candidates for lock-in are received from retrospective DUR, physicians, pharmacists, other providers, and through automated surveillance methods. Once a referral is received, six months of pharmacy claims and diagnoses data are reviewed. A recommendation for one of the following courses of action is then made:

- No further action.
- Send an intervention letter to the physician.
- Send a warning letter to the member.
- Enroll the member in the Pharmacy Services Lock-In Program.

Medicaid, BadgerCare Plus, and SeniorCare members who are candidates for enrollment in the Pharmacy Services Lock-In Program are sent a letter of intent, which explains the restriction that will be applied, how to designate a primary prescriber and a pharmacy, and how to request a hearing if they wish to contest the decision for enrollment (i.e., due process). If a member fails to designate providers, the Pharmacy Services Lock-In Program may assign providers based on claims' history. In the letter of intent, members are also informed that access to emergency care is not restricted.

Letters of notification are sent to the member and to the lock-in primary prescriber and pharmacy. Providers may designate alternate prescribers or pharmacies for restricted medications, as appropriate. Members remain in the Pharmacy Services Lock-In Program for two years. The primary lock-in prescriber and pharmacy may make referrals for specialist care or for care that they are otherwise unable to provide (e.g., home infusion services). The member's utilization of services is reviewed prior to release from the Pharmacy Services Lock-In Program, and lock-in providers are notified of the member's release date.

Excluded Drugs

The following scheduled drugs will be excluded from monitoring by the Pharmacy Services Lock-In Program:

- Anabolic steroids.
- Barbiturates used for seizure control.
- Lyrica®.
- Provigil® and Nuvigil®.
- Weight loss drugs.

Pharmacy Services Lock-In Program Administrator

The Pharmacy Services Lock-In Program is administered by HID (Health Information Designs, Inc.). HID may be contacted by telephone at (800) 225-6998, extension 3045, by fax at (800) 881-5573, or by mail at the following address:

Pharmacy Services Lock-In Program
c/o Health Information Designs
391 Industry Dr
Auburn AL 36832

Pharmacy Services Lock-In Prescribers Are Required to Be Certified by Wisconsin Medicaid

To prescribe restricted medications for Pharmacy Services Lock-In Program members, prescribers are required to be certified by Wisconsin Medicaid. Certification for the Pharmacy Services Lock-In Program is not separate from certification by Wisconsin Medicaid.

Role of the Lock-In Prescriber and Pharmacy Provider

The Lock-In prescriber determines what restricted medications are medically necessary for the member, prescribes those medications using his or her professional discretion, and designates an alternate prescriber if needed. If the member requires an alternate prescriber to prescribe restricted medications, the primary prescriber should complete the Pharmacy Services Lock-In Program Designation of Alternate Prescriber for Restricted Medication Services (F-11183 (12/10)) form and return it to the Pharmacy Services Lock-In Program and to the member's HMO, if applicable.

To coordinate the provision of medications, the Lock-In prescriber may also contact the Lock-In pharmacy to give the pharmacist(s) guidelines as to which medications should be filled for the member and from whom. The primary Lock-In prescriber should also coordinate the provision of medications with any other prescribers he or she has designated for the member.

The Lock-In pharmacy fills prescriptions for restricted medications that have been written by the member's Lock-In prescriber(s) and works with the Lock-In prescriber(s) to ensure the member's drug regimen is consistent with the overall care plan. The Lock-In pharmacy may fill prescriptions for medications from prescribers other than the Lock-In prescriber only for medications not on the list of restricted medications. If a pharmacy claim for a restricted medication is submitted from a provider who is not a designated Lock-In prescriber, the claim will be denied.

Designated Lock-In Pharmacies

Information is available for DOS (dates of service) before April 1, 2011.

The Pharmacy Services Lock-In Program pharmacy fills prescriptions for restricted medications that have been written by the member's Lock-In prescriber(s) and works with the Lock-In prescriber(s) to ensure the member's drug regimen is consistent with the overall care plan. The Lock-In pharmacy may fill prescriptions for medications from prescribers other than the Lock-In prescriber only for medications not on the list of restricted medications. If a pharmacy claim for a restricted medication is submitted from a provider who is not a designated Lock-In prescriber, the claim will be denied.

Alternate Providers for Members Enrolled in the Pharmacy Services Lock-In Program

Members enrolled in the Pharmacy Services Lock-In Program do not have to visit their Lock-In prescriber to receive medical services unless an HMO requires a primary care visit. Members may see other providers to receive medical services; however,

other providers cannot prescribe restricted medications for Pharmacy Services Lock-In Program members unless specifically designated to do so by the primary Lock-In prescriber. For example, if a member sees a cardiologist, the cardiologist may prescribe a statin for the member, but the cardiologist may not prescribe restricted medications unless he or she has been designated by the Lock-In prescriber as an alternate provider.

A referral to an alternate provider for a Pharmacy Services Lock-In Program member is necessary only when the member needs to obtain a prescription for a restricted medication from a provider other than his or her Lock-In prescriber or Lock-In pharmacy.

If the member requires alternate prescribers to prescribe restricted medications, the primary Lock-In prescriber is required to complete the Pharmacy Services Lock-In Program Designation of Alternate Prescriber for Restricted Medication Services form. Referrals for fee-for-service members must be on file with the Pharmacy Services Lock-In Program. Referrals for HMO members must be on file with the Pharmacy Service Lock-In Program and the member's HMO.

Designated alternate prescribers are required to be certified by Wisconsin Medicaid.

Claims from Providers Who Are Not Designated Pharmacy Services Lock-In Providers

If the member brings a prescription for a restricted medication from a non-Lock-In prescriber to the designated Lock-In pharmacy, the pharmacy provider cannot fill the prescription.

If a pharmacy claim for a restricted medication is submitted from a provider who is not the designated Lock-In prescriber, alternate prescriber, Lock-In pharmacy, or alternate pharmacy, the claim will be denied. If a claim is denied because the prescription is not from a designated Lock-In prescriber, the Lock-In pharmacy provider cannot dispense the drug or collect a cash payment from the member because the service is a nonreimbursable service. However, the Lock-In pharmacy provider may contact the Lock-In prescriber to request a new prescription for the drug, if appropriate.

To determine if a provider is on file with the Pharmacy Services Lock-In Program, the Lock-In pharmacy provider may do one of the following:

- Speak to the member.
- Call HID.
- Call Provider Services.
- Use the ForwardHealth Portal.

Claims are not reimbursable if the designated Lock-In prescriber, alternate Lock-In prescriber, Lock-In pharmacy, or alternate Lock-In pharmacy provider is not on file with the Pharmacy Services Lock-In Program.

Exceptions

Certain exceptions will be made regarding Pharmacy Services Lock-In Program requirements. The following are exempt from Pharmacy Services Lock-In Program requirements:

- Out-of-state providers who are not certified by Wisconsin Medicaid.
- Administration of drugs during an emergency room visit.

If a member enrolled in the Pharmacy Services Lock-In Program presents a prescription for a restricted medication from an emergency room visit or an out-of-state provider, the pharmacist at the Lock-In pharmacy must attempt to contact the Lock-In prescriber to verify the appropriateness of filling the prescription. If the pharmacy provider is unable to contact the Lock-In prescriber, the pharmacist should use his or her professional judgment to determine whether or not the prescription should be filled. If the prescription is filled, the claim must be submitted on paper using the Pharmacy Special Handling Request (F-13074 (04/11)) form.

The ForwardHealth emergency medication dispensing policy does not apply to the Pharmacy Services Lock-In Program. Drugs dispensed in an emergency to Pharmacy Services Lock-In Program members are nonreimbursable services except as noted above. Providers cannot collect payment from Pharmacy Services Lock-In Program members for nonreimburseable services.

For More Information

Providers may call HID with questions about the Pharmacy Services Lock-In Program. Pharmacy providers may also refer to the list of restricted medications data table or call Provider Services with questions about the following:

- Drugs that are restricted for Pharmacy Services Lock-In Program members.
- A member's enrollment in the Pharmacy Services Lock-In program.
- A member's designated Lock-In prescriber or Lock-In pharmacy.

Topic #273

Providers May Refuse to Provide Services

Providers may refuse to provide services to a BadgerCare Plus or Medicaid member in situations when there is reason to believe that the person presenting the ForwardHealth identification card is misusing or abusing it.

Members who abuse or misuse BadgerCare Plus or Wisconsin Medicaid benefits or their ForwardHealth card may have their benefits terminated or be subject to limitations under the Pharmacy Services Lock-In Program or to criminal prosecution.

Topic #275

Requesting Additional Proof of Identity

Providers may request additional proof of identity from a member if they suspect fraudulent use of a ForwardHealth identification card. If another form of identification is not available, providers can compare a person's signature with the signature on the back of the ForwardHealth identification card if it is signed. (Adult members are encouraged to sign the back of their cards; however, it is not mandatory for members to do so.)

Verifying member identity, as well as enrollment, can help providers detect instances of fraudulent ForwardHealth card use.

Special Enrollment Circumstances

Topic #276

Medicaid Members from Other States

Wisconsin Medicaid does not pay for services provided to members enrolled in other state Medicaid programs. Providers are advised to contact other state Medicaid programs to determine whether the service sought is a covered service under that state's Medicaid program.

Topic #279

Members Traveling Out of State

When a member travels out of state but is within the United States (including its territories), Canada, or Mexico, BadgerCare Plus and Wisconsin Medicaid cover medical services in any of the following circumstances:

- An emergency illness or accident.
- When the member's health would be endangered if treatment were postponed.
- When the member's health would be endangered if travel to Wisconsin were undertaken.
- When PA (prior authorization) has been granted to the out-of-state provider for provision of a nonemergency service.
- When there are coinsurance, copayment, or deductible amounts remaining after Medicare payment or approval for dual eligibles.

Note: Some providers located in a state that borders Wisconsin may be Wisconsin Medicaid certified as a border-status provider if the provider notifies ForwardHealth in writing that it is common practice for members in a particular area of Wisconsin to seek his or her medical services. Border-status providers follow the same policies as Wisconsin providers.

Topic #277

Non-U.S. Citizens — Emergency Services

Certain non-U.S. citizens who are not qualified aliens are eligible for services only in cases of acute emergency medical conditions. Providers should use the appropriate diagnosis code to document the nature of the emergency.

An emergency medical condition is a medical condition manifesting itself by acute symptoms of such severity that one could reasonably expect the absence of immediate medical attention to result in the following:

- Placing the person's health in serious jeopardy.
- Serious impairment to bodily functions.
- Serious dysfunction of any bodily organ or part.

Due to federal regulations, BadgerCare Plus and Wisconsin Medicaid do not cover services for non-U.S. citizens who are not qualified aliens related to routine prenatal or postpartum care, major organ transplants (e.g., heart, liver), or ongoing treatment for chronic conditions where there is no evidence of an acute emergent state. For the purposes of this policy, all labor and delivery is considered an emergency service.

Note: Babies born to certain non-qualifying immigrants are eligible for Medicaid enrollment under the CEN (continuously eligible newborn) option. However, babies born to women with incomes over 300 percent of the FPL (Federal Poverty Level) are not eligible for CEN status. The baby may still qualify for BadgerCare Plus. These mothers should report the birth to the local agencies within ten calendar days.

A provider who gives emergency care to a non-U.S. citizen should refer him or her to the local county or tribal agency or ForwardHealth outstation site for a determination of BadgerCare Plus enrollment. Providers may complete the Certification of Emergency for Non-U.S. Citizens (F-1162 (02/09)) form for clients to take to the local county or tribal agency in their county of residence where the BadgerCare Plus enrollment decision is made.

Providers should be aware that a client's enrollment does not guarantee that the services provided will be reimbursed by BadgerCare Plus.

Topic #724

Out-of-State Youth Program

The OSY (Out-of-State Youth) program is responsible for health care services provided to Wisconsin children placed outside the state in foster and subsidized adoption situations. These children are eligible for coverage. The objective is to assure that these children receive quality medical care.

Out-of-state providers not located in border-status-eligible communities may qualify as border-status providers if they deliver services as part of the OSY program. However, providers who have border status as part of the OSY program are reimbursed only for services provided to the specific foster care or subsidized adopted child. In order to receive reimbursement for services provided to other members, the provider is required to follow rules for out-of-state noncertified providers.

For subsidized adoptions, benefits are usually determined through the adoption assistance agreement and are provided by the state where the child lives. However, some states will not provide coverage to children with state-only funded adoption assistance. In these cases, Wisconsin will continue to provide coverage.

OSY providers are subject to the same regulations and policies as other certified border-status providers. For more information about the OSY program, call Provider Services or write to ForwardHealth at the following address:

ForwardHealth
Out-of-State Youth
Ste 50
6406 Bridge Rd
Madison WI 53784-0050

Topic #278

Persons Detained by Legal Process

Most individuals detained by legal process are *not* eligible for BadgerCare Plus or Wisconsin Medicaid benefits. Only those individuals who qualify for the BadgerCare Plus Expansion for Certain Pregnant Women may receive benefits.

"Detained by legal process" means a person who is incarcerated (including some Huber Law prisoners) because of law violation or alleged law violation, which includes misdemeanors, felonies, delinquent acts, and day-release prisoners. The justice system oversees health care-related needs for individuals detained by legal process who do not qualify for the BadgerCare Plus Expansion for Certain Pregnant Women.

Topic #280

Retroactive Enrollment

Retroactive enrollment occurs when an individual has applied for BadgerCare Plus or Medicaid and enrollment is granted with an effective date prior to the date the enrollment determination was made. A member's enrollment may be backdated to allow retroactive coverage for medical bills incurred prior to the date of application.

The retroactive enrollment period may be backdated up to three months prior to the month of application if all enrollment requirements were met during the period. Enrollment may be backdated more than three months if there were delays in determining enrollment or if court orders, fair hearings, or appeals were involved.

Reimbursing Members in Cases of Retroactive Enrollment

When a member receives retroactive enrollment, he or she has the right to request the return of payments made to a Medicaid-certified provider for a covered service during the period of retroactive enrollment, according to DHS 104.01(11), Wis. Admin. Code. A Medicaid-certified provider is required to submit claims to Medicaid for covered services provided to a member during periods of retroactive enrollment. Medicaid cannot directly refund the member.

If a service(s) that requires PA (prior authorization) was performed during the member's period of retroactive enrollment, the provider is required to submit a PA request and receive approval from Medicaid *before* submitting a claim.

If a provider receives reimbursement from Medicaid for services provided to a retroactively enrolled member and the member has paid for the service, the provider is required to reimburse the member or authorized person acting on behalf of the member (e.g., local General Relief agency) the full amount that the member paid for the service.

If a claim cannot be filed within 365 days of the DOS (date of service) due to a delay in the determination of a member's retroactive enrollment, the provider is required to submit the claim to Timely Filing within 180 days of the date the retroactive enrollment is entered into Wisconsin's EVS (Enrollment Verification System) (if the services provided during the period of retroactive enrollment were covered).

Topic #281

Spenddown to Meet Financial Enrollment Requirements

Occasionally, an individual with significant medical bills meets all enrollment requirements except those pertaining to income. These individuals are required to "spenddown" their income to meet financial enrollment requirements.

The certifying agency calculates the individual's spenddown (or deductible) amount, tracks all medical costs the individual incurs, and determines when the medical costs have satisfied the spenddown amount. (A payment for a medical service does not have to be made by the individual to be counted toward satisfying the spenddown amount.)

When the individual meets the spenddown amount, the certifying agency notifies ForwardHealth and the provider of the last service that the individual is eligible beginning on the date that the spenddown amount was satisfied.

If the individual's last medical bill is greater than the amount needed to satisfy the spenddown amount, the certifying agency notifies the affected provider by indicating the following:

- The individual is eligible for benefits as of the DOS (date of service) on the last bill.
- A claim for the service(s) on the last bill should be submitted to ForwardHealth. (The claim should indicate the full cost of the service.)

- The portion of the last bill that the individual must pay to the provider.

The certifying agency also informs ForwardHealth of the individual's enrollment and identifies the following:

- The DOS of the final charges counted toward satisfying the spenddown amount.
- The provider number of the provider of the last service.
- The spenddown amount remaining to be satisfied.

When the provider submits the claim, the spenddown amount will automatically be deducted from the provider's reimbursement for the claim. The spenddown amount is indicated in the Member's Share element on the Medicaid Remaining Deductible Update (F-10109 (07/08)) form sent to providers by the member's certifying agency. The provider's reimbursement is then reduced by the amount of the member's obligation.

Prior Authorization

7

Archive Date:01/03/2012

Prior Authorization:Decisions

Topic #424

Approved Requests

PA (prior authorization) requests are approved for varying periods of time based on the clinical justification submitted. The provider receives a copy of a PA decision notice when a PA request for a service is approved. Providers may then begin providing the approved service on the grant date given.

An approved request means that the requested *service*, not necessarily the code, was approved. For example, a similar procedure code may be substituted for the originally requested procedure code. Providers are encouraged to review approved PA requests to confirm the services authorized and confirm the assigned grant and expiration dates.

Listing Procedure Codes Approved as a Group on the Decision Notice Letter

In certain circumstances, ForwardHealth will approve a PA request for a group of procedure codes with a total quantity approved for the entire group. When this occurs, the quantity approved for the entire group of codes will be indicated with the first procedure code. All of the other approved procedure codes within the group will indicate a quantity of zero.

Providers may submit claims for any combination of the procedure codes in the group up to the approved quantity.

Topic #4724

Communicating Prior Authorization Decisions

ForwardHealth will make a decision regarding a provider's PA (prior authorization) request within 20 working days from the receipt of all the necessary information. After processing the PA request, ForwardHealth will send the provider either a decision notice letter or a returned provider review letter. Providers will receive a decision notice letter for PA requests that were approved, approved with modifications, or denied. Providers will receive a returned provider review letter for PA requests that require corrections or additional information. The decision notice letter or returned provider review letter will clearly indicate what is approved or what correction or additional information ForwardHealth needs to continue adjudicating the PA request.

Providers submitting PA requests via the ForwardHealth Portal will receive a decision notice letter or returned provider review letter via the Portal.

If the provider submitted a PA request via mail or fax and the provider has a Portal account, the decision notice letter or returned provider review letter will be sent to the provider via the Portal as well as by mail.

If the provider submitted a paper PA request via mail or fax and does not have a Portal account, the decision notice letter or returned provider review letter will be sent to the address indicated in the provider's file as his or her PA address (or to the physical address if there is no PA address on file), *not* to the address the provider wrote on the PA request.

The decision notice letter or returned provider review letter will not be faxed back to providers who submitted their paper PA request via fax. Providers who submitted their paper PA request via fax will receive the decision notice letter or returned provider letter via mail.

Topic #5038

Correcting Returned Prior Authorization Requests and Request Amendments on the Portal

If a provider received a returned provider review letter or an amendment provider review letter, he or she will be able to correct the errors identified on the returned provider review letter directly on the ForwardHealth Portal. Once the provider has corrected the error(s), the provider can resubmit the PA (prior authorization) request or amendment request via the Portal to ForwardHealth for processing.

Topic #10097

Daylight Savings on the Decision Notice Letter

To accommodate daylight savings time for 24 hour cases, an hour will be subtracted in the spring for daylight savings time and an hour will be added in the fall for the return to standard daylight time. The changes to the number of authorized hours for the affected segments will be reflected in the PA (prior authorization) decision notice letter.

Topic #5037

Decision Notice Letters and Returned Provider Review Letters on the Portal

Providers can view PA (prior authorization) decision notices and provider review letters via the secure area of the ForwardHealth Portal. Prior authorization decision notices and provider review letters can be viewed when the PA is selected on the Portal.

Note: The PA decision notice or the provider review letter will not be available until the day after the PA request is processed by ForwardHealth.

Topic #9997

Nurses in Independent Practice

For PDN (private duty nursing) services, the PAL (prior authorization liaison) submits the PA and receives all communications, such as returned provider review letters, for the PDN.

Topic #425

Denied Requests

When a PA (prior authorization) request is denied, both the provider and the member are notified. The provider receives a PA decision notice, including the reason for PA denial. The member receives a Notice of Appeal Rights letter that includes a brief statement of the reason PA was denied and information about his or her right to a fair hearing. Only the *member, or authorized person acting on behalf of the member*, can appeal the denial.

Providers may call Provider Services for clarification of why a PA request was denied.

Providers are required to discuss a denied PA request with the member and are encouraged to help the member understand the reason the PA request was denied.

Providers have three options when a PA request is denied:

- Not provide the service.
- Submit a *new* PA request. Providers are required to submit a copy of the original denied PA request and additional supporting clinical documentation and medical justification along with a new PA/RF (Prior Authorization Request Form, F-11018 (10/08)), PA/DRF (Prior Authorization/Dental Request Form, F-11035 (10/08)), or PA/HIAS1 (Prior Authorization for Hearing Instrument and Audiological Services 1, F-11020 (10/08)).
- Provide the service as a noncovered service.

If the member does not appeal the decision to deny the PA request or appeals the decision but the decision is upheld and the member chooses to receive the service anyway, the member may choose to receive the service(s) as a noncovered service.

Sample Notice of Appeal Rights Letter

<Month DD, CCYY>
<sequence number>
<RecipName>
<RecipAddressLine1>
<RecipAddressLine2>
<RecipCity> <RecipStateZip>

Member Identification Number:
<XXX-XX-XXXXX>
Local County or Tribal Agency
Telephone Number: <AgencyPhone>

<PROGRAM NAME> Notice of Appeal Rights

Appeal Date: <AppealDate>

In <PROGRAM NAME>, certain services and products must be reviewed and approved before payment can be made for them. This review process is called prior authorization (PA). The purposes of this letter are to notify you that <PROGRAM NAME> has either denied or modified a request for prior authorization of a service or product that was submitted on your behalf and to inform you of your right to appeal that decision.

Your provider <ProviderName> requested prior authorization for the following service(s):

Service Code	Modifier	Service Description	Unit	Dollar
XXXXXXXXXXX	XX XX XX XX	XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX	XXXXX.XX	XXXXX.XX
XXXXXXXXXXX	XX XX XX XX	XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX	XXXXX.XX	XXXXX.XX

<ServiceNN>

That prior authorization request, PA number <PANumber>, was reviewed by <PROGRAM NAME> medical consultants. Based on that review, the following services have been denied or modified as follows.

Denied Services

Service Code	Modifier	Service Description	Unit	Dollar
XXXXXXXXXXX	XX XX XX XX	XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX	XXXXX.XX	XXXXX.XX
XXXXXXXXXXX	XX XX XX XX	XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX	XXXXX.XX	XXXXX.XX

<DeniedServiceNN>

Modified Services

Service Code	Modifier	Service Description	Unit	Dollar
XXXXXXXXXXX	XX XX XX XX	XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX	XXXXX.XX	XXXXX.XX
XXXXXXXXXXX	XX XX XX XX	XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX	XXXXX.XX	XXXXX.XX

<ModifiedServiceNN>

<PROGRAM NAME>'s denial or modification of the services requested was made for the following reasons:

(Denial/modify code(s) will be inserted here)

<PROGRAM NAME> bases its decisions on criteria found in the Wisconsin Administrative Code. <PROGRAM NAME> may modify or deny a prior authorization request if one or more of the criteria are not supported by documentation submitted by your provider. The specific regulation(s) that supports the reason for the denial/modification of your provider's request for services is found in the following Wisconsin Administrative Code:

(Wis. Admin. Code Regulation(s) will be inserted here)

We have sent your provider the denied/modified prior authorization request. We encourage you to contact <Provider Name> to review the prior authorization request and the reasons for the decision.

Your Rights and Responsibilities

You or your designated representative may appeal this decision in accordance with state and federal law within <RecipientDays> days. To file an appeal, you may do one of the following:

1) Call your local county or tribal agency at the telephone number listed on the first page of this letter for an appeal form and/or assistance in completing it.

2) Write a letter requesting an appeal to the Division of Hearings and Appeals at the following address:

   Division of Hearings and Appeals
   Department of Administration
   PO Box 7875
   Madison WI 53707-7875

The appeal form or letter should include all of the following:

- The name, address, and telephone number of the <PROGRAM NAME> member for whom the appeal is being made.
- The member identification number.
- The prior authorization number <PANumber> of the denied/modified request.
- The reason you think the denial or modification of the prior authorization is wrong.

REMEMBER: You must mail or deliver your appeal to your local county or tribal agency or the Division of Hearings and Appeals so it is received by the <RecipientDays>-day deadline, which is <AppealDate>.

You will lose your right to an appeal if your request to appeal is not received by the local county or tribal agency or the Division of Hearings and Appeals by <AppealDate>.

If you file an appeal, you may expect the following to occur:

- The state Division of Health Care Access and Accountability will be required to explain, in writing, the reason(s) for the denial or modification of the services your provider requested. This explanation will be mailed to you.
- The Division of Hearings and Appeals will schedule a hearing to consider your appeal and will notify you of the time and place by mail. Hearings are generally held at your local county or tribal agency. You may want to ask your local county or tribal agency if there is free legal help available in your area.
- At that hearing, you (or you may choose a friend, relative, attorney, provider, etc., to represent you) will have an opportunity to explain your need for the service to a hearing officer. Division of Health Care Access and Accountability staff may also appear in person or participate by telephone.
- Based on all the information available, the hearing officer will make a decision on your appeal, notify you of the decision by mail, and advise you of any additional appeal rights.

Whether or not you appeal, <PROGRAM NAME> will pay for any services it has approved. After the hearing officer makes a decision on your appeal, <PROGRAM NAME> will continue to pay for the approved services plus any additional services the hearing officer directs <PROGRAM NAME> to pay.

If you need information about accommodation for a disability or for language translation, please call 1-608-266-3096 (voice) or 1-608-264-9853 (TTY) immediately so arrangements can be made. The staff at these numbers will not be able to provide you with information about the reasons for Wisconsin <PROGRAM NAME>'s decision to deny or modify the prior authorization request. These telephone numbers at the Division of Hearings and Appeals should only be used for questions about the hearing process.

F-11194 (10/08)

Topic #426

Modified Requests

Modification is a change in the services originally requested on a PA (prior authorization) request. Modifications could include, but are not limited to, either of the following:

- The authorization of a procedure code different than the one originally requested.
- A change in the frequency or intensity of the service requested.

When a PA request is modified, both the provider and the member are notified. The provider will be sent a decision notice letter. The decision notice letter will clearly indicate what is approved or what correction or additional information is needed to continue adjudicating the PA request. The member receives a Notice of Appeal Rights letter that includes a brief statement of the reason PA was modified and information on his or her right to a fair hearing. Only the *member, or authorized person acting on behalf of the member*, can appeal the modification.

Providers are required to discuss with the member the reasons a PA request was modified.

Providers have the following options when a PA request is approved with modification:

- Provide the service as authorized.
- Submit a request to amend the modified PA request. Additional supporting clinical documentation and medical justification must be included.
- Not provide the service.
- Provide the service as originally requested as a noncovered service.

If the member does not appeal the decision to modify the PA request or appeals the decision but the decision is upheld and the member chooses to receive the originally requested service anyway, the member may choose to receive the service(s) as a noncovered service.

Providers may call Provider Services for clarification of why a PA request was modified.

Sample Notice of Appeal Rights Letter

<Month DD, CCYY>
<sequence number>
<RecipName>
<RecipAddressLine1>
<RecipAddressLine2>
<RecipCity> <RecipStateZip>

Member Identification Number:
<XXX-XX-XXXXX>
Local County or Tribal Agency
Telephone Number: <AgencyPhone>

<PROGRAM NAME> Notice of Appeal Rights

Appeal Date: <AppealDate>

In <PROGRAM NAME>, certain services and products must be reviewed and approved before payment can be made for them. This review process is called prior authorization (PA). The purposes of this letter are to notify you that <PROGRAM NAME> has either denied or modified a request for prior authorization of a service or product that was submitted on your behalf and to inform you of your right to appeal that decision.

Your provider <ProviderName> requested prior authorization for the following service(s):

Service Code	Modifier	Service Description	Unit	Dollar
XXXXXXXXXXX	XX XX XX XX	XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX	XXXXX.XX	XXXXX.XX
XXXXXXXXXXX	XX XX XX XX	XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX	XXXXX.XX	XXXXX.XX

<ServiceNN>

That prior authorization request, PA number <PANumber>, was reviewed by <PROGRAM NAME> medical consultants. Based on that review, the following services have been denied or modified as follows.

Denied Services

Service Code	Modifier	Service Description	Unit	Dollar
XXXXXXXXXXX	XX XX XX XX	XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX	XXXXX.XX	XXXXX.XX
XXXXXXXXXXX	XX XX XX XX	XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX	XXXXX.XX	XXXXX.XX

<DeniedServiceNN>

Modified Services

Service Code	Modifier	Service Description	Unit	Dollar
XXXXXXXXXXX	XX XX XX XX	XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX	XXXXX.XX	XXXXX.XX
XXXXXXXXXXX	XX XX XX XX	XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX	XXXXX.XX	XXXXX.XX

<ModifiedServiceNN>

<PROGRAM NAME>'s denial or modification of the services requested was made for the following reasons:

(Denial/modify code(s) will be inserted here)

<PROGRAM NAME> bases its decisions on criteria found in the Wisconsin Administrative Code. <PROGRAM NAME> may modify or deny a prior authorization request if one or more of the criteria are not supported by documentation submitted by your provider. The specific regulation(s) that supports the reason for the denial/modification of your provider's request for services is found in the following Wisconsin Administrative Code:

(Wis. Admin. Code Regulation(s) will be inserted here)

We have sent your provider the denied/modified prior authorization request. We encourage you to contact <Provider Name> to review the prior authorization request and the reasons for the decision.

Your Rights and Responsibilities

You or your designated representative may appeal this decision in accordance with state and federal law within <RecipientDays> days. To file an appeal, you may do one of the following:

1) Call your local county or tribal agency at the telephone number listed on the first page of this letter for an appeal form and/or assistance in completing it.

2) Write a letter requesting an appeal to the Division of Hearings and Appeals at the following address:

   Division of Hearings and Appeals
   Department of Administration
   PO Box 7875
   Madison WI 53707-7875

The appeal form or letter should include all of the following:

- The name, address, and telephone number of the <PROGRAM NAME> member for whom the appeal is being made.
- The member identification number.
- The prior authorization number <PANumber> of the denied/modified request.
- The reason you think the denial or modification of the prior authorization is wrong.

REMEMBER: You must mail or deliver your appeal to your local county or tribal agency or the Division of Hearings and Appeals so it is received by the <RecipientDays>-day deadline, which is <AppealDate>.

You will lose your right to an appeal if your request to appeal is not received by the local county or tribal agency or the Division of Hearings and Appeals by <AppealDate>.

If you file an appeal, you may expect the following to occur:

- The state Division of Health Care Access and Accountability will be required to explain, in writing, the reason(s) for the denial or modification of the services your provider requested. This explanation will be mailed to you.
- The Division of Hearings and Appeals will schedule a hearing to consider your appeal and will notify you of the time and place by mail. Hearings are generally held at your local county or tribal agency. You may want to ask your local county or tribal agency if there is free legal help available in your area.
- At that hearing, you (or you may choose a friend, relative, attorney, provider, etc., to represent you) will have an opportunity to explain your need for the service to a hearing officer. Division of Health Care Access and Accountability staff may also appear in person or participate by telephone.
- Based on all the information available, the hearing officer will make a decision on your appeal, notify you of the decision by mail, and advise you of any additional appeal rights.

Whether or not you appeal, <PROGRAM NAME> will pay for any services it has approved. After the hearing officer makes a decision on your appeal, <PROGRAM NAME> will continue to pay for the approved services plus any additional services the hearing officer directs <PROGRAM NAME> to pay.

If you need information about accommodation for a disability or for language translation, please call 1-608-266-3096 (voice) or 1-608-264-9853 (TTY) immediately so arrangements can be made. The staff at these numbers will not be able to provide you with information about the reasons for Wisconsin <PROGRAM NAME>'s decision to deny or modify the prior authorization request. These telephone numbers at the Division of Hearings and Appeals should only be used for questions about the hearing process.

F-11194 (10/08)

Topic #4737

Returned Provider Review Letter Response Time

Thirty Days to Respond to the Returned Provider Review Letter

ForwardHealth must receive the provider's response within 30 calendar days of the date on the returned provider review letter, whether the letter was sent to the provider by mail or through the ForwardHealth Portal. If the provider's response is received within 30 calendar days, ForwardHealth still considers the original receipt date on the PA (prior authorization) request when authorizing a grant date for the PA.

If ForwardHealth does not receive the provider's response within 30 calendar days of the date the returned provider review letter was sent, the PA status becomes inactive and the provider is required to submit a new PA request. This results in a later grant date if the PA request is approved. Providers will not be notified when their PA request status changes to inactive, but this information will be available on the Portal and through WiCall.

If ForwardHealth receives additional information from the provider after the 30-day deadline has passed, a letter will be sent to the provider stating that the PA request is inactive and the provider is required to submit a new PA request.

Topic #10360

Nurses in Independent Practice

For PDN (private duty nursing) services, the PAL (prior authorization liaison) is responsible for responding to the returned provider review letter within 30 days. The PAL is responsible for making available to other PDN providers on the case the PA request for their review.

Topic #427

Returned Requests

A PA (prior authorization) request may be returned to the provider when forms are incomplete, inaccurate, or additional clinical information or corrections are needed. When this occurs, the provider will be sent a provider review letter.

Returned Provider Review Letter

The returned provider review letter will indicate the PA number assigned to the request and will specify corrections or additional information needed on the PA request. Providers are required to make the corrections or supply the requested information in the space provided on the letter or attach additional information to the letter before mailing the letter to ForwardHealth. Providers can also correct PAs that have been placed in returned provider review status in the ForwardHealth Portal.

The provider's paper documents submitted with the PA request will not be returned to the provider when corrections or additional information are needed; however, X-rays and dental models will be returned once the PA is finalized.

Photographs submitted to ForwardHealth as additional supporting clinical documentation for PA requests will not be returned to providers and will be disposed of securely.

Therefore, providers are required to make a copy of their PA requests (including attachments and any supplemental information) before mailing the requests to ForwardHealth. The provider is required to have a copy on file for reference purposes if more information is required about the PA request.

Note: When changing or correcting the PA request, providers are reminded to revise or update the documentation retained in their records.

Emergent and Urgent Situations

Topic #429

Emergency Services

In emergency situations, the PA (prior authorization) requirement may be waived for services that normally require PA. Emergency services are defined in DHS 101.03(52), Wis. Admin. Code, as "those services which are necessary to prevent the death or serious impairment of the health of the individual."

Reimbursement is not guaranteed for services that normally require PA that are provided in emergency situations. As with all covered services, emergency services must meet all program requirements, including medical necessity, to be reimbursed by Wisconsin Medicaid. For example, reimbursement is contingent on, but not limited to, eligibility of the member, the circumstances of the emergency, and the medical necessity of the services provided.

Wisconsin Medicaid will not reimburse providers for noncovered services provided in any situation, including emergency situations.

Topic #430

Urgent Services

Telephone consultations with DHCAA (Division of Health Care Access and Accountability) staff regarding a prospective PA (prior authorization) request can be given only in urgent situations when medically necessary. An urgent, medically necessary situation is one where a delay in authorization would result in undue hardship for the member or unnecessary costs for Medicaid as determined by the DHCAA. All telephone consultations for urgent services should be directed to the Quality Assurance and Appropriateness Review Section at (608) 266-2521. Providers should have the following information ready when calling:

- Member's name.
- Member identification number.
- Service(s) needed.
- Reason for the urgency.
- Diagnosis of the member.
- Procedure code of the service(s) requested.

Providers are required to submit a PA request to ForwardHealth within 14 calendar days after the date of the telephone consultation. PA may be denied if the request is received more than two weeks after the consultation. If the PA request is denied in this case, the provider cannot request payment from the member.

Follow-Up to Decisions

Topic #4738

Amendment Decisions

ForwardHealth will make a decision regarding a provider's amendment request within 20 working days from the receipt of all the information necessary. If the provider submitted the amendment request via the ForwardHealth Portal, the decision notice letter or returned amendment provider review letter will be sent to the provider via the Portal.

If the provider submitted an amendment request via mail or fax and the provider has a Portal account, the decision notice letter or returned amendment provider review letter will be sent to the provider via the Portal as well as by mail.

If the provider submitted a paper amendment request via mail or fax and does not have a Portal account, the decision notice letter or returned amendment provider review letter will be sent to the address indicated in the provider's file as his or her PA (prior authorization) address (or to the physical address if there is no PA address on file), *not* to the address the provider wrote on the amendment request.

Neither the decision notice letter nor the returned amendment provider review letter will be faxed back to providers who submitted their paper amendment request via fax. Providers who submitted their paper amendment request via fax will receive the decision notice letter or returned amendment provider review letter via mail.

Topic #431

Amendments

Providers are required to use the Prior Authorization Amendment Request (F-11042 (10/08)) to amend an approved or modified PA (prior authorization) request.

ForwardHealth does not accept a paper amendment request submitted on anything other than the Prior Authorization Amendment Request. The Prior Authorization Amendment Request may be submitted through the ForwardHealth Portal as well as by mail or fax. If ForwardHealth receives a PA amendment on a previous version of the Prior Authorization Amendment Request form, a letter will be sent to the provider stating that the provider is required to submit a new PA amendment request using the proper forms.

Examples of when providers may request an amendment to an approved or modified PA request include the following:

- To temporarily modify a member's frequency of a service when there is a short-term change in his or her medical condition.
- To change the rendering provider information when the billing provider remains the same.
- To change the ForwardHealth Member Identification Number.
- To add or change a procedure code.

Note: ForwardHealth recommends that, under most circumstances, providers should enddate the current PA request and submit a new one if there is a significant, long-term change in services required.

Topic #2072

Prior Authorization Amendments for Home Health Services

Under certain circumstances, providers may amend an approved or modified PA (prior authorization). A request to amend a PA request may be submitted by fax or mail to ForwardHealth and must be received by ForwardHealth *before* the expiration date of the PA request to be amended.

Examples of these types of circumstances include, but are not limited to, the following:

- The Member Identification Number changes.
- There is a short-term change in the member's medical condition and the frequency of a service needs to be modified temporarily, regardless of whether it is an increase or decrease in level of care or hours. Physician orders that reflect the change are required.
- A provider reduces the number of hours of service because another provider begins to share the case. Requests for additional services by another provider may be denied if the number of services on the first PA is not reduced at the same time.
- To add or change a procedure code.
- To change the rendering provider information when the billing provider remains the same.

Providers may also submit a reconsideration request in the form of an amendment when a PA has been modified. Request reconsideration by submitting a Prior Authorization Amendment Request with additional documentation that supports the original request. The amendment request should be received within 14 calendar days of the adjudication date on the original PA/RF (Prior Authorization Request Form, F-11018 (10/08)) or amendment. If the amendment request is approved, ForwardHealth will notify the provider of the effective date.

An amendment to an approved PA/RF must be requested any time the physician orders additional care, unless the additional services can be billed without a PA number and charged against one of the 30 outstanding PA threshold visits. This includes intermittent additional care due to fluctuations in the availability of the primary caregiver.

A new PA/RF must be submitted when changing requested nursing services from home health skilled nursing or home health aide to PDN (private duty nursing) or vice versa. Do *not* submit an amendment in these circumstances.

Note: If there is a significant, long-term change that requires a new POC (plan of care), then ForwardHealth recommends that providers enddate the current PA and submit a new request for PA.

The amendment request should include:

- A completed Prior Authorization Amendment Request describing the specific change requested and the reason for the request. Provide sufficient detail for ForwardHealth to determine the medical necessity of the requested services.
- A *copy* of the PA/RF to be amended (*not* a new PA/RF).
- A copy of the PA/CPA (Prior Authorization/Care Plan Attachment, F-11096 (03/10)), member's POC in another format that contains *all* of the components requested in the PA/CPA Completion Instructions (Prior Authorization/Care Plan Attachment Completion Instructions, F-11096a (03/10)) or the physician's orders. If current orders continue to be compatible with the new request, new orders are not necessary.
- Additional supporting materials or medical documentation explaining or justifying the requested changes.

Prior Authorization Amendments for Private Duty Nursing

PA amendments must be submitted by the same PAL (prior authorization liaison) who submitted the original PA request. The PAL is responsible for making amendment request documents available to the other PDN providers on the case. All providers on the case are responsible for making and maintaining their own copies of the decision notice(s) generated from the amendment request.

Topic #432

Appeals

If a PA (prior authorization) request is denied or modified by ForwardHealth, only a member, or authorized person acting on behalf of the member, may file an appeal with the DHA (Division of Hearings and Appeals). Decisions that may be appealed include the following:

- Denial or modification of a PA request.
- Denial of a retroactive authorization for a service.

The member is required to file an appeal within 45 days of the date of the Notice of Appeal Rights.

To file an appeal, members may complete and submit a Request for Fair Hearing (DHA-28 (08/09)) form.

Though providers cannot file an appeal, they are encouraged to remain in contact with the member during the appeal process. Providers may offer the member information necessary to file an appeal and help present his or her case during a fair hearing.

Fair Hearing Upholds ForwardHealth's Decision

If the hearing decision upholds the decision to deny or modify a PA request, the DHA notifies the member and ForwardHealth in writing. The member may choose to receive the service (or in the case of a modified PA request, the originally requested service) as a noncovered service, not receive the service at all, or appeal the decision.

Fair Hearing Overturns ForwardHealth's Decision

If the hearing decision overturns the decision to deny or modify the PA request, the DHA notifies ForwardHealth and the member. The letter includes instructions for the provider and for ForwardHealth.

If the DHA letter instructs the provider(s) to submit a claim for the service, each provider should submit the following to ForwardHealth after the service(s) has been performed:

- A paper claim with "HEARING DECISION ATTACHED" written in red ink at the top of the claim.
- A copy of the hearing decision.
- A copy of the denied PA request.

Providers are required to submit claims with hearing decisions to the following address:

ForwardHealth
Specialized Research
Ste 50
6406 Bridge Rd
Madison WI 53784-0050

Claims with hearing decisions sent to any other address may not be processed appropriately.

If the DHA letter instructs the provider to submit a new PA request, the provider is required to submit the *new* PA request along with a copy of the hearing decision to the PA Unit at the following address:

ForwardHealth
Prior Authorization
Ste 88
6406 Bridge Rd

Madison WI 53784-0088

ForwardHealth will then approve the PA request with the revised process date. The provider may then submit a claim following the usual claims submission procedures after providing the service(s).

Financial Responsibility

If the member asks to receive the service *before* the hearing decision is made, the provider is required to notify the member before rendering the service that the member will be responsible for payment if the decision to deny or modify the PA request is upheld.

If the member accepts responsibility for payment of the service before the hearing decision is made, and if the appeal decision *upholds* the decision to deny or modify the PA request, the provider may collect payment from the member if certain conditions are met.

If the member accepts responsibility for payment of the service before the hearing decision is made, and if the appeal decision *overturns* the decision to deny or modify a PA request, the provider may submit a claim to ForwardHealth. If the provider collects payment from the member for the service before the appeal decision is overturned, the provider is required to refund the member for the *entire* amount of payment received from the member after the provider receives Medicaid's reimbursement.

Wisconsin Medicaid does not directly reimburse members.

Sample Notice of Appeal Rights Letter

<Month DD, CCYY>
<sequence number>
<RecipName>
<RecipAddressLine1>
<RecipAddressLine2>
<RecipCity> <RecipStateZip>

Member Identification Number:
<XXX-XX-XXXXX>
Local County or Tribal Agency
Telephone Number: <AgencyPhone>

<PROGRAM NAME> Notice of Appeal Rights

Appeal Date: <AppealDate>

In <PROGRAM NAME>, certain services and products must be reviewed and approved before payment can be made for them. This review process is called prior authorization (PA). The purposes of this letter are to notify you that <PROGRAM NAME> has either denied or modified a request for prior authorization of a service or product that was submitted on your behalf and to inform you of your right to appeal that decision.

Your provider <ProviderName> requested prior authorization for the following service(s):

Service Code	Modifier	Service Description	Unit	Dollar
XXXXXXXXXXX	XX XX XX XX	XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX	XXXXX.XX	XXXXX.XX
XXXXXXXXXXX	XX XX XX XX	XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX	XXXXX.XX	XXXXX.XX

<ServiceNN>

That prior authorization request, PA number <PANumber>, was reviewed by <PROGRAM NAME> medical consultants. Based on that review, the following services have been denied or modified as follows.

Denied Services

Service Code	Modifier	Service Description	Unit	Dollar
XXXXXXXXXXX	XX XX XX XX	XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX	XXXXX.XX	XXXXX.XX
XXXXXXXXXXX	XX XX XX XX	XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX	XXXXX.XX	XXXXX.XX

<DeniedServiceNN>

Modified Services

Service Code	Modifier	Service Description	Unit	Dollar
XXXXXXXXXXX	XX XX XX XX	XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX	XXXXX.XX	XXXXX.XX
XXXXXXXXXXX	XX XX XX XX	XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX	XXXXX.XX	XXXXX.XX

<ModifiedServiceNN>

<PROGRAM NAME>'s denial or modification of the services requested was made for the following reasons:

(Denial/modify code(s) will be inserted here)

<PROGRAM NAME> bases its decisions on criteria found in the Wisconsin Administrative Code. <PROGRAM NAME> may modify or deny a prior authorization request if one or more of the criteria are not supported by documentation submitted by your provider. The specific regulation(s) that supports the reason for the denial/modification of your provider's request for services is found in the following Wisconsin Administrative Code:

(Wis. Admin. Code Regulation(s) will be inserted here)

We have sent your provider the denied/modified prior authorization request. We encourage you to contact <Provider Name> to review the prior authorization request and the reasons for the decision.

Your Rights and Responsibilities

You or your designated representative may appeal this decision in accordance with state and federal law within <RecipientDays> days. To file an appeal, you may do one of the following:

1) Call your local county or tribal agency at the telephone number listed on the first page of this letter for an appeal form and/or assistance in completing it.

2) Write a letter requesting an appeal to the Division of Hearings and Appeals at the following address:

   Division of Hearings and Appeals
   Department of Administration
   PO Box 7875
   Madison WI 53707-7875

The appeal form or letter should include all of the following:

- The name, address, and telephone number of the <PROGRAM NAME> member for whom the appeal is being made.
- The member identification number.
- The prior authorization number <PANumber> of the denied/modified request.
- The reason you think the denial or modification of the prior authorization is wrong.

REMEMBER: You must mail or deliver your appeal to your local county or tribal agency or the Division of Hearings and Appeals so it is received by the <RecipientDays>-day deadline, which is <AppealDate>.

You will lose your right to an appeal if your request to appeal is not received by the local county or tribal agency or the Division of Hearings and Appeals by <AppealDate>.

If you file an appeal, you may expect the following to occur:

- The state Division of Health Care Access and Accountability will be required to explain, in writing, the reason(s) for the denial or modification of the services your provider requested. This explanation will be mailed to you.
- The Division of Hearings and Appeals will schedule a hearing to consider your appeal and will notify you of the time and place by mail. Hearings are generally held at your local county or tribal agency. You may want to ask your local county or tribal agency if there is free legal help available in your area.
- At that hearing, you (or you may choose a friend, relative, attorney, provider, etc., to represent you) will have an opportunity to explain your need for the service to a hearing officer. Division of Health Care Access and Accountability staff may also appear in person or participate by telephone.
- Based on all the information available, the hearing officer will make a decision on your appeal, notify you of the decision by mail, and advise you of any additional appeal rights.

Whether or not you appeal, <PROGRAM NAME> will pay for any services it has approved. After the hearing officer makes a decision on your appeal, <PROGRAM NAME> will continue to pay for the approved services plus any additional services the hearing officer directs <PROGRAM NAME> to pay.

If you need information about accommodation for a disability or for language translation, please call 1-608-266-3096 (voice) or 1-608-264-9853 (TTY) immediately so arrangements can be made. The staff at these numbers will not be able to provide you with information about the reasons for Wisconsin <PROGRAM NAME>'s decision to deny or modify the prior authorization request. These telephone numbers at the Division of Hearings and Appeals should only be used for questions about the hearing process.

F-11194 (10/08)

Topic #10397

Nurses in Independent Practice

For PDN (private duty nursing) services, if the DHA letter instructs to submit a claim for the service, each provider on the case should submit the following to ForwardHealth after the service(s) has been performed:

- A paper claim with "HEARING DECISION ATTACHED" written in red ink at the top of the claim.
- A copy of the hearing decision.
- A copy of the denied PA request.

For PDN services, If the DHA letter instructs to submit a new PA request, the PAL (prior authorization liaison) is required to submit the new PA request along with a copy of the hearing decision to the PA Unit at the following address:

ForwardHealth
Prior Authorization
Ste 88
6406 Bridge Rd
Madison WI 53784-0088

Topic #1106

Enddating

Providers are required to use the Prior Authorization Amendment Request (F-11042 (10/08)) to enddate most PA (prior authorization) requests. ForwardHealth does not accept requests to enddate a PA request for any service, except drugs, on anything other than the Prior Authorization Amendment Request. PA for drugs may be enddated by using STAT-PA (Specialized Transmission Approval Technology-Prior Authorization) in addition to submitting a Prior Authorization Amendment Request.

Providers may submit a Prior Authorization Amendment Request on the ForwardHealth Portal, or by fax or mail.

If a request to enddate a PA is not submitted on the Prior Authorization Amendment Request, a letter will be sent to the provider stating that the provider is required to submit the request using the proper forms.

Examples of when a PA request should be enddated include the following:

- A member chooses to discontinue receiving prior authorized services.

- A provider chooses to discontinue delivering prior authorized services.

Examples of when a PA request should be enddated and a new PA request should be submitted include the following:

- There is an interruption in a member's continual care services.
- There is a change in the member's condition that warrants a long-term change in services required.
- The service(s) is no longer medically necessary.

Topic #4739

Returned Amendment Provider Review Letter

If the amendment request needs correction or additional information, a returned amendment provider review letter will be sent. The letter will show how the PA (prior authorization) appears currently in the system and providers are required to respond by correcting errors identified on the letter. Providers are required to make the corrections or supply the requested information in the space provided on the letter or attach additional information to the letter before mailing the letter to ForwardHealth. Providers can also correct an amendment request that has been placed in returned provider review status in the ForwardHealth Portal.

ForwardHealth must receive the provider's response within 30 calendar days of the date the returned amendment provider review letter was sent. After 30 days the amendment request status becomes inactive and the provider is required to submit a new amendment request. The ForwardHealth interChange system will continue to use the original approved PA request for processing claims.

The provider's paper documents submitted with the amendment request will not be returned to the provider when corrections or additional information are needed; however, X-rays and dental models will be returned once the amendment request is finalized.

Photographs submitted to ForwardHealth as additional supporting clinical documentation for PA requests will not be returned to providers and will be disposed of securely.

Therefore, providers are required to make a copy of their amendment requests (including attachments and any supplemental information) before mailing the requests to ForwardHealth. The provider is required to have a copy on file for reference purposes if ForwardHealth requires more information about the amendment request.

Note: When changing or correcting the amendment request, providers are reminded to revise or update the documentation retained in their records.

Topic #10418

Nurses in Independent Practice

For PDN (private duty nursing) services, if the amendment to a PA request needs correction or additional information, a returned provider review letter will be sent to the PAL (prior authorization liaison) only. The PAL will be required to make the corrections or supply the additional information, as requested. ForwardHealth must receive the PAL's response within 30 calendar days of the date the returned amendment provider review letter was sent. After 30 days the amendment request status becomes inactive and the PAL is required to submit a new amendment request.

The PAL may correct an amendment request that has been in "returned provider review" status in the Portal, even if the PA amendment request was originally submitted on paper.

When the amendment request is changed or corrected, each PDN provider servicing the member is reminded to revise or update the documentation retained in his or her records.

Note: When changing or correcting the amendment request, the PAL is required to revise or update documentation retained in his/her records. The PAL is to make available to other providers sharing the case the revised and updated documentation for their review.

Topic #5039

Searching for Previously Submitted Prior Authorization Requests on the Portal

Providers will be able to search for all previously submitted PA (prior authorization) requests, regardless of how the PA was initially submitted. If the provider knows the PA number, he or she can enter the number to retrieve the PA information. If the provider does not know the PA number, he or she can search for a PA by entering information in one or more of the following fields:

- Member identification number.
- Requested start date.
- Prior authorization status.
- Amendment status.

If the provider does not search by any of the information above, providers will retrieve all their PA requests submitted to ForwardHealth.

Topic #10419

Nurses in Independent Practice

For PDN (private duty nursing) services, the PAL (prior authorization liaison) is able to search for all previously submitted PA requests, regardless of how the PA was initially submitted.

Forms and Attachments

Topic #960

An Overview

Depending on the service being requested, most PA (prior authorization) requests must be comprised of the following:

- The PA/RF (Prior Authorization Request Form, F-11018 (10/08)), PA/DRF (Prior Authorization/Dental Request Form, F-11035 (10/08)), or PA/HIAS1 (Prior Authorization for Hearing Instrument and Audiological Services 1, F-11020 (10/08)).
- A service-specific PA attachment(s).
- Additional supporting clinical documentation.

Topic #446

Attachments

In addition to the PA/RF (Prior Authorization Request Form, F-11018 (10/08)), PA/HIAS1 (Prior Authorization for Hearing Instrument and Audiological Services 1, F-11020 (10/08)), or PA/DRF (Prior Authorization/Dental Request Form, F-11035 (10/08)), a service-specific PA (prior authorization) attachment must be submitted with each PA request. The PA attachment allows a provider to document the clinical information used to determine whether or not the standards of medical necessity are met for the requested service(s). Providers should include adequate information for ForwardHealth to make a reasonable judgment about the case.

ForwardHealth will scan each form with a barcode as it is received, which will allow greater efficiencies for processing PA requests.

Topic #2086

Documentation Requirements - Home Health Skilled Nursing and Aides

Providers requesting PA (prior authorization) for home health skilled nursing and home health aide services are required to include the PA/RF (Prior Authorization Request Form, F-11018 (10/08)) and either the PA/CPA (Prior Authorization/Care Plan Attachment, F-11096 (03/10)) or the member's POC (plan of care) in another format that contains no less information than what is required in the PA/CPA Completion Instructions (Prior Authorization/Care Plan Attachment Completion Instructions, F-11096A (03/10)).

Providers are required to indicate the expected number of initial and subsequent visits per day, the number of days per week, and the number of weeks or months of service per service type on the PA/RF. The total number of visits requested per week on the PA/RF must match the number of weekly visits indicated on the POC. Services by another provider, whether another home health agency, NIP (nurses in independent practice), or volunteer, must be indicated on the POC.

Topic #2085

Documentation Requirements - Home Health Therapy

Providers requesting PA (prior authorization) for home health therapy services are required to include the following with the PA/RF (Prior Authorization Request Form, F-11018 (10/08)):

- The PA/HHTA (Prior Authorization/Home Health Therapy Attachment, F-11044).
- The therapy POC (plan of care).
- The therapy evaluation.
- The Individualized Family Service Plan (for children under three years of age enrolled in the Birth to 3 Program).
- The IEP (Individual Education Program) (for school-age children between three and 21 years of age).

Providers are required to indicate the expected number of OT (occupational therapy) visits, PT (physical therapy) visits, and SLP (speech and language pathology) visits per day, the number of days per week, and the number of weeks or months of service per discipline on the PA/RF. The total number of visits requested must exactly match the number of visits indicated on the therapy evaluation and/or the POC.

Providers requesting PA both for home health therapy services and other home health services are only required to submit a single PA/RF for all services.

Providers may refer to a sample PA/HHTA.

Required Prior Authorization Request Information

PA requests for home health therapy services must contain the following information, or the request will be returned to the provider:

- Reason for the referral.
- Diagnoses, including dates of onset.
- Character of the illness — acute, subacute, or chronic.
- Previous therapy — dates, frequency, amount, and types.
- Evaluations with respect to age, problems to be treated, and potential for achieving stated goals.
- Re-evaluations appropriate to progress.
- Rehabilitation potential — history including previous level of functioning, plan for discharge (i.e., from therapy, from group home to apartment), plans for maintenance, member's motivation and cooperation with home health therapy plan, and potential for meeting realistic goals pertaining to functional status.
- Report of home health therapy treatment progress in specific objective and measurable terms.
- Documentation regarding carryover or follow through by the member and/or care giver.

Home Health Therapy Services for School-Age Children

If home health therapy is being requested for a school-age child (between ages 3 and 21 years old), an IEP must be submitted with the PA/RF. If the child is not receiving therapy services according to an IEP, documentation regarding the reasons for the absence of an IEP must be submitted in the PA request. The date of the IEP must be no earlier than 12 months prior to its receipt by ForwardHealth.

Cotreatment

If two providers request cotreatment for one member, each provider is required to complete a separate PA request and submit them together. In addition to completion of PA requirements, the following information must also be included:

- A specific request for cotreatment.

- Identification of the other provider and therapy discipline.
- Documentation verifying the following:
  - Individual treatment from a single PT, OT, or SLP provider does not provide maximum benefit to the member.
  - Two different therapy disciplines are required to *simultaneously* treat the member.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND FAMILY SERVICES **STATE OF WISCONSIN**
Division of Health Care Financing
HCF 11044 (Rev. 06/03)

WISCONSIN MEDICAID
PRIOR AUTHORIZATION / HOME HEALTH THERAPY ATTACHMENT (PA/HHTA)

Providers may submit prior authorization (PA) requests by fax to Wisconsin Medicaid at (608) 221-8616; or, providers may send the completed form with attachments to: Wisconsin Medicaid, Prior Authorization, Suite 88, 6406 Bridge Road, Madison, WI 53784-0088.
Instructions: Type or print clearly. Before completing this form, read the Prior Authorization/Home Health Therapy Attachment (PA/HHTA) Completion Instructions (HCF 11044A).

SECTION I — RECIPIENT INFORMATION

1. Name — Recipient (Last, First, Middle Initial)	2. Age — Recipient
Recipient, Ima A.	**67**

3. Recipient Medicaid Identification Number

1234567890

SECTION II — PROVIDER INFORMATION

4. Name and Credentials — Therapist

I.M. Performing, P.T.

5. Therapist's Medicaid Provider Number

87654321

6. Telephone Number — Therapist

(123) 456-7890

7. Name — Referring / Prescribing Physician

I.M. Referring

8. Referring / Prescribing Physician's Medicaid Provider Number

12345678

SECTION III — DOCUMENTATION

9. Provide a Brief History Pertinent to the Service(s) Requested

Recipient admitted to hospital 04/15/05 after CVA with residual left hemiparesis. Discharged home on 05/01/05 at insistence of wife. Nursing home placement unacceptable to family. Prior to CVA, recipient was independent in ADL and active around the house, in the community, and with his grandchildren. Recipient did have low endurance and fatigue due to COPD.

10. Provide a Description of the Recipient's Diagnosis and Problems as They Pertain to the Need for the Therapy Services requested (Include the date of onset)

Recipient hospitalization complicated by pneumonia. Recipient has history of long standing COPD and arteriosclerosis. In 2000 he had mitral valve replacement and double bypass surgery. In 2001 he had L radical neck resection. Recipient alert, feels frightened, exhibits poor safety awareness, and unsteady when ambulating.

Continued

PRIOR AUTHORIZATION / HOME HEALTH THERAPY ATTACHMENT (PA/HHTA)
HCF 11044 (Rev. 06/03)

SECTION III — DOCUMENTATION (Continued)

11. State Therapy History (Indicate type / date / location for all types of therapy)

Service Area	Location	Date	Problem Treated
Physical Therapy	**Hospital** **Home**	**04/18/05 to 4/30/05** **05/01/05 to present**	**Hemiplegia — therapeutic exercise, ROM, balance activities, ADL**
Occupational Therapy	**Hospital** **Home**	**04/18/05 to 4/30/05** **05/01/05 to present**	**Hemiplegia — motor skills**
Speech and Language Pathology	**Hospital** **Home**	**04/18/05 to 4/30/05** **05/01/05 to present**	**Dysphagia**

12. Indicate the Date of Initial Evaluation (Supply dates / tests used / results of additional evaluations)

ROM, MMT, ADL, Gait — 5/1/05. AAROM WNL all extremities, except as follows: R shoulder, Flex 0-130, ABD 0-120, IR 0-50; L shoulder flex 120, ABD 0-110, IR 0-30, BILAT Knees — 5 extension, transfers — moderate assist of one. Recipient has excessive trunk extension, ground weight bearing R LE, minimal weight bearing on LLE. Recipient requires min-moderate assist to complete all bed mobility. Moderate assist to ambulate for 100 feet times 3 with wheeled walker. Recipient becomes short of breath, has poor balance and excessive trunk extension.

13. Describe Progress in Measurable / Functional Terms Since Treatment Was Initiated or Last Authorized

Recipient remains as above. Recipient has active movements in all L LE joints. Movements independent, but with mild extensor tone in LLE and mild flexor tone in LUE. Supervision to minimal assist to complete pivot transfers. Recipient demonstrates proper technique and weight shifting from sit to stand: but continues to have excessive trunk extension from stand to sit. Recipient independent in bed mobility with tactile cueing. Good unsupported, unchallenged sitting balance. Recipient able to ambulate 200 feet with wheeled walker and supervision of one for occasional loss of balance backwards. Gait does exhibit decreased weight shift to L, minimal flexion in L LE decreased step length on R, decreased floor clearance with increased retraction L. hip.

14. Attach a Plan of Care Indicating Specific, Measurable Goals and Procedures to Meet Those Goals

See attached plan of care.

15. Describe Rehabilitation Potential

Excellent. Recipient has made excellent progress in the past month with 3X week therapy. He is well motivated and cooperates with therapy program. Anticipate recipient will be independent in ADL and gait if no complications occur and PT continues with home health aid carry through.

16. **SIGNATURE** — Requesting Provider	17. Date Signed
PM Performing P.T.	**06/06/05**

Topic #2084

Documentation Requirements - Medication Management

Providers requesting PA (prior authorization) for medication management services are required to include the PA/RF (Prior Authorization Request Form, F-11018 (10/08)) and either the PA/CPA (Prior Authorization/Care Plan Attachment, F-11096 (03/10)) or the member's POC (plan of care) in another format that contains *all* of the components requested in the PA/CPA Completion Instructions (Prior Authorization/Care Plan Attachment Completion Instructions, F-11096A (03/10)).

Providers are required to indicate the expected number of visits per week and the number of weeks or months of service on the PA/RF. The total number of visits requested per week on the PA/RF must exactly match the number of weekly visits indicated on the POC. Services by another provider, whether another home health agency, NIP (nurses in independent practice), or volunteer, must be indicated on the POC.

Topic #2083

Documentation Requirements - Private Duty Nursing

For PDN (private duty nursing) services, the PAL (prior authorization liaison) is responsible for submitting PA (prior authorization) request and supporting documentation.

PALs requesting PA for PDN services are required to include the following with the PA/RF (Prior Authorization Request Form, F-11018 (10/08)):

- The Private Duty Nursing Prior Authorization Acknowledgment (F-11041 (10/08)).
- Either the PA/CPA (Prior Authorization/Care Plan Attachment, F-11096 (03/10)) *or* the member's POC (plan of care) in another format that contains *all* of the components requested in the PA/CPA Completion Instructions (Prior Authorization/Care Plan Attachment Completion Instructions, F-11096A (03/10)).

Private Duty Nursing Prior Authorization Acknowledgment

Agencies are required to submit a completed and signed Private Duty Nursing Prior Authorization Acknowledgment with all PA requests for PDN services. This form acknowledges that the member or the member's legal representative has read the POC and PA request.

Documenting Expected Hours on the Prior Authorization Request Form

Providers are required to indicate on the PA/RF the medically necessary number of PDN hours per day, the number of days per week, and the number of weeks. The total number of PDN hours requested on the PA/RF must be equal to or less than the number of hours ordered by the physician and indicated on the POC. Services by another provider, whether another home health agency, NIP (nurses in independent practice), personal care provider, or volunteer, must also be indicated on the POC.

Topic #2082

Documentation Requirements for All Services

In addition to the PA/RF (Prior Authorization Request Form, F-11018 (10/08)), providers are required to submit the attachments listed in the following table for each type of home care service.

Home Care Service Type	Prior Authorization Forms Required by Wisconsin Medicaid
Home Health Skilled Nursing	PA/RF. The POC (plan of care) that contains no less information than is required in the PA/CPA Completion Instructions (Prior Authorization/Care Plan Attachment Completion Instructions, F-11096A (03/10)).
Home Health Aide	PA/RF. The POC that contains no less information than is required in the PA/CPA Completion Instructions.
Private Duty Nursing (not ventilator-dependent and ventilator-dependent)	PA/RF. PA/CPA (Prior Authorization/ Care Plan Attachment, F-11096 (03/10)) **OR** the member's POC in another format that contains *all* of the components requested in the PA/CPA Completion Instructions. Private Duty Nursing Prior Authorization Acknowledgment (F-11041 (10/08)).
Home Health Therapy	PA/RF. PA/HHTA (Prior Authorization/Home Health Therapy Attachment, F-11044 (10/08)). Therapy POC. Therapy evaluation. Individualized Family Service Plan (for children under three years of age). Individualized Education Plan (for school-aged children between three and 21 years of age).

Topic #447

Obtaining Forms and Attachments

Providers may obtain paper versions of all PA (prior authorization) forms and attachments. In addition, providers may download and complete most PA attachments from the ForwardHealth Portal.

Paper Forms

Paper versions of all PA forms and PA attachments are available by writing to ForwardHealth. Include a return address, the name of the form, the form number (if applicable), and mail the request to the following address:

ForwardHealth
Form Reorder
6406 Bridge Rd
Madison WI 53784-0003

Providers may also call Provider Services to order paper copies of forms.

Downloadable Forms

Most PA attachments can be downloaded and printed in their original format from the Portal. Many forms are available in fillable PDF (Portable Document Format) and fillable Microsoft® Word formats.

Web Prior Authorization Via the Portal

Certain providers may complete the PA/RF (Prior Authorization Request Form, F-11018 (10/08)) and PA attachments through the Portal. Providers may then print the PA/RF (and in some cases the PA attachment), and send the PA/RF, service-specific PA attachments, and any supporting documentation on paper by mail or fax to ForwardHealth.

Topic #448

Prior Authorization Request Form

The PA/RF (Prior Authorization Request Form, F-11018 (10/08)) is used by ForwardHealth and is mandatory for most providers when requesting PA (prior authorization). The PA/RF serves as the cover page of a PA request.

Providers are required to complete the basic provider, member, and service information on the PA/RF. Each PA request is assigned a unique ten-digit number. ForwardHealth remittance information will report to the provider the PA number used to process the claim for prior authorized services.

Topic #2081

Prior Authorization Request Form Completion Instructions for Home Health Services

The following sample PA/RFs (Prior Authorization Request Forms) for home health services are available:

- Sample PA/RF for home health skilled nursing and home health aide services.
- Sample PA/RF for home health skilled nursing requesting PRN (pro re nata) visits.
- Sample PA/RF for PDN for home health therapy services.

ForwardHealth requires certain information to enable the programs to authorize and pay for medical services provided to eligible members.

Members of ForwardHealth are required to give providers full, correct, and truthful information for the submission of correct and complete claims for reimbursement. This information should include, but is not limited to, information concerning enrollment status, accurate name, address, and member identification number (DHS 104.02[4], Wis. Admin. Code).

Under s. 49.45(4), Wis. Stats., personally identifiable information about program applicants and members is confidential and is used for purposes directly related to ForwardHealth administration such as determining eligibility of the applicant, processing PA (prior authorization) requests, or processing provider claims for reimbursement. The use of this form is mandatory to receive PA for certain procedures/services. Failure to supply the information requested by the form may result in denial of PA or payment for the service.

Providers should make duplicate copies of all paper documents submitted to ForwardHealth. Providers may submit PA requests, along with the POC (plan of care) containing no less information than is required for the PA/CPA (Prior Authorization/Care Plan Attachment, F-11096 (03/10)) for home health skilled nursing and home health aides services or the PA/HHTA (Prior Authorization/Home Health Therapy Attachment, F-11044 (10/08)) for home health therapy services via the ForwardHealth Portal at www.forwardhealth.wi.gov/, by fax or by mail.

The provision of services that are greater than or significantly different from those authorized may result in nonpayment of the billing claim(s).

SECTION I — PROVIDER INFORMATION

Element 1 — HealthCheck "Other Services" and Wisconsin Chronic Disease Program (WCDP)
Enter an "X" in the box next to HealthCheck "Other Services" if the services requested on the PA/RF are for HealthCheck "Other Services." Enter an "X" in the box next to WCDP (Wisconsin Chronic Disease Program) if the services requested on the PA/RF are for a WCDP member.

Element 2 — Process Type
Enter process type 120 for home health services. The process type is a three-digit code used to identify a category of service requested. Prior authorization requests will be returned without adjudication if a process type is not indicated.

Element 3 — Telephone Number — Billing Provider
Enter the telephone number, including the area code, of the office, clinic, facility, or place of business of the billing provider.

Element 4 — Name and Address — Billing Provider
Enter the name and complete address (street, city, state, and ZIP+4 code) of the billing provider. Providers are required to include both the ZIP code and the four-digit extension for timely and accurate billing. The name listed in this element must correspond with the billing provider number listed in Element 5a.

Element 5a — Billing Provider Number
Enter the NPI (National Provider Identifier) of the billing provider. The NPI in this element must correspond with the provider name listed in Element 4.

Element 5b — Billing Provider Taxonomy Code
Enter the national 10-digit alphanumeric taxonomy code that corresponds to the NPI of the billing provider in Element 5a.

SECTION II — MEMBER INFORMATION

Element 6 — Member Identification Number
Enter the member ID. Do not enter any other numbers or letters. Use the ForwardHealth identification card or Wisconsin's EVS (Enrollment Verification System) to obtain the correct number.

Element 7 —Date of Birth — Member
Enter the member's date of birth in MM/DD/CCYY format.

Element 8 — Address — Member
Enter the complete address of the member's place of residence, including the street, city, state, and ZIP code.

Element 9 — Name — Member
Enter the member's last name, followed by his or her first name and middle initial. Use the EVS to obtain the correct spelling of the member's name. If the name or spelling of the name on the ForwardHealth card and the EVS do not match, use the spelling from the EVS.

Element 10 — Gender — Member
Enter an "X" in the appropriate box to specify male or female.

SECTION III — DIAGNOSIS / TREATMENT INFORMATION

Element 11 — Diagnosis — Primary Code and Description
Enter the appropriate ICD-9-CM (International Classification of Diseases, Ninth Revision, Clinical Modification) diagnosis code and description most relevant to the service/procedure requested.

Element 12 — Start Date — SOI (not required)

Element 13 — First Date of Treatment — SOI (not required)

Element 14 — Diagnosis — Secondary Code and Description
Enter the appropriate secondary ICD-9-CM diagnosis code and description relevant to the service/procedure requested, if applicable.

Element 15 — Requested PA Start Date
Enter the requested start date for service(s) in MM/DD/CCYY format, if a specific start date is requested.

Element 16 — Rendering Provider Number (not required)

Element 17 — Rendering Provider Taxonomy Code (not required)

Element 18 — Service Code
Enter the appropriate CPT (Current Procedural Terminology) code or HCPCS (Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System) procedure code for each service/procedure requested.

Element 19 — Modifiers
Enter the modifier(s) corresponding to the service code listed if a modifier is required.

Element 20 — POS
Enter POS code "12." The member's home is the only allowable POS.

Element 21 — Description of Service
Enter a written description corresponding to the appropriate procedure code for service/procedure requested.

When requesting PDN (private duty nursing) services, indicate the number of hours per day, multiplied by the number of days per week, multiplied by the total number of weeks being requested.

If sharing a case with another provider, enter "shared case" and include a statement that the total number of hours of all providers will not exceed the combined total number of hours ordered on the physician's POC. When requesting two procedure codes to be used interchangeably, include a statement that the total number of hours will not exceed the combined total number of hours ordered on the physician's POC. When requesting permission to bill for multiple visits when only one visit is provided, enter "Authorization requested to bill for (number of) subsequent Home Health Aide visits to do (number of) continuous hours of care."

Element 22 — QR
Enter the appropriate quantity (e.g., number of services, days' supply) requested for the procedure code listed.

Element 23 — Charge
Enter the provider's usual and customary charge for each service/procedure. Enter that total amount in this element.

Note: The charges indicated on the request form should reflect the provider's usual and customary charge for the procedure requested. Providers are reimbursed for authorized services according to provider *Terms of Reimbursement* issued by the DHS (Department of Health Services).

Element 24 — Total Charges
Enter the anticipated total charges for this request.

Element 25 — Signature — Requesting Provider
The original signature of the provider requesting/performing this service/procedure must appear in this element.

Element 26 — Date Signed
Enter the month, day, and year the PA/RF was signed (in MM/DD/CCYY format).

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES
Division of Health Care Access and Accountability
F-11018 (10/08)

STATE OF WISCONSIN
HFS 106.03(4), Wis. Admin. Code
HFS 152.06(3)(h), 153.06(3)(g), 154.06(3)(g), Wis. Admin. Code

FORWARDHEALTH
PRIOR AUTHORIZATION REQUEST FORM (PA/RF)

Providers may submit prior authorization (PA) requests by fax to ForwardHealth at (608) 221-8616 or by mail to: ForwardHealth, Prior Authorization, Suite 88, 6406 Bridge Road, Madison, WI 53784-0088. **Instructions:** Type or print clearly. Before completing this form, read the service-specific Prior Authorization Request Form (PA/RF) Completion Instructions.

SECTION I — PROVIDER INFORMATION

1. Check only if applicable	2. Process Type	3. Telephone Number — Billing Provider
❑ HealthCheck "Other Services" ❑ Wisconsin Chronic Disease Program (WCDP)	**120**	**(XXX) XXX-XXXX**

4. Name and Address — Billing Provider (Street, City, State, ZIP+4 Code)	5a. Billing Provider Number	5b. Billing Provider Taxonomy Code
I.M. Billing Provider **609 Willow St** **Anytown WI 55555-1234**	**0222222220**	**123456789X**

SECTION II — MEMBER INFORMATION

6. Member Identification Number	7. Date of Birth — Member	8. Address — Member (Street, City, State, ZIP Code)
1234567890	**MM/DD/CCYY**	**322 Ridge St** **Anytown WI 55555**

9. Name — Member (Last, First, Middle Initial)	10. Gender — Member
Member, Im A.	❑ Male ☒ Female

SECTION III — DIAGNOSIS / TREATMENT INFORMATION

11. Diagnosis — Primary Code and Description	12. Start Date — SOI	13. First Date of Treatment — SOI
250.00 — Diabetes II		

11. Diagnosis — Primary Code and Description	15. Requested PA Start Date
401.9 — Hypertension NOS	**MM/DD/CCYY**

16. Rendering Provider Number	17. Rendering Provider Taxonomy	18. Service Code	19. Modifiers 1	2	3	4	20. POS	21. Description of Service	22. QR	23. Charge
		99600					**12**	**HHN — initial visit, 1 visit/day x 3 days/wk x 29 weeks**	**87**	**XXX.XX**
		T1021					**12**	**HHA — initial visit, 1 visit/day x 7 days/wk x 29 weeks**	**203**	**XXX.XX**
		99600	**TS**				**12**	**HHN — follow-up visit, 1 visit/day x 3 days/wk x 29 weeks**	**87**	**XXX.XX**
		T1021	**TS**				**12**	**HHA — initial visit, 1 visit/day x 3 days/wk x 29 weeks**	**203**	**XXX.XX**

Sample PA/RF for Home Health Skilled Nursing and Home Health Aide Services

An approved authorization does not guarantee payment. Reimbursement is contingent upon enrollment of the member and provider at the time the service is provided and the completeness of the claim information. Payment will not be made for services initiated prior to approval or after the authorization expiration date. Reimbursement will be in accordance with ForwardHealth payment methodology and policy. If the member is enrolled in a BadgerCare Plus Managed Care Program at the time a prior authorized service is provided, ForwardHealth reimbursement will be allowed only if the service is not covered by the Managed Care Program.

24. Total Charges	**XXX.XX**

25. **SIGNATURE** — Requesting Provider	26. Date Signed
I.M. Provider	**MM/DD/CCYY**

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES
Division of Health Care Access and Accountability
F-11018 (10/08)

STATE OF WISCONSIN
HFS 106.03(4), Wis. Admin. Code
HFS 152.06(3)(h), 153.06(3)(g), 154.06(3)(g), Wis. Admin. Code

FORWARDHEALTH
PRIOR AUTHORIZATION REQUEST FORM (PA/RF)

Providers may submit prior authorization (PA) requests by fax to ForwardHealth at (608) 221-8616 or by mail to: ForwardHealth, Prior Authorization, Suite 88, 6406 Bridge Road, Madison, WI 53784-0088. **Instructions:** Type or print clearly. Before completing this form, read the service-specific Prior Authorization Request Form (PA/RF) Completion Instructions.

SECTION I — PROVIDER INFORMATION

1. Check only if applicable	2. Process Type	3. Telephone Number — Billing Provider
❑ HealthCheck "Other Services" ❑ Wisconsin Chronic Disease Program (WCDP)	**120**	**(XXX) XXX-XXXX**

4. Name and Address — Billing Provider (Street, City, State, ZIP+4 Code)	5a. Billing Provider Number
I.M. Billing Provider **609 Willow St** **Anytown WI 55555-1234**	**0222222220**
	5b. Billing Provider Taxonomy Code **123456789X**

SECTION II — MEMBER INFORMATION

6. Member Identification Number	7. Date of Birth — Member	8. Address — Member (Street, City, State, ZIP Code)
1234567890	**MM/DD/CCYY**	**322 Ridge St** **Anytown WI 55555**
9. Name — Member (Last, First, Middle Initial)	10. Gender — Member	
Member, Im A.	❑ Male ☒ Female	

SECTION III — DIAGNOSIS / TREATMENT INFORMATION

11. Diagnosis — Primary Code and Description	12. Start Date — SOI	13. First Date of Treatment — SOI
250.0 — Diabetes II		

11. Diagnosis — Primary Code and Description	15. Requested PA Start Date
401.9 — Hypertension NOS	**MM/DD/CCYY**

16. Rendering Provider Number	17. Rendering Provider Taxonomy	18. Service Code	19. Modifiers 1	2	3	4	20. POS	21. Description of Service	22. QR	23. Charge
		99600					**12**	**HHH — initial visit,** **1 visit/day x 3 days/wk x 26 weeks**	**12 visits**	**XXX.XX**
								3 PRN visits/month x 1 month		

Sample PA/RF for Home Health Skilled Nursing Requesting Pro Re Nata Services

An approved authorization does not guarantee payment. Reimbursement is contingent upon enrollment of the member and provider at the time the service is provided and the completeness of the claim information. Payment will not be made for services initiated prior to approval or after the authorization expiration date. Reimbursement will be in accordance with ForwardHealth payment methodology and policy. If the member is enrolled in a BadgerCare Plus Managed Care Program at the time a prior authorized service is provided, ForwardHealth reimbursement will be allowed only if the service is not covered by the Managed Care Program.

24. Total Charges	**XXX.XX**

25. **SIGNATURE** — Requesting Provider	26. Date Signed
I.M. Provider	**MM/DD/CCYY**

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES
Division of Health Care Access and Accountability
F-11018 (10/08)

STATE OF WISCONSIN
HFS 106.03(4), Wis. Admin. Code
HFS 152.06(3)(h), 153.06(3)(g), 154.06(3)(g), Wis. Admin. Code

FORWARDHEALTH
PRIOR AUTHORIZATION REQUEST FORM (PA/RF)

Providers may submit prior authorization (PA) requests by fax to ForwardHealth at (608) 221-8616 or by mail to: ForwardHealth, Prior Authorization, Suite 88, 6406 Bridge Road, Madison, WI 53784-0088. **Instructions:** Type or print clearly. Before completing this form, read the service-specific Prior Authorization Request Form (PA/RF) Completion Instructions.

SECTION I — PROVIDER INFORMATION

1. Check only if applicable	2. Process Type	3. Telephone Number — Billing Provider
❑ HealthCheck "Other Services" ❑ Wisconsin Chronic Disease Program (WCDP)	**120**	**(XXX) XXX-XXXX**

4. Name and Address — Billing Provider (Street, City, State, ZIP+4 Code)	5a. Billing Provider Number
I.M. Billing Provider **609 Willow St** **Anytown WI 55555-1234**	**0222222220**
	5b. Billing Provider Taxonomy Code **123456789X**

SECTION II — MEMBER INFORMATION

6. Member Identification Number	7. Date of Birth — Member	8. Address — Member (Street, City, State, ZIP Code)
1234567890	**MM/DD/CCYY**	**322 Ridge St** **Anytown WI 55555**
9. Name — Member (Last, First, Middle Initial)	10. Gender — Member	
Member, Im A.	❑ Male ☒ Female	

SECTION III — DIAGNOSIS / TREATMENT INFORMATION

11. Diagnosis — Primary Code and Description	12. Start Date — SOI	13. First Date of Treatment — SOI
429.2 — Cardiovascular disease		
11. Diagnosis — Primary Code and Description	15. Requested PA Start Date	
250.00 — Diabetes II	**MM/DD/CCYY**	

16. Rendering Provider Number	17. Rendering Provider Taxonomy	18. Service Code	19. Modifiers 1	2	3	4	20. POS	21. Description of Service	22. QR	23. Charge
		97799					**12**	**HH — physical therapy** **1 visit/day x 3 days/wk x 26 weeks**	**78 visits**	**X,XXX.XX**

Sample PA/RF for PDN for Home Health Therapy Services

An approved authorization does not guarantee payment. Reimbursement is contingent upon enrollment of the member and provider at the time the service is provided and the completeness of the claim information. Payment will not be made for services initiated prior to approval or after the authorization expiration date. Reimbursement will be in accordance with ForwardHealth payment methodology and policy. If the member is enrolled in a BadgerCare Plus Managed Care Program at the time a prior authorized service is provided, ForwardHealth reimbursement will be allowed only if the service is not covered by the Managed Care Program.

24. Total Charges	**X,XXX.XX**

25. **SIGNATURE** — Requesting Provider	26. Date Signed
I.M. Provider	**MM/DD/CCYY**

Topic #10617

Prior Authorization Request Form Completion Instructions for Private Duty Nursing Services

PA/RF (Prior Authorization Request Form) and completion instructions are available for PDN (private duty nursing) services when a home health agency is the PAL (prior authorization liaison).

Topic #449

Supporting Clinical Documentation

Certain PA (prior authorization) requests may require additional supporting clinical documentation to justify the medical necessity for a service(s). Supporting documentation may include, but is not limited to, X-rays, photographs, a physician's prescription, clinical reports, and other materials related to the member's condition.

All supporting documentation submitted with a PA request must be clearly labeled and identified with the member's name and member identification number. Securely packaged X-rays and dental models will be returned to providers.

Photographs submitted to ForwardHealth as additional supporting clinical documentation for PA requests will not be returned to providers and will be disposed of securely.

General Information

Topic #4402

An Overview

The PA (prior authorization) review process includes both a clerical review and a clinical review. The PA request will have one of the statuses detailed in the following table.

Prior Authorization Status	Description
Approved	The PA request was approved.
Approved with Modifications	The PA request was approved with modifications to what was requested.
Denied	The PA request was denied.
Returned — Provider Review	The PA request was returned to the provider for correction or for additional information.
Pending — Fiscal Agent Review	The PA request is being reviewed by the Fiscal Agent.
Pending — Dental Follow-up	The PA request is being reviewed by a Fiscal Agent dental specialist.
Pending — State Review	The PA request is being reviewed by the State.
Suspend — Provider Sending Information	The PA request was submitted via the ForwardHealth Portal and the provider indicated they will be sending additional supporting information on paper.
Inactive	The PA request is inactive due to no response within 30 days to the returned provider review letter and cannot be used for PA or claims processing.

Topic #434

Communication with Members

ForwardHealth recommends that providers inform members that PA (prior authorization) is required for certain specified services *before* delivery of the services. Providers should also explain that, if required to obtain PA, they will be submitting member records and information to ForwardHealth on the member's behalf. Providers are required to keep members informed of the PA request status throughout the *entire* PA process.

Member Questions

A member may call Member Services to find out whether or not a PA request has been submitted and, if so, when it was received by ForwardHealth. The member will be advised to contact the provider if more information is needed about the status of an individual PA request.

Topic #435

Definition

PA (prior authorization) is the electronic or written authorization issued by ForwardHealth to a provider prior to the provision of a service. In most cases, providers are required to obtain PA *before* providing services that require PA. When granted, a PA

request is approved for a specific period of time and specifies the type and quantity of service allowed.

Topic #2080

PA requests may be submitted no earlier than 62 days prior to the requested effective date.

Topic #5098

Designating an Address for Prior Authorization Correspondence

Correspondence related to PA (prior authorization) will be sent to the practice location address on file with ForwardHealth unless the provider designates a separate address for receipt of PA correspondence. This policy applies to all PA correspondence, including decision notice letters, returned provider review letters, returned amendment provider letters, and returned supplemental documentation such as X-rays and dental models.

Photographs submitted to ForwardHealth as additional supporting clinical documentation for PA requests will not be returned to providers and will be disposed of securely.

Providers who want to designate a separate address for PA correspondence have the following options:

- Update demographic information online via the ForwardHealth Portal. (This option is only available to providers who have established a provider account on the Portal.)
- Submit a Provider Change of Address or Status (F-1181 (10/08)) form.

Topic #2079

Disposable Medical Supplies

Refer to the DMS (disposable medical supplies) Index and the DMS area of the Online Handbook for information on requesting PA (prior authorization) for DMS.

Topic #2078

Durable Medical Equipment

Refer to the DME (durable medical equipment) Index and the DME area of the Online Handbook for information on requesting PA (prior authorization) for DME.

Topic #2075

Members with Changing Nursing Needs

If the member's medical condition worsens so that 8 or more hours of direct, skilled nursing services are required in a calendar day, a maximum of 30 calendar days of skilled nursing care may continue to be reimbursed as home health services, beginning on the day 8 hours or more of skilled nursing services became necessary. To continue medically necessary services after 30 days, PA (prior authorization) for PDN (private duty nursing) is required.

Members Who No Longer Require Private Duty Nursing

If the condition of a member receiving PDN services improves to the point that less than eight hours of direct, skilled nursing care are required in a calendar day, the member is no longer eligible for PDN. An alternate level of care such as intermittent skilled nursing visits, home health aide visits, or personal care services may be more appropriate.

Topic #2076

Other Members of a Member's Household

ForwardHealth encourages other members of a member's household to participate in providing care to the member. However, this participation is not a condition of coverage.

With the permission of the member or the member's legal representative, the provider should ask members of the household about the extent they are able and willing to provide medically necessary covered services for the member. If household members are not willing or able to provide care, the nurse should document the reasons why in the member's medical record.

When medically necessary covered services that are normally furnished by the provider are instead provided by willing and able household members, these services cannot be billed to ForwardHealth.

Topic #2077

Personal Care Services

If the member is receiving both personal care services and home health services from the home health agency, the agency must request PA (prior authorization) for the home health and personal care services on the same PA/RF (Prior Authorization Request Form, F-11018 (10/08)). Services added during the term of the PA/RF must be added by amendment. Providers should refer to the Personal Care section of the Online Handbook for further information about personal care services.

Topic #4383

Prior Authorization Numbers

Upon receipt of the PA/RF (Prior Authorization Request Form, F-11018 (10/08)), ForwardHealth will assign a PA (prior authorization) number to each PA request.

The PA number consists of 10 digits, containing valuable information about the PA (e.g., the date the PA request was received by ForwardHealth, the medium used to submit the PA request).

Each PA request is assigned a unique PA number. This number identifies valuable information about the PA. The following table provides detailed information about interpreting the PA number.

Type of Number and Description	Applicable Numbers and Description
Media — One digit indicates media type.	Digits are identified as follows: 1= paper; 2 = fax; 3 = STAT-PA (Specialized Transmission Approval Technology-Prior Authorization); 4 = STAT-PA; 5 = Portal; 6 = Portal; 7 = NCPDP (National Council for Prescription Drug Programs) transaction; 9 = MedSolutions
Year — Two digits indicate the year	For example, the year 2008 would appear as 08.

ForwardHealth received the PA request.	
Julian date — Three digits indicate the day of the year, by Julian date, that ForwardHealth received the PA request.	For example, February 3 would appear as 034.
Sequence number — Four digits indicate the sequence number.	The sequence number is used internally by ForwardHealth.

Topic #436

Reasons for Prior Authorization

Only about four percent of all services covered by Wisconsin Medicaid require PA (prior authorization). PA requirements vary for different types of services. Refer to ForwardHealth publications and DHS 107, Wis. Admin. Code, for information regarding services that require PA. According to DHS 107.02(3)(b), Wis. Admin. Code, PA is designed to do the following:

- Safeguard against unnecessary or inappropriate care and services.
- Safeguard against excess payments.
- Assess the quality and timeliness of services.
- Promote the most effective and appropriate use of available services and facilities.
- Determine if less expensive alternative care, services, or supplies are permissible.
- Curtail misutilization practices of providers and members.

PA requests are processed based on criteria established by the DHS (Department of Health Services).

Providers should not request PA for services that do not require PA simply to determine coverage or establish a reimbursement rate for a manually priced procedure code. Also, new technologies or procedures do not necessarily require PA. PA requests for services that do not require PA are typically returned to the provider. Providers having difficulties determining whether or not a service requires PA may call Provider Services.

Topic #437

Referrals to Out-of-State Providers

PA (prior authorization) may be granted to non-certified out-of-state providers when nonemergency services are necessary to help a member attain or regain his or her health and ability to function independently. The PA request may be approved only when the services are not reasonably accessible to the member in Wisconsin.

Out-of-state providers are required to meet Wisconsin Medicaid's guidelines for PA approval. This includes sending PA requests, required attachments, and supporting documentation to ForwardHealth before the services are provided.

Note: Emergency services provided out-of-state do not require PA; however, claims for such services must include appropriate documentation (e.g., anesthesia report, medical record) to be considered for reimbursement. Providers are required to submit claims with supporting documentation on paper.

When a Wisconsin Medicaid provider refers a member to an out-of-state, non-certified provider, the referring provider should refer the out-of-state provider to the ForwardHealth Portal or Provider Services to obtain appropriate certification materials, PA forms, and claim instructions.

All out-of-state nursing homes, regardless of location, are required to obtain PA for all services. All other out-of-state non-border-status providers are required to obtain PA for all nonemergency services except for home dialysis supplies and equipment.

Topic #438

Reimbursement Not Guaranteed

Wisconsin Medicaid may decline to reimburse a provider for a service that has been prior authorized if one or more of the following program requirements is not met:

- The service authorized on the approved PA (prior authorization) request is the service provided.
- The service is provided within the grant and expiration dates on the approved PA request.
- The member is eligible for the service on the date the service is provided.
- The provider is certified by Wisconsin Medicaid on the date the service is provided.
- The service is billed according to service-specific claim instructions.
- The provider meets other program requirements.

Providers may not collect payment from a member for a service requiring PA under any of the following circumstances:

- The provider failed to seek PA before the service was provided.
- The service was provided before the PA grant date or after the PA expiration date.
- The provider obtained PA but failed to meet other program requirements.
- The service was provided before a decision was made, the member did not accept responsibility for the payment of the service before the service was provided, and the PA was denied.

There are certain situations when a provider may collect payment for services in which PA was denied.

Other Health Insurance Sources

Providers are encouraged, but not required, to request PA from ForwardHealth for covered services that require PA when members have other health insurance coverage. This is to allow payment by Wisconsin Medicaid for the services provided in the event that the other health insurance source denies or recoups payment for the service. If a service is provided before PA is obtained, ForwardHealth will not consider backdating a PA request solely to enable the provider to be reimbursed.

Topic #2074

Services Requiring Prior Authorization

Wisconsin Medicaid requires PA (prior authorization) for the following services provided by home health agencies:

- All home health skilled nursing, medication management, home health aide, and home health therapy visits by all providers after the first 30 visits in a calendar year.
- Visits made by *all* providers from the home health agency accumulate toward the 30-visit threshold. After the first 30 visits, if one provider in a shared case requires PA, all providers on that case are required to have PA.
- All PDN (private duty nursing) services as stated in DHS 107.12(2)(a), Wis. Admin. Code.
- All home health and PCW (personal care worker) services that are provided in conjunction with PDN services.
- All home health services provided by NIP (nurses in independent practice).

Wisconsin Medicaid does not reimburse these services if they are provided:

- Without an approved PA.
- Before the grant date on the PA/RF (Prior Authorization Request Form, F-11018 (10/08)).
- After the expiration date on the PA/RF.

PA does not guarantee reimbursement. Provider eligibility, member enrollment, and medical status on the DOS (date of service), as well as all other Medicaid requirements, must be met before the claim is paid.

Prior Authorization Under the Core Plan

Prior authorization is not required for post-hospitalization home health services covered under the Core Plan. Prior authorization requests submitted for Core Plan members will be returned to providers without adjudication.

Topic #1268

Sources of Information

Providers should verify that they have the most current sources of information regarding PA (prior authorization). It is critical that providers and staff have access to these documents:

- Wisconsin Administrative Code: Chapters DHS 101 through DHS 109 are the rules regarding Medicaid administration.
- Wisconsin Statutes: Sections 49.43 through 49.99 provide the legal framework for Wisconsin Medicaid.
- ForwardHealth Portal: The Portal gives the latest policy information for all providers, including information about Medicaid managed care enrollees.

Topic #812

Status Inquiries

Providers may inquire about the status of a PA (prior authorization) request through one of the following methods:

- Accessing WiCall, ForwardHealth's AVR (Automated Voice Response) system.
- Calling Provider Services.

Providers should have the 10-digit PA number available when making inquiries.

Topic #2073

Two Caregivers Providing Care for a Member at the Same Time

When it is medically necessary and PA (prior authorization) has been obtained, Wisconsin Medicaid may reimburse for a PCW (personal care worker) to assist an RN (registered nurse), LPN (licensed practical nurse), home health aide, or another PCW. If two providers are caring for a member simultaneously, one provider must be a PCW. The situations in which a PCW may assist are:

- Periodic changing of the entire tracheostomy tube.
- Periodic transfer or repositioning of a member when a two-person transfer is required to assure safety because all other transfer devices have failed.

The provider is required to document on the POC (plan of care) the reason that two caregivers are required.

Grant and Expiration Dates

Topic #439

Backdating

Backdating an initial PA (prior authorization) request or SOI (spell of illness) to a date prior to ForwardHealth's initial receipt of the request may be allowed in limited circumstances.

A request for backdating may be approved if all of the following conditions are met:

- The provider specifically requests backdating in writing on the PA or SOI request.
- The request includes clinical justification for beginning the service before PA or SOI was granted.
- The request is received by ForwardHealth within 14 calendar days of the start of the provision of services.

Topic #2071

Initial Requests

An initial PA request may be backdated up to 14 calendar days from the first date of receipt by ForwardHealth. For backdating to be authorized, both of the following criteria must be met:

- The provider specifically requests backdating in writing on the PA request.
- The request includes clinical justification for beginning the service before PA was granted.
- The request is received by ForwardHealth within 14 calendar days of the start of the provision of services.

Extraordinary Circumstances

In the following cases, a PA request *may* be backdated for more than 14 days:

- A court order or hearing decision requiring Wisconsin Medicaid coverage is attached to the PA request.
- The member is retroactively enrolled. (Indicate in Element 21 of the PA/RF (Prior Authorization Request Form, F-11018 (10/08)) that the service was provided during a period of member retroactive enrollment. In Element 15, indicate the actual date the service was provided.)

Returned Requests

An initial PA request returned for additional information may be backdated 14 calendar days from the date it was initially received by ForwardHealth if the additional corrected information is returned with the original PA/RF.

Amendment Requests

PA amendment requests may be backdated 14 calendar days from the date of receipt by ForwardHealth if the request is for urgent situations in which medical necessity could not have been predicted.

Amendment requests may also be backdated to the grant date on the original PA request for the following two reasons:

- The amendment request is directly related to a modification of the original request **and** ForwardHealth receives the

amendment request within 14 days of the adjudication date on the original PA/RF.
- The amendment request results from an error on the original adjudication.

Denied Requests

Once a PA request has been denied, that PA number can no longer be used. A new PA number must be used with a new request. A new request following a denial may be backdated to the original date the denied request was received by ForwardHealth when all the following criteria are met:

- The earlier grant date is requested.
- The denied PA request is referred to in writing.
- The new PA request has information to justify approval.
- The request for reconsideration submitted with additional supporting documentation is received within 14 calendar days of the adjudication date on the original denied PA request.

Subsequent Requests Will Not Be Backdated

ForwardHealth will not backdate subsequent PA requests for continuation of ongoing services. To prevent a lapse in coverage, all subsequent PA requests must be received by ForwardHealth prior to the expiration date of the previous PA.

Topic #440

Expiration Date

The expiration (end) date of an approved or modified PA (prior authorization) request is the date through which services are prior authorized. PA requests are granted for varying periods of time. Expiration dates may vary and do not automatically expire at the end of the month or calendar year. In addition, providers may request a specific expiration date. Providers should carefully review all approved and modified PA requests and make note of the expiration dates.

Topic #8597

PA for home health services is never granted for more than a 12-month period.

Topic #441

Grant Date

The grant (start) date of an approved or modified PA (prior authorization) request is the first date in which services are prior authorized and will be reimbursed under this PA number. On a PA request, providers may request a specific date that they intend services to begin. If no grant date is requested or the grant date is illegible, the grant date will typically be the date the PA request was reviewed by ForwardHealth.

Topic #442

Renewal Requests

To prevent a lapse in coverage or reimbursement for ongoing services, all renewal PA (prior authorization) requests (i.e., subsequent PA requests for ongoing services) must be received by ForwardHealth *prior to the expiration date* of the previous PA request. Each provider is solely responsible for the timely submission of PA request renewals. Renewal requests will not be

backdated for continuation of ongoing services.

Home Health Skilled Nursing, Medication Management, Home Health Aide, and Home Health Therapy

Topic #2070

30-Visit Threshold

Standard Plan and Medicaid

A member may receive a total of 30 visits, including home health skilled nursing services, medication management services, home health aide services, and home health therapy services, per calendar year before PA (prior authorization) is required. PA is required when the total of any combination of these services per member exceeds 30 visits, regardless of the provider or service.

For example, if a member received 10 home health aide initial visits, five home health aide subsequent visits, five home health skilled nursing initial visits and 10 physical therapy visits, for a total of 30 visits, PA is required before any further services will be reimbursed by Wisconsin Medicaid during the same calendar year.

If the member has received home health services from another provider during the calendar year, those visits are also counted toward the 30-visit threshold.

Although providers are permitted to provide 30 visits without PA in a new calendar year, providers are encouraged to request PA immediately upon completion of the POC (plan of care) so that reimbursement is not jeopardized.

Benchmark Plan

A BadgerCare Plus Benchmark Plan member may receive a total of 30 visits **per enrollment year** before PA is required. PA policy and procedures for home health visits are the same under the Benchmark Plan as they are under the Standard Plan except that PA will not be granted for visits that exceed 60 during the member's enrollment year.

Under the Benchmark Plan, home health agencies do not need PA for home health services up to and including 30 visits during one enrollment year. The 31st visit through the 60th visit require PA.

Even with PA, the Benchmark Plan does not cover over 60 home health visits per enrollment year.

Topic #3664

Continuous Visits

Providers may request PA (prior authorization) to enable them to bill for multiple home health aide visits. The provider is required to indicate the following on the PA/RF (Prior Authorization Request Form, F-11018 (10/08)): "Authorization requested to bill for (number of) subsequent HH (Home Health) aide visits due to (number of) continuous hours of care."

Documentation submitted must support the medical necessity of the continuous visits.

In determining the number of continuous home health aide visits PA will be granted for, consideration will be given to the member's needs and special circumstances.

Topic #2069

Medication Management

Medication management visits require PA (prior authorization) and count toward the 30-visit threshold.

Topic #2068

Ongoing Assessments

Ongoing assessments do not require PA (prior authorization) and do not count toward the 30-visit threshold.

Topic #2067

Pro Re Nata Visits

Providers may request PRN (pro re nata), or "as needed," visits only when service is likely to vary due to changes in the member's need for services. If the use of PRN visits is anticipated, the specific number of PRN visits must be included in the POC (plan of care) and requested by procedure code per week or month of service on the PA/RF (Prior Authorization Request Form, F-11018 (10/08)) as demonstrated in this example. PRN visits must be added to the regularly scheduled number of visits requested for a particular procedure code. The reason for the PRN visits must be explained based on member-centered parameters.

Topic #2066

Shared Cases

For each calendar day, there can only be one initial visit for any given procedure code, regardless of the number of providers administering services to the member on that day. Providers with shared cases should coordinate with each other to determine which agency will provide the initial visit. This information must be indicated on the PA/RF (Prior Authorization Request Form, F-11018 (10/08)). Additional visits for the same procedure code on the same calendar day are classified as subsequent visits.

Providers should verify that requests for PA specify the appropriate number and type of visits to assure consistent member care and proper reimbursement. For this reason, coordination between providers of shared cases is strongly encouraged.

Member Eligibility Changes

Topic #443

Loss of Enrollment During Treatment

Some covered services consist of sequential treatment steps, meaning more than one office visit or service is required to complete treatment.

In most cases, if a member loses enrollment midway through treatment, or at any time between the grant and enddates, Wisconsin Medicaid will *not* reimburse services (including prior authorized services) provided during an enrollment lapse. Providers should not assume Wisconsin Medicaid covers completion of services after the member's enrollment has been terminated.

To avoid potential reimbursement problems when a member loses enrollment during treatment, providers should follow these procedures:

- Ask to see the member's ForwardHealth identification card to verify the member's enrollment or consult Wisconsin's EVS (Enrollment Verification System) before the services are provided at each visit.
- When the PA (prior authorization) request is approved, verify that the member is still enrolled and eligible to receive the service before providing it. An approved PA request does not guarantee payment and is subject to the enrollment of the member.

Members are financially responsible for any services received after their enrollment has ended. If the member wishes to continue treatment, it is a decision between the provider and the member whether the service should be given and how payment will be made for the service.

To avoid misunderstandings, providers should remind members that they are financially responsible for any continued care after their enrollment ends.

Topic #444

Retroactive Disenrollment from State-Contracted MCOs

Occasionally, a service requiring fee-for-service PA (prior authorization) is performed during a member's enrollment period in a state-contracted MCO (managed care organization). After the service is provided, and it is determined that the member should be retroactively disenrolled from the MCO, the member's enrollment is changed to fee-for-service for the DOS (date of service). The member is continuously eligible for BadgerCare Plus or Wisconsin Medicaid but has moved from MCO enrollment to fee-for-service status.

In this situation, the state-contracted MCO would deny the claim because the member was not enrolled on the DOS. Fee-for-service would also deny the claim because PA was not obtained.

Providers may take the following steps to obtain reimbursement in this situation:

- For a service requiring PA for fee-for-service members, the provider is required to submit a retroactive PA request. For a PA request submitted on paper, indicate "RETROACTIVE FEE-FOR-SERVICE" along with a written description of the service requested/provided under "Description of Service." Also indicate the actual date(s) the service(s) was provided. For a PA request submitted via the ForwardHealth Portal, indicate "RETROACTIVE FEE-FOR-SERVICE" along with a

description of the service requested/provided under the "Service Code Description" field or include additional supporting documentation. Also indicate the actual date(s) the service(s) was provided.

- If the PA request is approved, the provider is required to follow fee-for-service policies and procedures for claims submission.
- If the PA request is denied, Wisconsin Medicaid will not reimburse the provider for the services. A PA request would be denied for reasons such as lack of medical necessity. A PA request would not be denied due to the retroactive fee-for-service status of the member.

Topic #445

Retroactive Enrollment

If a service(s) that requires PA (prior authorization) was performed during a member's retroactive enrollment period, the provider is required to submit a PA request and receive approval from ForwardHealth *before* submitting a claim. For a PA request submitted on paper, indicate the words "RETROACTIVE ENROLLMENT" at the top of the PA request along with a written description explaining that the service was provided at a time when the member was retroactively enrolled under "Description of Service." Also include the actual date(s) the service(s) was provided. For a PA request submitted via the ForwardHealth Portal, indicate the words "RETROACTIVE ENROLLMENT" along with a description explaining that the service was provided at a time when the member was retroactively eligible under the "Service Code Description" field or include additional supporting documentation. Also include the actual date(s) the service(s) was provided.

If the member was retroactively enrolled, and the PA request is approved, the service(s) may be reimbursable, and the earliest effective date of the PA request will be the date the member receives retroactive enrollment. If the PA request is denied, the provider will not be reimbursed for the service(s). Members have the right to appeal the decision to deny a PA request.

If a member requests a service that requires PA before his or her retroactive enrollment is determined, the provider should explain to the member that he or she may be liable for the full cost of the service if retroactive enrollment is not granted and the PA request is not approved. This should be documented in the member's record.

Plan of Care

Topic #2065

A Comprehensive Overview

Home health services must be provided according to the member's written, signed, and dated POC (plan of care) as defined in DHS 105.16(1), Wis. Admin. Code.

Topic #2064

Certification Period

Each certification period may last no longer than 62 days. The 62-day period corresponds with the certification period dates in Element 4 of the PA/CPA (Prior Authorization/Care Plan Attachment, F-11096 (03/10)) and includes both the "From" date and the "To" date. The POC (plan of care) expires at the end of the 62-day certification period. (Medicare-certified agencies should use the time frame of up to, but not more than, *60 days* later.)

All components of the POC are required to be reviewed by a physician at least every 62 days as stated in DHS 105.16(1), Wis. Admin. Code. If multiple physicians order services, orders are combined on one POC and reviewed, signed, and dated by the primary physician at least every 62 days. The home health agency has the responsibility to sign and confirm the date that the information on the POC was reviewed with the physician, to verify that the POC is complete, and to keep a current and complete POC on file.

Once the physician reviews, signs, and dates the POC, it serves as the physician's orders for the length of the certification period.

The physician must review, sign, and date all subsequent POC *prior* to the beginning certification date on the POC. Otherwise, the agency is providing services without orders, and such services will not be reimbursed by Wisconsin Medicaid.

Topic #2063

Changes

When the member's medical needs change, the provider is required to notify the physician so that the physician may order a change to the POC (plan of care) to reflect the member's current medical needs.

It is illegal to add or change orders on a POC after it has been signed by a physician. To add or change orders, providers must have on file a signed and dated copy of the new physician orders to the POC. These changes must be incorporated into the next POC, prior to it being signed by the physician.

ForwardHealth will *not* accept correction fluid or correction tape on a POC. When correcting errors on a POC before it is signed, a nurse should cross out the error with a single line and place his or her initials and date next to the correction. ForwardHealth will return a POC with other methods of correction to the provider.

Topic #1122

Completing the Plan of Care

As required in Element 24 of the PA/CPA Completion Instructions (F-11096A (03/10)), the RN (registered nurse) *completing* the POC (plan of care) is required to sign the PA/CPA (Prior Authorization/Care Plan Attachment, F-11096 (03/10)). To *complete* the POC, the RN is required to do all of the following:

- Develop the nursing POC.
- Review the information provided in the POC to assure that all required components are included.
- Review the information provided in the POC to assure that it is correct.

Under ch. N 6.03, Wis. Admin. Code, an RN is responsible for the POC. Under ch. N 6.04, Wis. Admin. Code, an LPN (licensed practical nurse) may *assist* with the development and revision of the POC.

Someone other than the RN may key the required components into the document, but the RN signing the POC takes full responsibility for the contents of the POC.

Topic #2062

Developing the Plan of Care

Development of the POC (plan of care) should be based on the orders of a physician, a visit to the member's residence by either an RN (registered nurse) or therapist as appropriate, and in consultation with the physician, the member, or, as appropriate, the member's legal representative, the member's family, and other members of the household.

When developing the POC, the provider should also assess the member's social and physical environment, including the following:

- Family involvement.
- Living conditions.
- The member's level of functioning.
- Any pertinent cultural factors.

LPNs (licensed practical nurses) may not develop the POC.

Topic #2061

Documentation Methods

When completing and submitting the POC (plan of care), home health providers may use either the PA/CPA (Prior Authorization/ Care Plan Attachment, F-11096 (03/10)) or another format that contains *all* of the components requested in the PA/CPA Completion Instructions (F-11096A (03/10)).

When completed according to the completion instructions, the PA/CPA contains the information required to adjudicate a provider's PA (prior authorization) request for home care services.

Each provider should respond to the PA/CPA Completion Instructions consistent with his or her provider type and the services being provided under the POC.

Complete and accurate information is required to adjudicate PA requests submitted for home care services. Incomplete PA requests will be returned to the provider.

Submitting Another Format for the Member's Plan of Care

Providers who choose to submit the member's POC in another format are required to include all of the components requested in the PA/CPA Completion Instructions. PA requests received without the requested information will be returned to the provider.

Providers choosing this option should note that the nurse and physician who sign and date the POC are required to attest to the respective Wisconsin Medicaid certification statements in Section VI of the PA/CPA Completion Instructions.

To speed processing and reduce the number of returned PA requests, providers are strongly encouraged to verify that all requested information is included with the PA request when choosing to submit a version of the POC other than the PA/CPA.

Topic #1124

Element 26 of the Prior Authorization/Care Plan Attachment

If the nurse signing and dating Elements 24 and 25 of the PA/CPA (Prior Authorization/Care Plan Attachment Form, F-11096 (03/10)) receives verbal orders from the attending physician to start care for the initial certification period, the nurse should enter the date the verbal orders were received in Element 26. If the nurse did not receive verbal orders, Element 26 should be left blank.

Topic #1133

Elements 24 and 25 of the Prior Authorization/Care Plan Attachment

Regardless of whether the physician's order is for the start of care with the initial certification period or for continuing care with a recertification period, the RN (registered nurse) completing the POC (plan of care) is required to sign and date the POC as instructed for Elements 24 and 25 of the PA/CPA (Prior Authorization/Care Plan Attachment, F-11096 (03/10)). The RN completing the POC must sign and date the POC on or before the certification period "From" date indicated on the POC. By signing and dating the POC, the RN attests to the following:

- The information contained in the POC is complete and accurate.
- He or she is familiar with all of the information in the POC.
- When providing services, he or she is responsible for ensuring that the POC is carried out as specified.

Elements 24 and 25 must be completed on or before the certification period "From" date indicated in Element 4 of the PA/CPA.

Topic #2060

Medical Necessity and the Plan of Care

The member's health status and medical need, as reflected in the POC (plan of care), provide the basis for determinations as to whether services provided are reasonable and medically necessary.

Each provider is responsible, along with the physician, for the contents of the POC relating to the medical necessity of care, accuracy of all information submitted, and relevance of the POC to the member's current medical condition. Providers are required to do the following:

- Promptly notify the member's physician of any change in the member's condition that suggests a need to modify the POC.
- Implement any changes that were made to the POC.

Providers are required to include a complete, detailed, and accurate description of the member's medical condition and needs in the POC. The POC should be developed and reviewed concurrently and in support of other health care providers providing services to the member in the home.

Topic #2059

Physician Signature Extension for Member Plans of Care

ForwardHealth recognizes that Medicare-certified home health agencies can encounter difficulties obtaining a physician's signature for POC (plan of care) recertifications within the time designated by Wisconsin Administrative Code. In response, the DHS (Department of Health Services) has established a process and created a form titled Verbal Orders for Recertification: Home Health Agency Request for Variance of Physician Signature Requirement (F-1017 (07/08)) to expedite requests for a 20 working day extension to obtain the physician's signature. (Working days refer to Monday through Friday.) The variance is limited to verbal orders for POC recertification periods. The variance will increase the time providers have to obtain the physician's signature on a member's POC.

When requesting a variance to the administrative code pertaining to requirements for having the physician review the member's POC and obtaining the physician's dated signature on the member's written POC prior to recertification periods, DHS recommends home health agencies use the Verbal Orders for Recertification: Home Health Agency Request for Variance of Physician Signature Requirement form.

Submitting a Variance Request

Only Wisconsin Medicaid-certified home health agencies that are Medicare-certified may submit the Verbal Orders for Recertification: Home Health Agency Request for Variance of Physician Signature Requirement form.

Any branch of a Medicare-certified home health agency that is assigned its own unique provider number must submit a *separate* request form to also receive the variance.

Providers should not submit a request for each member. Only one form per provider number should be submitted.

Obtaining the Physician's Signature

Under the variance, agencies will be required to obtain the physician's signature on the member's written POC before submitting claims for services to ForwardHealth. The physician's signature must be obtained no later than 20 working days following the "From" date listed on the POC for the recertification period. This is also the same date listed as the "From" date in Element 4 of the PA/HCA (Prior Authorization/Home Care Attachment, F-11096 (10/08)).

If the home health agency does not obtain the physician's signature as required by the variance, the agency is providing services without written orders, and such services are non-reimbursable as stated in DHS 107.02(2)(f), Wis. Admin. Code. When the physician's dated signature is obtained more than 20 working days after the "From" date listed on the POC for the recertification period, claims for services provided may be reimbursed beginning with the date the agency receives the physician's dated signature on the member's written POC.

Documentation Requirements

The variance is applicable only when the agency has obtained verbal orders and sent the POC to the ordering physician *before* the beginning of the recertification period. The agency must maintain documentation of the date the POC was sent to the ordering physician for his or her signature.

When the POC is prepared, home health agencies are required to include all the components as instructed in the PA/HCA Completion Instructions (Prior Authorization/Home Care Attachment Completion Instructions, F-11096A (10/08)). The nurse obtaining verbal orders for a recertification period under the variance is required to complete Element 25 as stated in the PA/HCA Completion Instructions after reviewing the POC with the ordering physician. In the context of the instructions for Element 25, the nurse is expected to review the POC with the ordering physician as appropriate to the nurse's license under ch. N 6, Wis. Admin. Code.

Effective Date of Variance

Home health agencies will receive a signed letter from ForwardHealth for their records that includes the effective date and the terms of the discretionary variance.

Unless an agency has received a letter from ForwardHealth granting the variance, the agency is required to comply with the physician signature requirements as stated in Wisconsin Administrative Code or be subject to a potential recovery of any improper payment.

Medicare and Wisconsin Medicaid Certification Requirements

Wisconsin Medicaid requires home health agencies to first be *Medicare* certified before obtaining certification with Wisconsin Medicaid. In addition, an agency is required to maintain *Medicare* certification to continue to be eligible for Wisconsin Medicaid certification.

Medicare requires a home health agency to complete the OASIS between days 55 and 60 of each 60-day certification period. *Wisconsin Medicaid* requires that the home health agency have the POC signed and dated by the physician prior to the continuation of services past the initial 60-day certification period, as stated in ch. DHS 107.11(6)(b)4, 107.113(2), and 107.12(1)(d)2, Wis. Admin. Code.

Because strict enforcement of Wisconsin Administrative Code could result in unreasonable hardship to the home health agency, it is recommended that home health agencies complete the Verbal Orders for Recertification: Home Health Agency Request for Variance of Physician Signature Requirement form to request a 20 working day extension to obtain a physician's signature for verbal orders for POC recertifications.

Topic #1143

Physician Stamped Signatures

Under specific conditions, Wisconsin Medicaid accepts physicians' stamped signatures on physician orders and POC (plan of care), including attachments that are submitted with requests for PA (prior authorization).

The home care provider (NIP (nurses in independent practice), Home Health, Personal Care) is required to meet *both* of the following requirements before accepting a physician's stamped signature:

- Obtain a dated statement from the physician with the physician's original signature attesting that he or she is the only person who possesses the signature stamp and is the only person who uses it.
- Maintain the signed and dated physician statement in the home care provider's records.

Wisconsin Medicaid will consider a stamped signature invalid if these requirements are not met. Payments made by Wisconsin Medicaid to a home care provider that are based on physician orders, authorized PA requests, or POC stamped with an invalid or improperly used signature stamp will be *subject to recoupment*. These requirements are similar to those of CMS (Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services) for providers participating in Medicare.

Signature Stamp Security Awareness for Physicians

Physicians using a signature stamp should be aware that this method is much less secure than a handwritten signature, creating the potential for misuse or abuse of the stamp. The individual whose name is on the signature stamp is responsible for and attests to the authenticity of the information. Physicians should check with their attorneys and malpractice insurers in regard to the use of a signature stamp.

Topic #2058

Physician Verbal Orders

At times, the physician may give an order verbally.

Verbal Orders for Initial Certification

To facilitate immediate access to home care services, Wisconsin Medicaid allows home health agencies to be reimbursed for services provided under verbal orders. The agency is required to reduce the verbal orders to writing, transmit the orders to the physician immediately, and obtain the physician's signature and date on those orders within 20 working days.

Verbal Orders for Subsequent Certification

Once care has started, *verbal orders may not be obtained for subsequent certification periods*. For ongoing cases, the physician must review, sign, and date renewed or (as necessary) revised orders before the end of the certification period for the agency to continue to be reimbursed without interruption after starting care of the member.

Verbal Orders Within Any Certification Period

An *urgent* situation may prompt the physician to issue verbal orders. Such verbal orders *during* the authorized certification period are the direct result of changes in the patient's condition necessitating an immediate modification to the POC (plan of care). For example, the member's adverse reaction to a currently prescribed medication or treatment may result in a physician verbally ordering a change to the member's treatment or medication.

When verbal orders are necessary within a certification period, the agency must document the orders, reduce them to writing, and sign and date them. The agency has 10 days from the date the physician gave the orders to obtain the physician's signature and date on those orders.

Topic #2057

Physician's Orders and Signature

All home health services require a physician's order or prescription. Services provided *before* a physician's order or prescription is obtained will not be reimbursed. The order or prescription shall be in writing or given verbally and later be reduced to writing by the nurse. All orders or prescriptions must be reviewed, signed, and dated by the prescribing physician as stated in DHS 107.02 (2m), Wis. Admin. Code.

The initial POC (plan of care) containing the physician's orders must be reviewed, signed, and dated by the physician within 20 working days following the member's start of care. All subsequent POC must be reviewed, signed, and dated by the physician *prior* to the beginning of the new certification period.

Topic #1144

Plan of Care Certification Period Versus Prior Authorization Period

The POC (plan of care) certification period and the PA (prior authorization) period refer to two separate time periods.

The requirements for a POC as stated in the PA/CPA (Prior Authorization/Care Plan Attachment Completion Instructions, F-11096A (03/10)) Completion Instructions apply to the POC certification period. Regardless of the PA period (which in some cases can be granted for up to 364 days), the POC must be completed at least every 62 days.

Topic #2056

Requirements

As specified in and supported by DHS 101.03(124m), 105.16(10)(e), 106.02(9), and 107.02(2)(f) Wis. Admin. Code, the POC (plan of care) must include all of the following information:

- All pertinent diagnoses, including cognitive status.
- Type of services and equipment required.
- Frequency of visits.
- Prognosis.
- Rehabilitation potential.
- Functional capabilities and limitations, including cognitive status, dietary needs, and allergies.
- Activities permitted.
- Nutritional requirements.
- Medications and treatments.
- Any safety measures to protect against injury.
- Instructions for timely discharge or referral.
- Home health therapy services that include specific procedures and modalities to be used and the amount, frequency, and duration.
- A dated physician's signature signifying that the physician has reviewed the POC.
- Methods for delivering needed care and an indication of which, if any, professional disciplines are responsible for delivering the care.
- An identification of all other parties providing care to the member and the responsibilities of each party for that care.
- Measurable time-specific goals.
- Nursing and emergency interventions.
- Parameters for all PRN (pro re nata) orders.
- Other items as appropriate to the member's case.
- A plan for medical emergency.
- A plan to move the member to safety in the event of a condition that threatens the member's immediate environment.

POC for ventilator-dependent members must also include the following elements:

- Ventilator settings and parameters.
- Procedures to follow in the event of accidental extubation.

Medically necessary cares as ordered by a physician are to include cares that may be claimed by professional providers *and* cares routinely provided by the family and other volunteer caregivers.

In addition to the elements required on the POC by DHS 101.03(124m), Wis. Admin. Code, agencies should include a brief clinical history and summary of the member's condition to expedite the PA (prior authorization) request. This additional information may decrease the frequency of returned PA requests.

Topic #2055

Start of Care Date

The start of care date is the date of the member's first billable home care visit. This date remains the same on all subsequent POC (plans of care) until the member is discharged from uninterrupted service.

Private Duty Nursing

Topic #2054

Flexible Use of Weekly Hours

Flexible hours allow PDN (private duty nursing) members and their families to use authorized hours of care over an extended period of time. Hours may be used in varying amounts over the approved period of time to meet the needs of the member and his or her family. Flexible hours might be used in situations in which a primary caregiver is unable to provide as many hours of care as usual due to an acute illness. Even though flexible use of hours may be approved, the hours must still be medically necessary. Any PDN hours used over those hours approved in the flexibility period are not reimbursable.

Flexibility of hours can be requested to be used in week-long blocks of time. The most common blocks of time are periods of 1, 2, 4, 6, 8, and 9 weeks. Providers should develop a record-keeping system to keep track of the hours of care used. This will help to prevent providers from exceeding the number of hours approved in the period in which flexibility has been authorized.

One suggestion for tracking use of hours is to use the certification period in Element 4 of the PA/CPA (Prior Authorization/Care Plan Attachment, F-11096 (03/10)).

Any time flexibility is requested, the date that each flexibility period starts must be clearly specified in the POC (plan of care) (Element 15 of the PA/CPA).

Requesting Flexible Use of Hours

To request flexibility in the use of PDN hours, members and their families should discuss with the nurse and physician the hours of medically necessary care they require and the time period in which flexibility will be used.

For example, if it is determined that up to 16 hours per day for seven days per week for a total of 112 hours per week of PDN services are required and the hours will be used flexibly over an eight-week period, the request would read as follows:

PDN RN (registered nurse)/LPN (licensed practical nurse) up to 16 hours per day, seven days per week (total of 112 hours a week). Hours to be used flexibly, one to 24 hours per day, not to exceed 896 hours in an eight-week period all providers combined.

Amending Prior Authorization Requests to Include Flexible Hours

If an existing PA (prior authorization) request has been approved without flexibility, and it is determined that the use of flexible hours would be of benefit, providers should request an amendment to the PA request and obtain new orders from the physician. The amendment must explain the reason flexibility is needed and include the specific date that use of flexible hours will start.

If a change occurs in the member's medical condition or a family medical crisis arises (e.g., the extended illness of a primary caregiver), and the coverage for these events cannot be accommodated within the authorized use of the flexible hours during the flexibility period, nurses may submit a request for additional hours through an amendment to the original PA request. The amendment must explain the reason for the additional hours in detail; however, most events can be accommodated through the use of flexibility.

Topic #2053

Hours of Private Duty Nursing for Children

To determine the hours of PDN (private duty nursing) care for children, providers should consider the extent to which the family and/or other unpaid caregivers are capable of providing medical cares.

Approval of PDN for 24 hours per day may be considered for children in the following circumstances:

- For short-term care after institutional discharge or after in-home exacerbations with significant medical changes, allowing time to teach the family or caregivers and to stabilize the child and develop routine care techniques.
- For short-term care if a single parent or caregiver is hospitalized or if one family member or caregiver is hospitalized and the other is not capable of providing care. PDN for 24 hours per day may fill the gap until other caregivers can be taught cares or until the usual family member or caregiver can resume them.
- If the family or caregivers are not *capable* of providing *any* needed cares.

PDN may be approved for family member or caregiver work time. For example, if the family member or caregiver works outside the home, a reasonable number of PDN hours may be approved to allow for the family member or caregiver's absence from cares for work and commuting to and from work.

If overnight PDN is medically necessary, PDN may be approved for family or caregivers' sleep time. PDN may be approved for the night shift so the family or caregivers can sleep. Sleep time may be approved during the day if the family member or caregiver works during the night.

PDN may be approved for medically necessary services if the family needs time to perform family or other similar *responsibilities* of the family or caregivers such as grocery shopping, medical appointments, or picking up medical supplies.

PDN may be approved for the child's school hours when it is medically necessary for a nurse to accompany the child to school. In many cases, the child meets enrollment criteria for PDN, but is cared for at school by nurses' aides or laypersons, with a school RN (registered nurse) available as needed.

When determining the number of PDN hours that will be approved, the following elements will be considered:

- The child's school time.
- The family or caregivers' work schedule.
- Any other pertinent information.

Topic #2052

Indicating Flexible Use of Hours on the Plan of Care

When the flexible use of hours is requested for PDN (private duty nursing), providers are required to specify the date that the flexibility period will begin. The PA/CPA Completion Instructions (Prior Authorization/Care Plan Attachment Completion Instructions, F-11096A (03/10)) for Element 15 direct providers to include the begin date for the use of flexible hours under this element on the PA/CPA (Prior Authorization/Care Plan Attachment, F-11096 (03/10)). The begin date must be a date covered under the current POC (plan of care).

Topic #2050

Prior Authorization is Required

PA (prior authorization) is required for all PDN (private duty nursing) services before the services may be provided. When

submitting a PA request for PDN, the scheduled number of hours requested should reflect the daily care needs of the member. The following should be considered when requesting PDN hours:

- Type of medically necessary skilled service needed.
- Stability and predictability of the member's clinical course.
- Availability of family/other caregivers.

The physician's orders for PDN should be written in hours per day and days per week.

Topic #2049

Pro Re Nata Hours

PRN (pro re nata) or "as needed," hours may be requested when there is a reason to expect a deviation in the number of scheduled hours needed due to a change in the member's needs. PRN hours must be medically necessary and the physician's orders on the POC (Plan of Care) must specify the number and purpose of the PRN hours requested.

When the provider cannot determine whether an RN (Registered Nurse) or LPN (Licensed Practical Nurse) will provide PRN services, the provider may request approval for both by entering both procedure codes on one line of the PA/RF (Prior Authorization Request Form, F-11018 (10/08)). Separate the procedure codes by a slash. Include a statement that the total number of hours of care does not exceed the total number of hours on the POC.

If after using all the PRN hours granted it is found that additional hours are needed, providers may request an amendment to the PA (prior authorization) for more PRN hours. The amendment must include documentation stating the dates all previously granted PRN hours were used and the activities performed during each PRN hour.

Topic #2048

Shared Cases

When home health agencies are case sharing PDN (private duty nursing) services, each provider is responsible for doing the following:

- Obtaining a PA (prior authorization) separately for the services to be performed by that provider.
- Communicating and coordinating the PA request with other case-sharing providers to assure appropriate care and reimbursement.

To reduce the chance of PA request returns and expedite the PA process, each provider is required to document specific information about the case. The PA request may be returned if information provided is incomplete and/or inconsistent.

Plan of Care

Each provider is required to indicate the following on the member's POC (plan of care):

- The total number of home care hours that the member requires.
- The names of all the providers that will be sharing the case.
- The number of hours that each provider will be providing care.

Prior Authorization Request Form

Each provider is required to indicate the following in Element 21 of the PA/RF (Prior Authorization Request Form, F-11018 (10/08)):

- The number of hours per week the provider will provide care.
- "Shared case with (name of the other provider). Total hours for all providers will not exceed total hours on POC."

Review Process

Topic #450

Clerical Review

The first step of the PA (prior authorization) request review process is the clerical review. The provider, member, diagnosis, and treatment information indicated on the PA/RF (Prior Authorization Request Form, F-11018 (10/08)), PA/HIAS1 (Prior Authorization for Hearing Instrument and Audiological Services 1, F-11020 (10/08)), and PA/DRF (Prior Authorization/Dental Request Form, F-11035 (10/08)) forms is reviewed during the clerical review of the PA request review process. The following are examples of information verified during the clerical review:

- Billing and/or rendering provider number is correct and corresponds with the provider's name.
- Provider's name is spelled correctly.
- Provider is Medicaid certified.
- Procedure codes with appropriate modifiers, if required, are covered services.
- Member's name is spelled correctly.
- Member's identification number is correct and corresponds with the member's name.
- Member enrollment is verified.
- All required elements are complete.
- Forms, attachments, and additional supporting clinical documentation are signed and dated.
- A current physician's prescription for the service is attached, if required.

Clerical errors and omissions are responsible for the majority of PA requests that are returned to providers for correction or additional information. Since having to return a PA request for corrections or additional information can delay approval and delivery of services to a member, providers should ensure that all clerical information is correctly and completely entered on the PA/RF, PA/DRF, or PA/HIAS1.

If clerical errors are identified, the PA request is returned to the provider for corrections before undergoing a clinical review. One way to reduce the number of clerical errors is to complete and submit PA/RFs through Web PA.

Topic #451

Clinical Review

Upon verifying the completeness and accuracy of clerical items, the PA (prior authorization) request is reviewed to evaluate whether or not each service being requested meets Wisconsin Medicaid's definition of "medically necessary" as well as other criteria.

The PA attachment allows a provider to document the clinical information used to determine whether the standards of medical necessity are met for the requested service. Wisconsin Medicaid considers certain factors when determining whether to approve or deny a PA request pursuant to DHS 107.02(3)(e), Wis. Admin. Code.

It is crucial that a provider include adequate information on the PA attachment so that the ForwardHealth consultant performing the clinical review can determine that the service(s) being requested meets all the elements of Wisconsin Medicaid's definition of "medically necessary", including elements that are not strictly medical in nature. Documentation must provide the justification for the service requested specific to the member's current condition and needs. Pursuant to DHS 101.03(96m), Wis. Admin. Code, "medically necessary" is a service under ch. DHS 107 that meets certain criteria.

Determination of Medical Necessity

The definition of "medically necessary" is a legal definition identifying the standards that must be met for approval of the service. The definition imposes parameters and restrictions that are both medical and nonmedical.

The determination of medical necessity is based on the documentation submitted by the provider. For this reason, it is essential that documentation is submitted completely and accurately and that it provides the justification for the service requested, specific to the member's current condition and needs. To be approved, a PA request must meet all of the standards of medical necessity including those that are not strictly medical in nature.

To determine if a requested service is medically necessary, ForwardHealth consultants obtain direction and/or guidance from multiple resources including:

- Federal and state statutes.
- Wisconsin Administrative Code.
- PA guidelines set forth by the DHS (Department of Health Services).
- Standards of practice.
- Professional knowledge.
- Scientific literature.

Situations Requiring New Requests

Topic #452

Change in Billing Providers

Providers are required to submit a new PA (prior authorization) request when there is a change in billing providers. A new PA request must be submitted with the new billing provider's name and billing provider number. The expiration date of the PA request will remain the same as the original PA request.

Typically, as no more than one PA request is allowed for the same member, the same service(s), and the same dates, the new billing provider is required to send the following to ForwardHealth's PA Unit:

- A copy of the existing PA request, if possible.
- A new PA request, including the required attachments and supporting documentation indicating the new billing provider's name and address and billing provider number.
- A letter requesting the enddating of the existing PA request (may be a photocopy) attached to each PA request with the following information:
    - The previous billing provider's name and billing provider number, if known.
    - The new billing provider's name and billing provider number.
    - The reason for the change of billing provider. (The provider may want to confer with the member to verify that the services by the previous provider have ended. The new billing provider may include this verification in the letter.)
    - The requested effective date of the change.

Topic #5197

Changes to Member Enrollment Status

Changes to a member's enrollment status may affect PA (prior authorization) determinations. In the following cases, providers are required to obtain valid, approved PA for those services that require PA:

- A member enrolled in the BadgerCare Plus Standard Plan has a change in income level and becomes eligible for the BadgerCare Plus Benchmark Plan. The member's enrollment status changes to Benchmark Plan.
- A member enrolled in the Benchmark Plan has a change in income level or medical condition and becomes eligible for the Standard Plan or Medicaid. The member's enrollment status changes to Standard Plan or Medicaid accordingly.

Some changes in a member's enrollment status do not affect PA determinations. In the following cases, providers are not required to obtain separate PA because PA will continue to be valid:

- A member enrolled in the Standard Plan becomes eligible for Medicaid coverage. PA granted under the Standard Plan will be valid for Medicaid.
- A member switches from the Standard Plan to the Benchmark Plan and there is already a valid PA on file for the member under the Benchmark Plan.
- A member switches from the Benchmark Plan to the Standard Plan or Medicaid and there is already a valid PA on file for the member under the Standard Plan or Medicaid.

Providers are encouraged to verify enrollment before every office visit or service rendered. Verifying enrollment will help providers identify changes in member enrollment status and take appropriate actions to obtain PA for services when necessary.

The first time a member switches plans, the provider is required to submit a new PA request, including all required PA forms and attachments. If a member switches back into either of the plans and there is a valid, approved PA on file under that plan, the provider does not need to submit a new PA request.

Providers who have a provider account on the ForwardHealth Portal may use the Portal to check if a valid PA is on file for the service.

Calculating Limits for Services Requiring Prior Authorization

Any limits that pertain to services requiring PA will accumulate separately under each plan.

Topic #453

Examples

Examples of when a new PA (prior authorization) request must be submitted include the following:

- A provider's billing provider changes.
- A member requests a provider change that results in a change in billing providers.
- A member's enrollment status changes and there is not a valid PA on file for the member's current plan (i.e., BadgerCare Plus Standard Plan, BadgerCare Plus Benchmark Plan, Medicaid).

If the *rendering* provider indicated on the PA request changes but the *billing* provider remains the same, the PA request remains valid and a new PA request does *not* need to be submitted.

Topic #454

Services Not Performed Before Expiration Date

Generally, a new PA (prior authorization) request with a new requested start date must be submitted to ForwardHealth if the amount or quantity of prior authorized services is not used by the expiration date of the PA request and the service is still medically necessary.

Submission Options

Topic #12597

278 Health Care Services Review — Request for Review and Response Transaction

On and after January 1, 2012, providers may request PA (prior authorization) electronically using the 278 (278 Health Care Services Review — Request for Review and Response) transaction, the standard electronic format for health care service PA requests.

Compliance Testing

Trading partners may conduct compliance testing for the 278 transaction on January 1, 2012.

After receiving an "accepted" 999 (999 Functional Acknowledgment) for a test 278 transaction, trading partners are required to call the EDI (Electronic Data Interchange) Helpdesk to request the production 278 transaction set be assigned to them.

Submitting Prior Authorization Requests

Submitting an initial PA request using the 278 transaction does not result in a real-time approval and cannot be used to request PA for drugs and diabetic supplies.

After submitting a PA request via a 278 transaction, providers will receive a real-time response indicating whether the transaction is valid or invalid. If the transaction is invalid, the response will indicate the reject reason(s), and providers can correct and submit a new PA request using the 278 transaction. A real-time response indicating a valid 278 transaction will include a PA number and a pending status. The PA request will be placed in a status of "Pending - Fiscal Agent Review."

The 278 transaction does not allow providers to submit supporting clinical information as required to adjudicate the PA request.

Trading partners cannot submit the 278 transaction through PES (Provider Electronic Solutions). In order to submit the 278 transaction, trading partners will need to use their own software or contract with a software vendor.

Topic #455

Fax

Faxing of all PA (prior authorization) requests to ForwardHealth may eliminate one to three days of mail time. The following are recommendations to avoid delays when faxing PA requests:

- Providers should follow the PA fax procedures.
- Providers should *not* fax the same PA request more than once.
- Providers should *not* fax *and* mail the same PA request. This causes delays in processing.

PA requests containing X-rays, dental molds, or photos as documentation must be mailed; they may not be faxed.

To help safeguard the confidentiality of member health care records, providers should include a fax transmittal form containing a

confidentiality statement as a cover sheet to all faxed PA requests. The Prior Authorization Fax Cover Sheet (F-1176 (01/10)) includes a confidentiality statement and may be photocopied.

Providers are encouraged to retain copies of all PA requests and supporting documentation before submitting them to ForwardHealth.

Prior Authorization Fax Procedures

Providers may fax PA requests to ForwardHealth at (608) 221-8616. PA requests sent to any fax number other than (608) 221-8616 may result in processing delays.

When faxing PA requests to ForwardHealth, providers should follow the guidelines/procedures listed below.

Fax Transmittal Cover Sheet

The completed fax transmittal cover sheet must include the following:

- Date of the fax transmission.
- Number of pages, including the cover sheet. The ForwardHealth fax clerk will contact the provider by fax or telephone if all the pages do not transmit.
- Provider contact person and telephone number. The ForwardHealth fax clerk may contact the provider with any questions about the fax transmission.
- Provider number.
- Fax telephone number to which ForwardHealth may send its adjudication decision.
- To: "ForwardHealth Prior Authorization."
- ForwardHealth's fax number ([608] 221-8616). PA requests sent to any other fax number may result in processing delays.
- ForwardHealth's telephone numbers. For specific PA questions, providers should call Provider Services. For faxing questions, providers should call (608) 224-6124.

Incomplete Fax Transmissions

If the pages listed on the initial cover sheet do not all transmit (i.e., pages stuck together, the fax machine has jammed, or some other error has stopped the fax transmission), or if the PA request is missing information, providers will receive the following by fax from the ForwardHealth fax clerk:

- A cover sheet explaining why the PA request is being returned.
- Part or all of the original incomplete fax that ForwardHealth received.

If a PA request is returned to the provider due to faxing problems, providers should do the following:

- Attach a completed cover sheet with the number of pages of the fax.
- Resend the entire original fax transmission and the additional information requested by the fax clerk to (608) 221-8616.

General Guidelines

When faxing information to ForwardHealth, providers should not reduce the size of the PA/RF (Prior Authorization Request Form, F-11018 (10/08)) or the PA/HIAS1 (Prior Authorization for Hearing Instrument and Audiological Services 1, F-11020 (10/08)) to fit on the bottom half of the cover page. This makes the PA request difficult to read and leaves no space for consultants to write a response if needed or to sign the request.

If a photocopy of the original PA request and attachments is faxed, the provider should make sure these copies are clear and legible. If the information is not clear, it will be returned to the provider.

If the provider does not indicate his or her fax number, ForwardHealth will mail the decision back to the provider.

ForwardHealth will attempt to fax a response to the PA request to a provider three times. If unsuccessful, the PA request will be mailed to the provider.

If providers are not sure if an entire fax was sent, they should call ForwardHealth's fax clerk at (608) 224-6124, to inquire about the status of the fax.

Prior Authorization Request Deadlines

Faxing a PA request eliminates one to three days of mail time. However, the adjudication time of the PA request has not changed. All actions regarding PA requests are made within the predetermined time frames.

Faxed PA requests received after 1:00 p.m. will be considered as received the following business day. Faxed PA requests received on a Saturday, Sunday, or holiday will be processed on the next business day.

Avoid Duplicating Prior Authorization Requests

After faxing a PA request, providers should not send the original paperwork by mail. Mailing the original paperwork after faxing the PA request will create duplicate PA requests in the system and may result in a delay of several days to process the faxed PA request.

Refaxing a PA request before the previous PA request has been returned will also create duplicate PA requests and may result in delays.

Response Back from ForwardHealth

Once ForwardHealth reviews a PA request, ForwardHealth will fax one of three responses back to the provider:

- "Your approved, modified, or denied PA request(s) is attached."
- "Your PA request(s) requires additional information (see attached). Resubmit the entire PA request, including the attachments, with the requested additional information."
- "Your PA request(s) has missing pages and/or is illegible (see attached). Resubmit the entire PA request, including the attachments."

Resubmitting Prior Authorization Requests

When resubmitting a faxed PA request, providers are required to resubmit the faxed copy of the PA request, including attachments. This will allow the provider to obtain the earliest possible grant date for the PA request (apart from backdating for retroactive enrollment). If any attachments or additional information that was requested is received without the rest of the PA request, the information will be returned to the provider.

Topic #458

ForwardHealth Portal Prior Authorization

Providers can use the PA (prior authorization) features on the ForwardHealth Portal to do the following:

- Submit PA requests and amendments for all services that require PA.
- Upload PA attachments and additional supporting clinical documentation for PA requests.
- Receive decision notice letters and returned provider review letters.

- Correct returned PA requests and PA amendment requests.
- Change the status of a PA request from Suspended to Pending.
- Submit additional supporting documentation for a PA request that is in Suspended or Pending Status.
- Search and view previously submitted PA requests.
- Print a PA cover sheet.

Submitting Prior Authorization Requests and Amendment Requests

Providers can submit PA requests for all services that require PA to ForwardHealth via the secure Provider area of the Portal. To save time, providers can copy and paste information from plans of care and other medical documentation into the appropriate fields on the PA request. Except for those providers exempt from NPI (National Provider Identifier) requirements, NPI and related data are required on PAs submitted via the Portal.

When completing PA attachments on the Portal, providers can take advantage of an Additional Information field at the end of the PA attachment that holds up to five pages of text that may be needed.

Providers may also submit amendment requests via the Portal for PAs with a status of "Approved" or "Approved with Modifications."

PA Attachments on the Portal

Almost all PA request attachments can be completed and submitted on the Portal. When providers are completing PA requests, the Portal presents the necessary attachments needed for that PA request. For example, if a physician is completing a PA request for physician-administered drugs, the Portal will prompt a PA/JCA (Prior Authorization/"J" Code Attachment, F-11034 (10/08)), and display the form for the provider to complete. Certain PA attachments cannot be completed online or uploaded.

Providers may also upload an electronically completed version of the paper PA attachment form. However, when submitting a PA attachment electronically, ForwardHealth recommends completing the PA attachment online as opposed to uploading an electronically completed version of the paper attachment form to reduce the chances of the PA request being returned for clerical errors.

All PA request attachment forms are available on the Portal to download and print to submit by fax or mail.

Providers may also choose to submit their PA request on the Portal and mail or fax the PA attachment(s) and/or additional supporting documentation to ForwardHealth. If the PA attachment(s) are mailed or faxed, a system-generated Portal PA Cover Sheet (F-11159 (10/08)) must be printed and sent with the attachment to ForwardHealth for processing. Providers must list the attachments on the Portal PA Cover Sheet. When ForwardHealth receives the PA attachments by mail or fax, they will be matched up with the PA/RF (Prior Authorization Request Form, F-11018 (10/08)) that was completed on the Portal.

Note: If the cover sheet could not be generated while submitting the PA request due to technical difficulties, providers can print the cover sheet from the main Portal PA page.

Before submitting any PA documents, providers should save or print a copy for their records. Once the PA request is submitted, it cannot be retrieved for further editing.

As a reminder, ForwardHealth does not mail back any PA request documents submitted by the providers.

Additional Supporting Clinical Documentation

ForwardHealth accepts additional supporting clinical documentation when the information cannot be indicated on the required PA forms and is pertinent for processing the PA request or PA amendment request. Providers have the following options for submitting additional supporting clinical information for PA requests or PA amendment requests.

- Upload electronically.
- Mail.
- Fax.

Providers can choose to upload electronic supporting information through the Portal in the following formats:

- JPEG (Joint Photographic Experts Group) (.jpg or .jpeg).
- PDF (Portable Document Format) (.pdf).
- Rich Text Format (.rtf).
- Text File (.txt).
- OrthoCAD™ (.3dm) (for dental providers).

JPEG files must be stored with a ".jpg" or ".jpeg" extension; text files must be stored with a ".txt" extension; rich text format files must be stored with a ".rtf" extension; and PDF files must be stored with a ".pdf" extension. Dental OrthoCAD™ files are stored with a ".3dm" extension.

Microsoft Word files (.doc) cannot be uploaded but can be saved and uploaded in Rich Text Format or Text File formats.

In addition, providers can also upload additional supporting clinical documentation via the Portal when:

- Correcting a PA or PA amendment that is in a Returned — Provider Review status.
- Submitting a PA amendment.

If submitting supporting clinical information via mail or fax, providers are prompted to print a system-generated Portal PA Cover Sheet to be sent with the information to ForwardHealth for processing. Providers must list the additional supporting information on the Portal PA Cover Sheet.

ForwardHealth will return PA requests and PA amendments requests when the additional documentation could have been indicated on the PA/RF and PA attachments or the pertinent information is difficult to find.

Suspended Prior Authorization Requests

For PA requests in a suspended status, the provider has the option to:

- Change a PA request status from Suspended to Pending.
- Submit additional documentation for a PA request that is in Suspended or Pending status.

Changing a Prior Authorization Request from Suspended to Pending

The provider has the option of changing a PA request status from "Suspended — Provider Sending Info" to "Pending" if the provider determined that additional information will not be submitted. Changing the status from "Suspended — Provider Sending Info" to "Pending" will allow the PA request to be processed without waiting for additional information to be submitted. The provider can change the status by searching for the suspended PA, checking the box indicating that the PA is ready for processing without additional documentation, and clicking the Submit button to allow the PA to be processed by ForwardHealth. There is an optional free form text box, which allows providers to explain or comment on why the PA can be processed.

Submitting Additional Supporting Clinical Documentation for a Prior Authorization Request in Suspended or Pending Status

There is a "Upload Documents for a PA" link on the PA home page in the provider secured Home Page. By selecting that link, providers have the option of submitting additional supporting clinical documentation for a PA request that is in "Suspended" or "Pending" status. When submitting additional supporting clinical documentation for a PA request that is in "Suspended" status,

providers can choose to have ForwardHealth begin processing the PA request or to keep the PA request suspended. Prior authorization requests in a "Pending" status are processed regardless.

Note: When the PA request is in a pending status and the provider uploads additional supporting clinical documentation, there may be up to a four-hour delay before the documentation is available to ForwardHealth in the system. If the uploaded information was received after the PA request was processed and the PA was returned for missing information, the provider may resubmit the PA request stating that the missing information was already uploaded.

Topic #456

Mail

Any type of PA (prior authorization) request may be submitted on paper. Providers may mail completed PA requests, amendments to PA requests, and requests to enddate a PA request to ForwardHealth at the following address:

ForwardHealth
Prior Authorization
Ste 88
6406 Bridge Rd
Madison WI 53784-0088

Providers are encouraged to retain copies of all PA requests and supporting documentation before submitting them to ForwardHealth.

Topic #457

STAT-PA

Providers can submit STAT-PA (Specialized Transmission Approval Technology-Prior Authorization) requests for a limited number of services (e.g., certain drugs, selected orthopedic shoes, lead inspections for HealthCheck). The STAT-PA system is an automated system accessed by providers by touch-tone telephone that allows them to receive an immediate decision for certain PA (prior authorization) requests.

NPI (National Provider Identifier) and related data are required when using the STAT-PA system.

Providers are encouraged to retain copies of all PA requests and supporting documentation before submitting them to ForwardHealth.

Note: A PA request cannot be submitted through STAT-PA for members enrolled in the BadgerCare Plus Benchmark Plan, the BadgerCare Plus Core Plan, or the BadgerCare Plus Basic Plan. PA requests for members enrolled in the Benchmark Plan, the Core Plan, and the Basic Plan may be submitted online via the ForwardHealth Portal or on paper.

Reimbursement

8

Archive Date:01/03/2012

Reimbursement:Amounts

Topic #258

Acceptance of Payment

The amounts allowed as payment for covered services must be accepted as payment in full. Therefore, total payment for the service (i.e., any amount paid by other health insurance sources, any BadgerCare Plus or Medicaid copayment or spenddown amounts paid by the member, and any amount paid by BadgerCare Plus or Medicaid) may not exceed the allowed amount. As a result, providers may not collect payment from a member, or authorized person acting on behalf of the member, for the difference between their usual and customary charge and the allowed amount for a service (i.e., balance billing).

Other health insurance payments may exceed the allowed amount if no additional payment is received from the member or BadgerCare Plus or Medicaid.

Topic #694

Billing Service and Clearinghouse Contracts

According to DHS 106.03(5)(c)2, Wis. Admin. Code, contracts with outside billing services or clearinghouses may not be based on commission in which compensation for the service is dependent on reimbursement from BadgerCare Plus. This means compensation must be unrelated, directly or indirectly, to the amount of reimbursement or the number of claims and is not dependent upon the actual collection of payment.

Topic #8117

Electronic Funds Transfer

EFT (electronic funds transfer) allows ForwardHealth to directly deposit payments into a provider's designated bank account for a more efficient delivery of payments than the current process of mailing paper checks. EFT is secure, eliminates paper, and reduces the uncertainty of possible delays in mail delivery.

Only in-state and border-status providers who submit claims and MCOs (managed care organizations) are eligible to receive EFT payments.

Provider Exceptions

EFT payments are not available to the following providers:

- In-state emergency providers.
- Out-of-state providers.
- Out-of-country providers.
- SMV (specialized medical vehicle) providers during their provisional certification period.

Enrolling in Electronic Funds Transfer

A ForwardHealth Portal account is required to enroll into EFT as all enrollments must be completed via a secure Provider Portal

account or a secure MCO Portal account. Paper enrollments are not accepted. A separate EFT enrollment is required for each financial payer a provider bills.

Providers who do not have a Portal account may Request Portal Access online. Providers may also call the Portal Helpdesk for assistance in requesting a Portal account.

The following guidelines apply to EFT enrollment:

- Only a Portal Administrator or a clerk that has been assigned the "EFT" role on the Portal may complete the EFT enrollment information.
- Organizations cannot revert back to receiving paper checks once enrolled in EFT.
- Organizations may change their EFT information at any time.
- Organizations will continue to receive their Remittance Advice as they do currently.

Refer to the Electronic Funds Transfer User Guide on the Portal User Guides page of the Portal for instructions and more information about EFT enrollment.

Providers will continue to receive payment via paper check until the enrollment process moves into "Active" status and the provider's ForwardHealth EFT enrollment is considered complete.

Recoupment and Reversals

Enrollment in EFT does not change the current process of recouping funds. Overpayments and recoupment of funds will continue to be conducted through the reduction of payments.

Note: Enrolling in EFT does not authorize ForwardHealth to make unauthorized debits to the provider's EFT account; however, in some instances an EFT reversal of payment may be necessary. For example, if the system generates a payment twice or the amount entered manually consists of an incorrect value (e.g., a decimal point is omitted creating a $50,000 keyed value for a $500 claim), a reversal will take place to correct the error and resend the correct transaction value. ForwardHealth will notify the designated EFT contact person of an EFT reversal if a payment is made in error due to a system processing or manual data entry error.

Problem Resolution

If payment is not deposited into the designated EFT account according to the ForwardHealth payment cycle, providers should first check with their financial institution to confirm the payment was received. If the payment was not received, providers should then call Provider Services to resolve the issue and payment by paper check will be reinstated until the matter has been resolved.

Topic #897

Fee Schedules

Maximum allowable fee information is available on the ForwardHealth Portal in the following forms:

- Interactive fee schedule.
- Downloadable fee schedule in TXT (text) files.

Certain fee schedules are interactive. Interactive fee schedules provide coverage information as well as maximum allowable fees for all reimbursable procedure codes. The downloadable TXT files are free of charge and provide basic maximum allowable fee information for BadgerCare Plus by provider service area.

A provider may request a paper copy of a fee schedule by calling Provider Services.

Providers may call Provider Services in the following cases:

- Internet access is not available.
- There is uncertainty as to which fee schedule should be used.
- The appropriate fee schedule cannot be found on the Portal.
- To determine coverage or maximum allowable fee of procedure codes not appearing on a fee schedule.

Topic #260

Maximum Allowable Fees

Maximum allowable fees are established for most covered services. Maximum allowable fees are based on various factors, including a review of usual and customary charges submitted, the Wisconsin State Legislature's Medicaid budgetary constraints, and other relevant economic limitations. Maximum allowable fees may be adjusted to reflect reimbursement limits or limits on the availability of federal funding as specified in federal law.

Providers are reimbursed at the lesser of their billed amount and the maximum allowable fee for the procedure.

Topic #2024

Home health aide services, home health skilled nursing services, and home health therapy services are reimbursed according to a maximum allowable fee per visit. PDN (private duty nursing) services are reimbursed based on an hourly maximum allowable fee.

Home health agencies are reimbursed only for the specific services for which they are licensed.

Collecting Payment From Members

Topic #4317

Benchmark Plan Service Limitations

Services that exceed a service limitation established under the BadgerCare Plus Benchmark Plan are considered noncovered. Providers are required to follow certain procedures for billing members who receive these services.

Services with Visit Limitations per Enrollment Year

Under the Benchmark Plan, some services are covered until a member reaches a specified number of visits or days of service per enrollment year. These services include:

- Inpatient hospital stays for substance abuse and mental health treatment.
- Home health visits.
- Nursing home stays.
- Routine eye exams.
- Therapy visits (PT (physical therapy), OT (occupational therapy), and SLP (speech and language pathology)).

Note: Hospice services are subject to a lifetime limit under the Benchmark Plan.

Visits and days of service that exceed the service limitations established under the Benchmark Plan are considered noncovered. Services provided during a noncovered visit will not be reimbursed by BadgerCare Plus. Providers are encouraged to inform the member when he or she has reached a service limitation.

If a member requests a service that exceeds the limitation, the member is responsible for payment. Providers should make payment arrangements with the member in advance.

Services with Dollar Amount Limits per Enrollment Year

Under the Benchmark Plan, some services are subject to a specified dollar amount service limitation per member per enrollment year. Any products or services that exceed the dollar amount limit are considered noncovered.

If BadgerCare Plus reimburses any portion of the charges for the service, providers are required to accept the BadgerCare Plus allowed reimbursement, which is the lesser of the provider's usual and customary charges or the maximum allowable fee, as payment in full. If BadgerCare Plus pays a portion of the claim and the claim exceeds the member's dollar amount service limitation, providers can balance bill the member for the difference between the allowed reimbursement and the dollar amount actually paid by BadgerCare Plus.

For example, the Benchmark Plan reimburses up to $2,500.00 for DME (durable medical equipment) per member per enrollment year. Suppose a member has expended $2,200.00 of her DME coverage and requires a new DME item. The BadgerCare Plus-allowed reimbursement for this DME item is $500.00. BadgerCare Plus will reimburse only $300.00 before the member has exhausted his or her coverage. The member is responsible for the additional $200.00. The provider must still accept $500.00 as payment in full because BadgerCare Plus reimbursed a portion of the charges. The provider must not bill the member for more than $200.00.

If a member has already met or exceeded his or her dollar limit, BadgerCare Plus will not reimburse providers for services provided to that member. Providers can bill members up to their usual and customary charges for noncovered services.

Topic #227

Conditions That Must Be Met

A member may request a noncovered service, a covered service for which PA (prior authorization) was denied (or modified), or a service that is not covered under the member's limited benefit category. The charge for the service may be collected from the member if the following conditions are met *prior* to the delivery of that service:

- The member accepts responsibility for payment.
- The provider and member make payment arrangements for the service.

Providers are strongly encouraged to obtain a *written* statement in advance documenting that the member has accepted responsibility for the payment of the service.

Furthermore, the service must be separate or distinct from a related, covered service. For example, a vision provider may provide a member with eyeglasses but then, upon the member's request, provide and charge the member for anti-glare coating, which is a noncovered service. Charging the member is permissible in this situation because the anti-glare coating is a separate service and can be added to the lenses at a later time.

Topic #538

Cost Sharing

According to federal regulations, providers cannot hold a member responsible for any commercial or Medicare cost-sharing amount such as coinsurance, copayment, or deductible. Therefore, a provider may not collect payment from a member, or authorized person acting on behalf of the member, for copayments required by other health insurance sources. Instead, the provider should collect from the member *only* the Medicaid or BadgerCare Plus copayment amount indicated on the member's remittance information.

Topic #224

Situations When Member Payment Is Allowed

Providers may not collect payment from a member, or authorized person acting on behalf of the member, *except* for the following:

- Required member copayments for certain services.
- Commercial insurance payments made to the member.
- Spenddown.
- Charges for a private room in a nursing home or hospital.
- Noncovered services if certain conditions are met.
- Covered services for which PA (prior authorization) was denied (or an originally requested service for which a PA request was modified) if certain conditions are met. These services are treated as noncovered services.
- Services provided to a member in a limited benefit category when the services are not covered under the limited benefit and if certain conditions are met.

If a provider inappropriately collects payment from a member, or authorized person acting on behalf of the member, that provider may be subject to program sanctions including termination of Medicaid certification.

Copayment

Topic #4318

Amounts

Benchmark Plan

The copayment amount for home health services under the BadgerCare Plus Benchmark Plan is $15.00 per visit. A visit is defined as all home health services provided on the same DOS (date of service) by the same rendering provider. A single $15.00 copayment applies regardless of the number or type of procedures administered during the visit.

Core Plan

Home health services for Core Plan members do not have copayment.

Topic #4319

Exemptions

Certain BadgerCare Plus Benchmark Plan members are exempt from copayment requirements, including the following:

- Members under 18 years old who are members of a federally recognized tribe.
- Pregnant women.

The following services do not require copayment under the Benchmark Plan:

- Family planning services.
- Preventive services, including HealthCheck screenings.

Topic #233

Limitations

Providers should verify that they are collecting the correct copayment for services as some services have monthly or annual copayment limits. Providers may not collect member copayments in amounts that exceed copayment limits.

Resetting Copayment Limitations

Copayment amounts paid by a member enrolled in the BadgerCare Plus Benchmark Plan and the BadgerCare Plus Core Plan within their continuous 12-month enrollment year will reset in the following situations:

- A fee-for-service member is enrolled in an HMO (health maintenance organization).
- A member switches from one HMO to another HMO (only allowable within the first 90 days of Core Plan enrollment).
- A member is disenrolled from an HMO and moves to fee-for-service.

Note: When a member goes from fee-for-service into an HMO and subsequently moves back to fee-for-service, copayments will not be reset for the services that were received under the initial fee-for-service enrollment period.

Resetting copayment limitations does not change a member's Benchmark Plan enrollment year or a member's Core Plan enrollment year.

Topic #2023

Prohibited

Home health service providers are prohibited from collecting copayment from BadgerCare Plus Standard Plan and Medicaid members for home health services, PDN (private duty nursing) services provided to members under age 18, and personal care services.

Topic #237

Refund/Collection

If a provider collects a copayment before providing a service and BadgerCare Plus does not reimburse the provider for any part of the service, the provider is required to return or credit the entire copayment amount to the member.

If BadgerCare Plus deducts less copayment than the member paid, the provider is required to return or credit the remainder to the member. If BadgerCare Plus deducts more copayment than the member paid, the provider may collect the remaining amount from the member.

Topic #239

Requirements

Federal law permits states to charge members a copayment for certain covered services. Providers are required to request copayments from members. Providers may not deny services to a Wisconsin Medicaid or BadgerCare Plus Standard Plan member who fails to make a copayment; however, providers may deny services to a BadgerCare Plus Benchmark Plan member, BadgerCare Plus Core Plan member, or BadgerCare Plus Basic Plan member who fails to make a copayment.

Chapter 49.45(18), Wis. Stats., requires providers to make a reasonable attempt to collect copayment from the member unless the provider determines that the cost of collecting the copayment exceeds the amount to be collected.

Payer of Last Resort

Topic #242

Instances When Medicaid Is Not Payer of Last Resort

Wisconsin Medicaid or BadgerCare Plus are *not* the payer of last resort for members who receive coverage from certain governmental programs, such as:

- Birth to 3.
- Crime Victim Compensation Fund.
- GA (General Assistance).
- HCBS (Home and Community-Based Services) waiver programs.
- IDEA (Individuals with Disabilities Education Act).
- Indian Health Service.
- Maternal and Child Health Services.
- WCDP (Wisconsin Chronic Disease Program).
    - Adult Cystic Fibrosis.
    - Chronic Renal Disease.
    - Hemophilia Home Care.

Providers should ask members if they have coverage from these other governmental programs.

If the member becomes retroactively enrolled in Wisconsin Medicaid or BadgerCare Plus, providers who have already been reimbursed by one of these government programs may be required to submit the claims to ForwardHealth and refund the payment from the government program.

Topic #251

Other Health Insurance Sources

BadgerCare Plus reimburses only that portion of the allowed cost remaining after a member's other health insurance sources have been exhausted. Other health insurance sources include the following:

- Commercial fee-for-service plans.
- Commercial managed care plans.
- Medicare supplements (e.g., Medigap).
- Medicare.
- Medicare Advantage.
- TriCare.
- CHAMPVA (Civilian Health and Medical Plan of the Veterans Administration).
- Other governmental benefits.

Topic #253

Payer of Last Resort

Except for a few instances, Wisconsin Medicaid or BadgerCare Plus are the payer of last resort for any covered services. Therefore, the provider is required to make a reasonable effort to exhaust all existing other health insurance sources before submitting claims to ForwardHealth or to a state-contracted MCO (managed care organization).

Topic #255

Primary and Secondary Payers

The terms "primary payer" and "secondary payer" indicate the relative order in which insurance sources are responsible for paying claims.

In general, commercial health insurance is primary to Medicare, and Medicare is primary to Wisconsin Medicaid and BadgerCare Plus. Therefore, Wisconsin Medicaid and BadgerCare Plus are secondary to Medicare, and Medicare is secondary to commercial health insurance.

Reimbursement Not Available

Topic #2022

Reimbursement Not Available

Wisconsin Medicaid may deny or recoup payment for covered services that fail to meet program requirements. Reimbursement is also not available for noncovered services.

Home health agencies may not receive Medicaid reimbursement for the services stated in DHS 107.11(5), Wis. Admin. Code. These services include, but are not limited to the following:

- Services that are not medically necessary as defined in DHS 101.03(96m), Wis. Admin. Code, including, but not limited to, services that are:
  - Duplicative with respect to other services provided.
  - Provided solely for the convenience of the member, member's family, or a provider.
  - Not cost-effective compared to an alternative medically necessary service that is reasonably accessible to the member.
- Any services that do not make effective and appropriate use of available services.
- More than one initial visit per day by a home health skilled nurse, home health aide, physical or occupational therapist, or speech and language pathologist.
- Services requiring PA (prior authorization) that are provided without PA.
- Supervision of the member when supervision is the only service provided at the time. This includes supervision provided to give the primary caregiver a respite from care.
- Hospice care provided under DHS 107.31, Wis. Admin. Code.
- Mental health and substance abuse services provided under DHS 107.13(2), (3), (3m), (4), and (6), Wis. Admin. Code.
- Medication administration by a PCW (personal care worker) or a home health aide that has not been delegated by an RN (Registered Nurse) according to the relevant provisions of DHS 133, Wis. Admin. Code.
- Home health skilled nursing services contracted by a home health agency unless the requirements of DHS 133.19, Wis. Admin. Code, are met and approved.
- Home health services to a member who is eligible for covered services under the Medicare program or any other insurance held by the member.
- Parenting.
- Services to other members of the member's household.
- Services provided to a member by legally responsible relatives in accordance with ch. 49.90, Wis. Stats.
- Skilled nursing visits solely for the purpose of ensuring that a member who has a demonstrated history of noncompliance over 30 days complies with the medications program, as required by DHS 107.11(5)(L)1, Wis. Admin. Code.
- A skilled nursing visit to ensure compliance with the medication regimen of an adult member who has a demonstrated history of non-compliance over 30 days.
- Medication administration to a minor child unless the parents are unable to administer the medication.
- A skilled nursing visit to administer medication to an adult member who is capable, but chooses not to, self-administer the medication. A member is considered "capable" if the member has no physicial or mental condition that would prevent the member from self-administering the medication.
- Activities for the general welfare of a member, e.g., general exercises to promote overall fitness or flexibility and activities to provide diversion or general motivation do not constitute skilled therapy.
- Therapy that requires only the use of equipment without the skills of a therapy provider is not covered.
- Group therapy.

Topic #695

Reimbursement Not Available Through a Factor

BadgerCare Plus will not reimburse providers through a factor, either directly or by virtue of a power of attorney given to the factor by the provider. A factor is an organization (e.g., a collection agency) or person who advances money to a provider for the purchase or transferal of the provider's accounts receivable. The term "factor" does not include business representatives, such as billing services, clearinghouses, or accounting firms, which render statements and receive payments in the name of the provider.

Topic #51

Services Not Separately Reimbursable

If reimbursement for a service is included in the reimbursement for the primary procedure or service, it is not separately reimbursable. For example, routine venipuncture is not separately reimbursable, but it is included in the reimbursement for the laboratory procedure or the laboratory test preparation and handling fee. Also, DME (durable medical equipment) delivery charges are included in the reimbursement for DME items.

Resources

9

Archive Date:01/03/2012

Resources:Contact Information

Topic #476

Member Services

Providers should refer ForwardHealth members with questions to Member Services. The telephone number for Member Services is for member use only.

Topic #473

Provider Relations Representatives

The Provider Relations representatives, also known as field representatives, conduct training sessions on various ForwardHealth topics for both large and small groups of providers and billers. In addition to provider education, field representatives are available to assist providers with complex billing and claims processing questions. Field representatives are located throughout the state to offer detailed assistance to all ForwardHealth providers and all ForwardHealth programs.

Field Representative Specialization

The field representatives are assigned to specific regions of the state. In addition, the field representatives have specialized in a group of provider types. This specialization allows the field representatives to most efficiently and effectively address provider inquiries. To better direct inquiries, providers should contact the field representative in their region who specializes in their provider type.

Provider Education

The field representatives' primary focus is provider education. They provide information on ForwardHealth programs and topics in the following ways:

- Conducting provider training sessions throughout the state.
- Providing training and information for newly certified providers and/or new staff.
- Participating in professional association meetings.

Providers may also contact the field representatives if there is a specific topic, or topics, on which they would like to have an individualized training session. This could include topics such as use of the Portal (information about claims, enrollment verification, and PA (prior authorization) requests on the Portal). Refer to the Providers Trainings page for the latest information on training opportunities.

Additional Inquiries

Providers are encouraged to initially obtain information through the ForwardHealth Portal, WiCall, and Provider Services. If these attempts are not successful, field representatives may be contacted for the following types of inquiries:

- Claims, including discrepancies regarding enrollment verification and claim processing.
- PES (Provider Electronic Solutions) claims submission software.
- Claims processing problems that have not been resolved through other channels (e.g., telephone or written

correspondence).
- Referrals by a Provider Services telephone correspondent.
- Complex issues that require extensive explanation.

Field representatives primarily work outside their offices to provide on-site service; therefore, providers should be prepared to leave a complete message when contacting field representatives, including all pertinent information related to the inquiry. Member inquiries should not be directed to field representatives. Providers should refer members to Member Services.

If contacting a field representative by e-mail, providers should ensure that no individually identifiable health information, known as PHI (protected health information), is included in the message. PHI can include things such as the member's name combined with his/her identification number or SSN (Social Security number).

Information to Have Ready

Providers or their representatives should have the following information ready when they call:

- Name or alternate contact.
- County and city where services are provided.
- Name of facility or provider whom they are representing.
- NPI (National Provider Identifier) or provider number.
- Telephone number, including area code.
- A concise statement outlining concern.
- Days and times when available.

For questions about a specific claim, providers should also include the following information:

- Member's name.
- Member identification number.
- Claim number.
- DOS (date of service).

Topic #474

Provider Services

Providers should call Provider Services to answer enrollment, policy, and billing questions. Members should call Member Services for information. Members should *not* be referred to Provider Services.

The Provider Services Call Center provides service-specific assistance to Medicaid, BadgerCare Plus, WCDP (Wisconsin Chronic Disease Program), and WWWP (Wisconsin Well Woman Program) providers.

Ways Provider Services Can Help

The Provider Services Call Center is organized to include program-specific and service-specific assistance to providers. The Provider Services call center supplements the ForwardHealth Portal and WiCall by providing information on the following:

- Billing and claim submissions.
- Certification.
- COB (coordination of benefits) (e.g., verifying a member's other health insurance coverage).
- Assistance with completing forms.
- Assistance with remittance information and claim denials.
- Policy clarification.

- PA (prior authorization) status.
- Verifying covered services.

Information to Have Ready

When contacting or transferring from WiCall to the call center, callers will be prompted to enter their NPI (National Provider Identifier) or provider ID. Additionally, to facilitate service, providers are recommended to have all pertinent information related to their inquiry on hand when contacting the call center, including:

- Provider name and NPI or provider ID.
- Member name and member identification number.
- Claim number.
- PA number.
- DOS (dates of service).
- Amount billed.
- RA (Remittance Advice).
- Procedure code of the service in question.
- Reference to any provider publications that address the inquiry.

Call Center Correspondent Team

The ForwardHealth call center correspondents are organized to respond to telephone calls from providers. Correspondents offer assistance and answer inquiries specific to the program (i.e., Medicaid, WCDP, or WWWP) or to the service area (i.e., pharmacy services, hospital services) in which they are designated.

Call Center Menu Options and Inquiries

Providers contacting Provider Services are prompted to select from the following menu options:

- WCDP and WWWP (for inquiries from all providers regarding WCDP or WWWP).
- Dental (for all inquiries regarding dental services).
- Medicaid or SeniorCare Pharmacy (for pharmacy providers) or STAT-PA (Specialized Transmission Approval Technology-Prior Authorization) for STAT-PA inquiries, including inquiries from pharmacies, DME (durable medical equipment) providers for orthopedic shoes, and HealthCheck providers for environmental lead inspections.
- Medicaid and BadgerCare Plus institutional services (for inquiries from providers who provide hospital, nursing home, home health, personal care, ESRD (end-stage renal disease), and hospice services or NIP (nurses in independent practice)).
- Medicaid and BadgerCare Plus professional services (for inquiries from all other providers not mentioned in the previous menu prompts).

Walk-in Appointments

Walk-in appointments offer face-to-face assistance for providers at the Provider Services office. Providers are encouraged to contact the Provider Services Call Center to schedule a walk-in appointment.

Written Inquiries

Providers may contact Provider Services through the Portal by selecting the "Contact Us" link. Provider Services will respond to the inquiry by the preferred method of response indicated within five business days. All information is transmitted via a secure connection to protect personal health information.

Providers may submit written inquiries to ForwardHealth by mail using the Written Correspondence Inquiry (F-1170 (07/09)) form. The Written Correspondence Inquiry form may be photocopied or downloaded via a link from the Portal. Written correspondence should be sent to the following address:

ForwardHealth
Provider Services Written Correspondence
6406 Bridge Rd
Madison WI 53784-0005

Providers are encouraged to use the other resources before mailing a written request to ForwardHealth. Provider Services will respond to written inquiries in writing unless otherwise specified.

Topic #475

Provider Suggestions

The DHCAA (Division of Health Care Access and Accountability) is interested in improving its program for providers and members. Providers who would like to suggest a revision of any policy or procedure stated in provider publications or who wish to suggest new policies are encouraged to submit recommendations on the Provider Suggestion (F-1016 (02/09)) form.

Topic #4456

Resources Reference Guide

The Provider Services and Resources Reference Guide lists services and resources available to providers and members with contact information and hours of availability.

Provider Services and Resources

Services and resources, contact information, and hours of availability are effective after ForwardHealth implementation, unless otherwise noted.

ForwardHealth Portal	***www.forwardhealth.wi.gov/***	**24 hours a day, seven days a week**
Public and secure access to ForwardHealth information with direct link to contact Provider Services for up-to-date access to ForwardHealth programs information, including publications, fee schedules, and forms.		
WiCall Automated Voice Response System	**(800) 947-3544**	**24 hours a day, seven days a week**
WiCall, the ForwardHealth Automated Voice Response system, provides responses to the following inquiries: • Checkwrite. • Claim status. • Prior authorization. • Member enrollment.		
ForwardHealth Provider Services Call Center	**(800) 947-9627**	**Monday through Friday, 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. (Central Time)***
To assist providers in the following programs: • BadgerCare Plus. • Medicaid. • SeniorCare. • Wisconsin Well Woman Medicaid. • Wisconsin Chronic Disease Program (WCDP). • Wisconsin Well Woman Program (WWWP). • Wisconsin Medicaid and BadgerCare Plus Managed Care Programs.		
ForwardHealth Portal Helpdesk	**(866) 908-1363**	**Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. (Central Time)***
To assist providers and trading partners with technical questions regarding Portal functions and capabilities, including Portal accounts, registrations, passwords, and submissions through the Portal.		
Electronic Data Interchange Helpdesk	**(866) 416-4979**	**Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. (Central Time)***
For providers, trading partners, billing services, and clearing houses with technical questions about the following: • Electronic transactions. • Companion documents. • Provider Electronic Solutions (PES) software.		
Managed Care Ombudsman Program	**(800) 760-0001**	**Monday through Friday, 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. (Central Time)***
To assist managed care enrollees with questions about enrollment, rights, responsibilities, and general managed care information.		
Member Services	**(800) 362-3002**	**Monday through Friday, 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. (Central Time)***
To assist ForwardHealth members or persons calling on behalf of members with program information and requirements, enrollment, finding certified providers, and resolving concerns.		

* With the exception of state-observed holidays.

Electronic Data Interchange

Topic #11907

5010 Companion Guides and NCPDP Version D.0 Payer Sheet

The HIPAA (Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996) ASC (Accredited Standards Committee) X12 version 5010 companion guides and the NCPDP (National Council for Prescription Drug Programs) version D.0 payer sheet are available for download on the HIPAA Version 5010 Companion Guides and NCPDP Version D.0 Payer Sheet page of the ForwardHealth Portal for the following transactions:

- 270/271 Health Care Eligibility/Benefit Inquiry and Information Response.
- 276/277 Health Care Claim Status Request and Response.
- 278 Health Care Services Review — Request for Review and Response.
- 835 Health Care Claim Payment/Advice.
- 837 Health Care Claim: Professional.
- 837 Health Care Claim: Institutional.
- 837 Health Care Claim: Dental.
- 999 Functional Acknowledgment. (*Note:* The 999 replaced the 997 Functional Acknowledgment.)
- TA1 Interchange Acknowledgment.
- NCPDP version D.0.

The 5010 companion guides and the payer sheet completely replace the companion documents used for version 4010 and NCPDP version 5.1. The first issuance of the new companion guides does not include the summary of changes known as the "revision log." The first issuance of the payer sheet does not list revisions in Appendix A. Subsequent revisions to companion guides and the payer sheet will be documented.

The companion guides and the payer sheet provide ForwardHealth-specific information that should be used with the national HIPAA Implementation Guides. Implementation Guides define the national data standards, electronic format, and values required for each data element within an electronic transaction.

To request paper copies of the companion guides or the payer sheet, providers may contact Provider Services.

Compliance Testing

Each HIPAA-covered entity (i.e., provider, payer, clearinghouse, or other vendor) is responsible for ensuring its own compliance with versions 5010 and D.0 transaction requirements. Providers who contract with billing services, clearinghouses, or other vendors are responsible for ensuring the services provided by their contractors are compliant with HIPAA and ForwardHealth requirements.

After completing internal testing, covered entities are required to complete compliance testing with ForwardHealth to ensure that they are able to submit and receive versions 5010 and D.0 transactions and have identified and resolved all issues prior to the January 1, 2012, implementation date.

Version 5010

Prior to submitting version 5010-compliant electronic transactions to the ForwardHealth production environment, trading partners

are required to:

- Update their Trading Partner Profile on the Portal and agree to the revised Trading Partner Agreement.
- Complete compliance testing procedures as outlined in their 5010 Standard Testing Packet, found on the HIPAA Version 5010 and NCPDP Version D.0 Electronic Transaction Standards page of the Portal.

Trading partners may currently conduct compliance testing, except for the 278 (278 Health Care Services Review — Request for Review and Response) transaction, a new standard electronic format for health care service PA (prior authorization) requests. Trading partners may start compliance testing for the 278 transaction on January 1, 2012. After receiving an "accepted" 999 Functional Acknowledgement for a test 278 transaction, trading partners are required to call the EDI (Electronic Data Interchange) Helpdesk to request the production 278 transaction set be assigned to them.

Trading partners cannot submit the 278 transaction through PES (Provider Electronic Solutions). In order to submit the 278 transaction, trading partners will need to use their own software or contract with a software vendor.

Version D.0

Providers may work with their VAN (Value Added Network) to complete any testing for version D.0 transactions; there will not be any direct testing between providers and ForwardHealth. Providers should contact their VAN or switch vendor for information or questions they may have regarding version D.0 preparedness.

Topic #459

Companion Guides and NCPDP Version D.0 Payer Sheet

Companion guides and the NCPDP (National Council for Prescription Drug Programs) version D.0 payer sheet are available for download on the ForwardHealth Portal.

Purpose of Companion Documents

ForwardHealth companion guides and payer sheet provide trading partners with useful technical information on ForwardHealth's standards for nationally recognized electronic transactions.

The information in companion guides and payer sheet applies to BadgerCare Plus, Medicaid, SeniorCare, WCDP (Wisconsin Chronic Disease Program), and WWWP (Wisconsin Well Woman Program). Companion guides and payer sheet are intended for information technology and systems staff who code billing systems or software.

The companion guides and payer sheet complement the federal HIPAA Implementation Guides and highlight information that trading partners need to successfully exchange electronic transactions with ForwardHealth, including general topics such as the following:

- Methods of exchanging electronic information (e.g., exchange interfaces, transaction administration, and data preparation).
- Instructions for constructing the technical component of submitting or receiving electronic transactions (e.g., claims, RA (Remittance Advice), and enrollment inquiries).

Companion guides and payer sheet do *not* include program requirements, but help those who create the electronic formats for electronic data exchange.

Companion guides and payer sheet cover the following specific subjects:

- Getting started (e.g., identification information, testing, and exchange preparation).
- Transaction administration (e.g., tracking claims submissions, contacting the EDI (Electronic Data Interchange) Helpdesk.

- Transaction formats.

Revisions to Companion Guides and Payer Sheet

Companion guides and payer sheet may be updated as a result of changes to federal requirements. When this occurs, ForwardHealth will do the following:

- Post the revised companion guides and payer sheet on the ForwardHealth Portal.
- Post a message on the banner page of the RA.
- Send an e-mail to trading partners.

Trading partners are encouraged to periodically check for revised companion guides and payer sheet on the Portal. If trading partners do not follow the revisions identified in the companion guides or payer sheet, transactions may not process successfully (e.g., claims may deny or process incorrectly).

A revision log located at the end of the revised companion guide lists the changes that have been made. The date on the companion guide reflects the date the revised companion guide was posted to the Portal. In addition, the version number located in the footer of the first page is changed with each revision.

Revisions to the payer sheet are listed in Appendix A. The date on the payer sheet reflects the date the revised payer sheet was posted to the Portal.

Topic #460

Data Exchange Methods

The following data exchange methods are supported by the EDI (Electronic Data Interchange) Helpdesk:

- Remote access server dial-up, using a personal computer with a modem, browser, and encryption software.
- Secure Web, using an Internet Service Provider and a personal computer with a modem, browser, and encryption software.
- Real-time, by which trading partners exchange the NCPDP (National Council for Prescription Drug Programs) D.0, 270/271 (270/271 Health Care Eligibility/Benefit Inquiry and Information Response), 276/277 (276/277 Health Care Claim Status Request and Response), or 278 (278 Health Care Services Review — Request for Review and Response) transactions via an approved clearinghouse.

The EDI Helpdesk supports the exchange of the transactions for BadgerCare Plus, Medicaid, SeniorCare, WCDP (Wisconsin Chronic Disease Program), and WWWP (Wisconsin Well Woman Program).

Topic #461

Electronic Data Interchange Helpdesk

The EDI (Electronic Data Interchange) Helpdesk assists anyone interested in becoming a trading partner with getting started and provides ongoing support pertaining to electronic transactions. Providers, billing services, and clearinghouses are encouraged to contact the EDI Helpdesk for test packets and/or technical questions.

Providers with policy questions should call Provider Services.

Topic #462

Electronic Transactions

HIPAA (Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996) ASC (Accredited Standards Committee) X12 version 5010 companion guides and the NCPDP (National Council for Prescription Drug Programs) version D.0 payer sheet are available for download on the HIPAA Version 5010 Companion Guides and NCPDP Version D.0 Payer Sheet page of the ForwardHealth Portal. The 5010 companion guides replaced the companion documents used for version 4010 and the D.0 payer sheet replaced the companion document for NCPDP version 5.1.

Trading partners may submit claims and adjustment requests, inquire about member enrollment, claim status, and ForwardHealth payment advice by exchanging electronic transactions.

Through the EDI (Electronic Data Interchange) Helpdesk, trading partners may exchange the following electronic transactions:

- 270/271 (270/271 Health Care Eligibility/Benefit Inquiry and Information Response). The 270 is the electronic transaction for inquiring about a member's enrollment. The 271 is received in response to the inquiry.
- 276/277 (276/277 Health Care Claim Status Request and Response). The 276 is the electronic transaction for checking claim status. The 277 is received in response.
- 278 (278 Health Care Services Review - Request for Review and Response). The electronic transaction for health care service PA (prior authorization) requests.
- 835 (835 Health Care Claim Payment/Advice). The electronic transaction for receiving remittance information.
- 837 (837 Health Care Claim). The electronic transaction for submitting claims and adjustment requests.
- 999 (999 Functional Acknowledgment). The electronic transaction for reporting whether a transaction is accepted or rejected.
- TA1 InterChange Acknowledgment. The electronic transaction for reporting a transaction that is rejected for interChange-level errors.
- NCPDP D.0 Telecommunication Standard for Retail Pharmacy Claims. The real-time POS (Point-of-Sale) electronic transaction for submitting pharmacy claims.

Topic #463

Provider Electronic Solutions Software

ForwardHealth offers electronic billing software at no cost to providers. PES (Provider Electronic Solutions) software allows providers to submit 837 (837 Health Care Claim) transactions and download the 999 (999 Functional Acknowledgment) and the 835 (835 Health Care Claim Payment/Advice) transactions. To obtain PES software, providers may download it from the ForwardHealth Portal. For assistance installing and using PES software, providers may call the EDI (Electronic Data Interchange) Helpdesk.

Topic #464

Trading Partner Profile

A Trading Partner Profile must be completed and signed for each billing provider number that will be used to exchange electronic transactions.

In addition, billing providers who do not use a third party to exchange electronic transactions, billing services, and clearinghouses are required to complete a Trading Partner Profile.

To determine whether a Trading Partner Profile is required, providers should refer to the following:

- Billing providers who do not use a third party to exchange electronic transactions, including providers who use the PES (Provider Electronic Solutions) software, are required to complete the Trading Partner Profile.
- Billing providers who use a third party (billing services and clearinghouses) to exchange electronic transactions are required to submit a Trading Partner Profile.
- Billing services and clearinghouses, including those that use PES software, that are authorized by providers to exchange electronic transactions on a provider's behalf, are required to submit a Trading Partner Profile.

Providers who change billing services and clearinghouses or become a trading partner should keep their information updated by contacting the EDI (Electronic Data Interchange) Helpdesk.

Topic #465

Trading Partners

ForwardHealth exchanges nationally recognized electronic transactions with trading partners. A "trading partner" is defined as a covered entity that exchanges electronic health care transactions. The following covered entities are considered trading partners:

- Providers who exchange electronic transactions directly with ForwardHealth.
- Billing services and clearinghouses that exchange electronic transactions directly with ForwardHealth on behalf of a billing provider.

Enrollment Verification

Topic #256

270/271 Transactions

The 270/271 (270/271 Health Care Eligibility/Benefit Inquiry and Information Response) transactions allow for batch enrollment verification, including information for the current benefit month or for any date of eligibility the member has on file, through a secure Internet connection. The 270 is the electronic transaction for inquiring about a member's enrollment. The 271 is received in response to the inquiry.

For those providers who are federally required to have an NPI (National Provider Identifier), an NPI is required on the 270/271 transactions. The NPI indicated on the 270 is verified to ensure it is associated with a valid certification on file with ForwardHealth. The 271 response will report the NPI that was indicated on the 270.

For those providers exempt from NPI, a provider ID is required on the 270/271 transactions. The provider ID indicated on the 270 is verified to ensure it is associated with a valid certification on file with ForwardHealth. The 271 response will report the provider ID that was indicated on the 270.

Topic #469

An Overview

Providers should always verify a member's enrollment before providing services, both to determine enrollment for the current date (since a member's enrollment status may change) and to discover any limitations to the member's coverage. Each enrollment verification method allows providers to verify the following prior to services being rendered:

- A member's enrollment in a ForwardHealth program(s).
- State-contracted MCO (managed care organization) enrollment.
- Medicare enrollment.
- Limited benefits categories.
- Any other commercial health insurance coverage.
- Exemption from copayments for BadgerCare Plus members.

Topic #259

Commercial Enrollment Verification Vendors

ForwardHealth has agreements with several commercial enrollment verification vendors to offer enrollment verification technology to ForwardHealth providers. Commercial enrollment verification vendors have up-to-date access to the ForwardHealth enrollment files to ensure that providers have access to the most current enrollment information. Providers may access Wisconsin's EVS (Enrollment Verification System) to verify member enrollment through one or more of the following methods available from commercial enrollment verification vendors:

- Magnetic stripe card readers.
- Personal computer software.
- Internet.

Vendors sell magnetic stripe card readers, personal computer software, Internet access, and other services. They also provide ongoing maintenance, operations, and upgrades of their systems. Providers are responsible for the costs of using these enrollment verification methods.

Note: Providers are *not* required to purchase services from a commercial enrollment verification vendor. For more information on other ways to verify member enrollment or for questions about ForwardHealth identification cards, contact Provider Services.

The real-time enrollment verification methods allow providers to print a paper copy of the member's enrollment information, including a transaction number, for their records. Providers should retain this number or the printout as proof that an inquiry was made.

Magnetic Stripe Card Readers

The magnetic stripe card readers resemble credit card readers. Some ForwardHealth identification cards have a magnetic stripe and signature panel on the back, and a unique, 16-digit card number on the front. The 16-digit card number is valid only for use with a magnetic card reader.

Providers receive current member enrollment information after passing the ForwardHealth card through the reader or entering the member identification number or card number into a keypad and entering the DOS (date of service) about which they are inquiring.

Personal Computer Software

Personal computer software can be integrated into a provider's current computer system by using a modem and can access the same information as the magnetic stripe card readers.

Internet Access

Some enrollment verification vendors provide real-time access to enrollment from the EVS through the Internet.

Topic #4903

Copayment Information

If a member is enrolled in BadgerCare Plus or Wisconsin Medicaid and is exempt from paying copayments for services, providers will receive the following response to an enrollment query from all methods of enrollment verification:

- The name of the benefit plan.
- The member's enrollment dates.
- The message, "No Copay."

If a member is enrolled in BadgerCare Plus, Medicaid, or SeniorCare and is required to pay a copayment, the provider will be given the name of the benefit plan in which the member is enrolled and the member's enrollment dates for the benefit plan only.

Note: The BadgerCare Plus Core Plan may also charge different copayments for hospital services depending on the member's income level. Members identified as "BadgerCare Plus Core Plan 1" are subject to lower copayments for hospital services. Members identified as "BadgerCare Plus Core Plan 2" are subject to higher copayments for hospital services.

Topic #264

Enrollment Verification System

Member enrollment issues are the primary reason claims are denied. To reduce claim denials, providers should *always* verify a member's enrollment before providing services, both to determine enrollment for the current date (since a member's enrollment status may change) and to discover any limitations to the member's coverage. Providers may want to verify the member's enrollment a second time before submitting a claim to find out whether the member's enrollment information has changed since the appointment.

Providers can access Wisconsin's EVS (Enrollment Verification System) to receive the most current enrollment information through the following methods:

- ForwardHealth Portal.
- WiCall, Wisconsin's AVR (Automated Voice Response) system.
- Commercial enrollment verification vendors.
- 270/271 (270/271 Health Care Eligibility/Benefit Inquiry and Response) transactions.
- Provider Services.

Providers cannot charge a member, or authorized person acting on behalf of the member, for verifying his or her enrollment.

The EVS does not indicate other government programs that are secondary to Wisconsin Medicaid.

Topic #4901

Enrollment Verification on the Portal

The secure ForwardHealth Portal offers real-time member enrollment verification for all ForwardHealth programs. Providers will be able to use this tool to determine:

- The benefit plan(s) in which the member is enrolled.
- If the member is enrolled in a state-contracted managed care program (for Medicaid and BadgerCare Plus members).
- If the member has any other coverage, such as Medicare or commercial health insurance.
- If the member is exempted from copayments (BadgerCare Plus members only).

To access enrollment verification via the ForwardHealth Portal, providers will need to do the following:

- Go to the ForwardHealth Portal.
- Establish a provider account.
- Log into the secure Portal.
- Click on the menu item for enrollment verification.

Providers will receive a unique transaction number for each enrollment verification inquiry. Providers may access a history of their enrollment inquiries using the Portal, which will list the date the inquiry was made and the enrollment information that was given on the date that the inquiry was made. For a more permanent record of inquiries, providers are advised to use the "print screen" function to save a paper copy of enrollment verification inquiries for their records or document the transaction number at the beginning of the response, for tracking or research purposes. This feature allows providers to access enrollment verification history when researching claim denials due to enrollment issues.

The Provider Portal is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Topic #4900

Entering Dates of Service

Enrollment information is provided based on a "From" DOS (date of service) and a "To" DOS that the provider enters when making the enrollment inquiry. For enrollment inquires, a "From" DOS is the earliest date for which the provider is requesting enrollment information and the "To" DOS is the latest date for which the provider is requesting enrollment information.

Providers should use the following guidelines for entering DOS when verifying enrollment for Wisconsin Medicaid, BadgerCare Plus, SeniorCare, or WCDP (Wisconsin Chronic Disease Program) members:

- The "From" DOS is the earliest date the provider requires enrollment information.
- The "To" DOS must be within 365 days of the "From" DOS.
- If the date of the request is prior to the 20th of the current month, then providers may enter a "From" DOS and "To" DOS up to the end of the current calendar month.
- If the date of the request is on or after the 20th of the current month, then providers may enter a "From" DOS and "To" DOS up to the end of the following calendar month.

For example, if the date of the request was November 15, 2008, the provider could request dates up to and including November 30, 2008. If the date of the request was November 25, 2008, the provider could request dates up to and including December 31, 2008.

Topic #265

Member Forgets ForwardHealth Identification Card

Even if a member does not present a ForwardHealth identification card, a provider can use Wisconsin's EVS (Enrollment Verification System) to verify enrollment; otherwise, the provider may choose not to provide the service(s) until a member brings in a ForwardHealth card.

A provider may use a combination of the member's name, date of birth, ForwardHealth identification number, or SSN (Social Security number) with a "0" at the end to access enrollment information through the EVS.

A provider may call Provider Services with the member's full name and date of birth to obtain the member's enrollment information if the member's identification number or SSN is not known.

Topic #4899

Member Identification Card Does Not Guarantee Enrollment

Most members receive a member identification card, but possession of a program identification card does not guarantee enrollment. Periodically, members may become ineligible for enrollment, only to re-enroll at a later date. Members are told to keep their cards even though they may have gaps in enrollment periods. It is possible that a member will present a card when he or she is not enrolled; therefore, it is essential that providers verify enrollment before providing services. To reduce claim denials, it is important that providers verify the following information prior to each DOS (date of service) that services are provided:

- If a member is enrolled in any ForwardHealth program, including benefit plan limitations.
- If a member is enrolled in a managed care organization.
- If a member is in primary provider lock-in status.
- If a member has Medicare or other insurance coverage.

Topic #4898

Responses Are Based on Financial Payer

When making an enrollment inquiry through Wisconsin's EVS (Enrollment Verification System), the returned response will provide information on the member's enrollment in benefit plans based on financial payers.

There are three financial payers under ForwardHealth:

- Medicaid (Medicaid is the financial payer for Wisconsin Medicaid, BadgerCare Plus, and SeniorCare).
- WCDP (Wisconsin Chronic Disease Program).
- WWWP (Wisconsin Well Woman Program).

Within each financial payer are benefit plans. Each member is enrolled under at least one of the three financial payers, and under each financial payer, is enrolled in at least one benefit plan. An individual member may be enrolled under more than one financial payer. (For instance, a member with chronic renal disease may have health care coverage under the BadgerCare Plus Standard Plan and the WCDP chronic renal disease program. The member is enrolled under two financial payers, Medicaid and WCDP.) Alternatively, a member may have multiple benefits under a single financial payer. (For example, a member may be covered by the TB-Only (Tuberculosis-Related Services Only) Benefit and Family Planning Only Services at the same time, both of which are administered by Medicaid.)

Forms

Topic #767

An Overview

ForwardHealth requires providers to use a variety of forms for PA (prior authorization), claims processing, and documenting special circumstances.

Topic #470

Fillable Forms

Most forms may be obtained from the Forms page of the ForwardHealth Portal.

Forms on the Portal are available as fillable PDF (Portable Document Format) files, which can be viewed with Adobe Reader® computer software. Providers may also complete and print fillable PDF files using Adobe Reader®.

To complete a fillable PDF, follow these steps:

- Select a specific form.
- Save the form to the computer.
- Use the "Tab" key to move from field to field.

Note: The Portal provides instructions on how to obtain Adobe Reader® at no charge from the Adobe® Web site. Adobe Reader® only allows providers to view and print completed PDFs. It does not allow users to save completed fillable PDFs to their computer; however, if Adobe Acrobat® is purchased, providers may save completed PDFs to their computer. Refer to the Adobe® Web site for more information about fillable PDFs.

Selected forms are also available in fillable Microsoft® Word format on the Portal. The fillable Microsoft® Word format allows providers to complete and print the form using Microsoft® Word. To complete a fillable Microsoft® Word form, follow these steps:

- Select a specific form.
- Save the form to the computer.
- Use the "Tab" key to move from field to field.

Note: Providers may save fillable Microsoft® Word documents to their computer by choosing "Save As" from the "File" menu, creating a file name, and selecting "Save" on their desktop.

Topic #766

Telephone or Mail Requests

Providers who do not have Internet access or who need forms that are not available on the ForwardHealth Portal may obtain them by doing either of the following:

- Requesting a paper copy of the form by calling Provider Services. Questions about forms may also be directed to Provider Services.
- Submitting a written request and mailing it to ForwardHealth. Include a return address, the name of the form, and the form number and send the request to the following address:

    ForwardHealth
    Form Reorder
    6406 Bridge Rd
    Madison WI 53784-0003

Portal

Topic #11057

ASC X12 Version 5010 and NCPDP Version D.0 Implementation Page

ForwardHealth has established a page on the ForwardHealth Portal designed to keep providers and trading partners informed of important dates and information related to the implementation of the new HIPAA (Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996) ASC X12 version 5010 and NCPDP (National Council for Prescription Drug Programs) telecommunication standard version D.0. Providers, trading partners, partners, MCOs (managed care organizations), and other interested parties are encouraged to check the 5010 page of the Portal often, as ForwardHealth will post new information regularly.

As information becomes available, ForwardHealth plans to include the following on the version 5010 and version D.0 page of the Portal:

- Questions and answers about the transition to the new standards.
- Companion guides and payer sheet for the new standards.
- External compliance testing schedule and procedures.
- Links to national resources for version 5010 and version D.0 transactions.

Topic #4904

Claims and Adjustments Using the ForwardHealth Portal

Providers can track the status of their submitted claims, submit individual claims, correct errors on claims, copy claims, and determine what claims are in "pay" status on the ForwardHealth Portal. Providers have the ability to search for and view the status of all their finalized claims, regardless of how they were submitted (i.e., paper, electronic, clearinghouse). If a claim contains an error, providers can correct it on the Portal and resubmit it to ForwardHealth.

Providers can submit an individual claim or adjust a claim through DDE (Direct Data Entry) through the secure Portal.

Topic #8524

Conducting Recertification Via the ForwardHealth Portal

Providers can conduct recertification online via a secure recertification area of the ForwardHealth Portal.

Topic #5157

Cost Share Reports for Long-Term Managed Care

Organizations

Individual cost share reports for long-term care MCOs (managed care organizations) that provide Family Care, Family Care Partnership, and PACE (Program of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly) services are available via the secure area of the ForwardHealth Portal and can be downloaded as an Excel file.

Topic #4345

Creating a Provider Account

Each provider needs to designate one individual as an administrator of the ForwardHealth Portal account. This user establishes the administrative account once his or her PIN (personal identification number) is received. The administrative user is responsible for this provider account and is able to add accounts for other users (clerks) within his or her organization and assign security roles to clerks that have been established. To establish an administrative account after receiving a PIN, the administrative user is required to follow these steps:

1. Go to the ForeardHealth Portal.
2. Click the **Providers** button.
3. Click **Logging in for the first time?**.
4. Enter the Login ID and PIN. The Login ID is the provider's NPI or provider number.
5. Click **Setup Account**.
6. At the Account Setup screen, enter the user's information in the required fields.
7. Read the security agreement and click the checkbox to indicate agreement with its contents.
8. Click **Submit** when complete.

Once in the secure Provider area of the Portal, the provider may conduct business online with ForwardHealth via a secure connection. Providers may also perform the following administrative functions from the Provider area of the Portal:

- Establish accounts and define access levels for clerks.
- Add other organizations to the account.
- Switch organizations.

Refer to the Account User Guide on the Portal User Guides page of the Portal for more detailed instructions on performing these functions.

Topic #4340

Designating a Trading Partner to Receive 835 Health Care Claim Payment/Advice Transactions

Providers must designate a trading partner to receive their 835 (835 Health Care Claim Payment/Advice) transaction for ForwardHealth interChange.

Providers who wish to submit their 835 designation via the Portal are required to create and establish a provider account to have access to the secure area of the Portal.

To designate a trading partner to receive 835 transactions, providers must first complete the following steps:

- Access the Portal and log into their secure account by clicking the Provider link/button.

- Click on the Designate 835 Receiver link on the right-hand side of the secure home page.
- Enter the identification number of the trading partner that is to receive the 835 in the Trading Partner ID field.
- Click Save.

Providers who are unable to use the Portal to designate a trading partner to receive 835 transactions may call the EDI (Electronic Data Interchange) Helpdesk or submit a paper (Trading Partner 835 Designation, F-13393 (08/08)) form.

Topic #5087

Electronic Communications

The secure ForwardHealth Portal contains a one-way message center where providers can receive electronic notifications and provider publications from ForwardHealth. All new messages display on the provider's main page within the secure Portal.

Topic #5088

Enrollment Verification

The secure ForwardHealth Portal offers real time member enrollment verification for all ForwardHealth programs. Providers are able to use this tool to determine:

- The health care program(s) in which the member is enrolled.
- Whether or not the member is enrolled in a state-contracted MCO (managed care organization).
- Whether or not the member has any third-party liability, such as Medicare or commercial health insurance.
- Whether or not the member is enrolled in the Pharmacy Services Lock-In Program and the member's Lock-In pharmacy, primary care provider, and referral providers (if applicable).

Using the Portal to check enrollment may be more effective than calling WiCall or the EVS (Enrollment Verification System) (although both are available).

Providers are assigned a unique enrollment verification number for each inquiry. Providers can also use the "print screen" function to print a paper copy of enrollment verification inquiries for their records.

Topic #4338

ForwardHealth Portal

Providers, members, trading partners, managed care programs, and partners have access to public *and* secure information through the ForwardHealth Portal.

The Portal has the following areas:

- Providers (public and secure).
- Trading Partners.
- Members.
- MCO (managed care organization).
- Partners.

The secure Portal allows providers to conduct business and exchange electronic transactions with ForwardHealth. The public Portal contains general information accessible to all users. Members can access general health care program information and apply

for benefits online.

Topic #4441

ForwardHealth Portal Helpdesk

Providers and trading partners may call the ForwardHealth Portal Helpdesk with technical questions on Portal functions, including their Portal accounts, registrations, passwords, and submissions through the Portal.

Topic #4451

Inquiries to ForwardHealth Via the Portal

Providers are able to contact Provider Services through the ForwardHealth Portal by clicking the Contact link and entering the relevant inquiry information, including selecting the preferred method of response (i.e., telephone call or e-mail). Provider Services will respond to the inquiry by the preferred method of response indicated within five business days.

Topic #4400

Internet Connection Speed

ForwardHealth recommends providers have an Internet connection that will provide an upload speed of at least 768 Kbps and a download speed of at least 128 Kbps in order to efficiently conduct business with ForwardHealth via the Portal.

For PES (Provider Electronic Solutions) users, ForwardHealth recommends an Internet connection that will provide a download speed of at least 128 Kbps for downloading PES software and software updates from the Portal.

These download speeds are generally not available through a dial-up connection.

Topic #4351

Logging in to the Provider Area of the Portal

Once an administrative user's or other user's account is set up, he or she may log in to the Provider area of the ForwardHealth Portal to conduct business. To log in, the user is required to click the "Provider" link or button, then enter his or her username and password and click "Go" in the Login to Secure Site box at the right side of the screen.

Topic #4743

Managed Care Organization Portal

Information and Functions Through the Portal

The MCO (managed care organization) area of the ForwardHealth Portal allows state-contracted MCOs to conduct business with ForwardHealth. The Public MCO page offers easy access to key MCO information and Web tools. A log-in is required to access the secure area of the Portal to submit or retrieve account and member information which may be sensitive.

The following information is available through the Portal:

- Certified Provider Listing of all Medicaid-certified providers.
- Coordination of Benefits Extract/Insurance Carrier Master List information updated quarterly.
- Data Warehouse, which is linked from the Portal to Business Objects. The Business Objects function allows for access to MCO data for long term care MCOs.
- Electronic messages.
- Enrollment verification by entering a member ID or SSN (Social Security number) with date of birth and a "from DOS (date of service)" and a "to DOS" range. A transaction number is assigned to track the request.
- Member search function for retrieving member information such as medical status code, and managed care and Medicare information.
- Provider search function for retrieving provider information such as address, telephone number, provider ID, taxonomy code (if applicable), and provider type and specialty.
- HealthCheck information.
- MCO contact information.
- Technical contact information. Entries may be added via the Portal.

Topic #5158

Managed Care Organization Portal Reports

The following reports are generated to MCOs (managed care organizations) through their account on the ForwardHealth MCO Portal:

- Capitation Payment Listing Report.
- Cost Share Report (long-term MCOs only).
- Enrollment Reports.

MCOs are required to establish a Portal account in order to receive reports from ForwardHealth.

Capitation Payment Listing Report

The Capitation Payment Listing Report provides "payee" MCOs with a detailed listing of the members for whom they receive capitation payments. ForwardHealth interChange creates adjustment transaction information weekly and regular capitation transaction information monthly. The weekly batch report includes regular and adjustment capitation transactions. MCOs have the option of receiving both the Capitation Payment Listing Report and the 820 Payroll Deducted and Other Group Premium Payment for Insurance Products transactions.

Initial Enrollment Roster Report

The Initial Enrollment Roster Report is generated according to the annual schedules detailing the number of new and continuing members enrolled in the MCO and those disenrolled before the next enrollment month.

Final Enrollment Roster Report

The Final Enrollment Roster Report is generated the last business day of each month and includes members who have had a change in status since the initial report and new members who were enrolled after the Initial Enrollment Roster Report was generated.

Other Reports

Additional reports are available for BadgerCare Plus HMOs, SSI HMOs, and long-term MCOs. Some are available via the Portal and some in the secure FTP (file transfer protocol).

Topic #4744

Members ForwardHealth Portal

Members can access ForwardHealth information by going to the ForwardHealth Portal. Members can search through a directory of providers by entering a ZIP code, city, or county. Members can also access all member-related ForwardHealth applications and forms. Members can use ACCESS to check availability, apply for benefits, check current benefits, and report any changes.

Topic #4344

Obtaining a Personal Identification Number

To establish an account on the ForwardHealth Portal, providers are required to obtain a PIN (personal identification number). The PIN is a unique, nine-digit number assigned by ForwardHealth interChange for the sole purpose of allowing a provider to establish a Portal account. It is used in conjunction with the provider's login ID. Once the Portal account is established, the provider will be prompted to create a username and password for the account, which will subsequently be used to log in to the Portal.

Note: The PIN used to create the provider's Portal account is not the same PIN used for recertification on the Portal. Providers will receive a separate PIN for recertification.

A provider may need to request more than one PIN if he or she is a provider for more than one program or has more than one type of provider certification. A separate PIN will be needed for each provider certification. Health care providers will need to supply their NPI (National Provider Identifier) and corresponding taxonomy code when requesting an account. Non-healthcare providers will need to supply their unique provider number.

Providers may request a PIN by following these steps:

1. Go to the Portal.
2. Click on the "Providers" link or button.
3. Click the "Request Portal Access" link from the Quick Links box on the right side of the screen.
4. At the Request Portal Access screen, enter the following information:
    a. Health care providers are required to enter their NPI and click "Search" to display a listing of ForwardHealth certifications. Select the correct certification for the account. The taxonomy code, ZIP+4 code, and financial payer for that certification will be automatically populated. Enter the SSN (Social Security number) or TIN (Tax Identification Number).
    b. Non-healthcare providers are required to enter their provider number, financial payer, and SSN or TIN. (This option should only be used by non-healthcare providers who are exempt from NPI requirements).

        The financial payer is one of the following:
        - Medicaid (Medicaid is the financial payer for Wisconsin Medicaid, BadgerCare Plus, and Senior Care).
        - SSI (Supplemental Security Income).
        - WCDP (Wisconsin Chronic Disease Program).
        - The WWWP (Wisconsin Well Woman Program).

    c. Click **Submit**.
    d. Once the Portal Access Request is successfully completed, ForwardHealth will send a letter with the provider's PIN to the address on file.

Topic #4459

Online Handbook

The Online Handbook allows providers access to all policy and billing information for Wisconsin Medicaid, BadgerCare Plus, SeniorCare, and WCDP (Wisconsin Chronic Disease Program) in one centralized place. A secure ForwardHealth Portal account is not required to use the Online Handbook as it is available to all Portal visitors.

Revisions to policy information are incorporated immediately after policy changes have been issued in *ForwardHealth Updates*. The Online Handbook also links to the ForwardHealth Publications page, an archive section that providers can use to research past policy and procedure information.

The Online Handbook, which is available through the public area of the Portal, is designed to sort information based on user-entered criteria, such as program and provider type. It is organized into sections and chapters. Sections within each handbook may include the following:

- Certification.
- Claims.
- Coordination of Benefits.
- Managed Care.
- Member Information.
- Prior Authorization.
- Reimbursement.
- Resources.

Each section consists of separate chapters (e.g, claims submission, procedure codes), which contain further detailed information.

Advanced Search Function

The Online Handbook has an advanced search function, which allows providers to search for a specific word or phrase within a user type, program, service area, or throughout the entire Online Handbook.

Providers can access the advanced search function by following these steps:

1. Go to the Portal.
2. Click the "Online Handbooks" link in the upper left "Providers" box.
3. Complete the two drop-down selections at the right to narrow the search by program and service area, if applicable. This is not needed if providers wish to search the entire Online Handbook.
4. Click "Advanced Search" to open the advanced search options.
5. Enter the word or phrase you would like to search.
6. Select "Search within the options selected above" or "Search all handbooks, programs and service areas."
7. Click the "Search" button.

ForwardHealth Publications Archive Area

The ForwardHealth Publications page of the Online Handbook allows providers to view old *Updates* and previous versions of the Online Handbook.

Providers can access the archive information area by following these steps:

1. Go to the Portal.
2. Click the "Online Handbooks" link in the upper left "Providers" box.
3. Click on the "Updates and Handbooks" link. (This link is below the three drop-down menus.)

Topic #5089

Other Business Enhancements Available on the Portal

The secure Provider area of the ForwardHealth Portal enables providers to do the following:

- Verify member enrollment.
- View RAs (Remittance Advice).
- Designate which trading partner is eligible to receive the provider's 835 (835 Health Care Claim Payment/Advice).
- Update and maintain provider file information. Providers have the choice to indicate separate addresses for different business functions.
- Receive electronic notifications and provider publications from ForwardHealth.
- Enroll in EFT (electronic funds transfer).
- Track provider-submitted PA (prior authorization) requests.

Topic #4911

Portal Account Administrators

Portal administrators are responsible for requesting, creating, and managing accounts to access these features for their organization.

There must be one administrator assigned for each Portal account and all users established for that account. The responsibilities of the Portal administrator include:

- Ensuring the security and integrity of all user accounts (clerk administrators and clerks) created and associated with their Portal account.
- Ensuring clerks or clerk administrators are given the appropriate authorizations they need to perform their functions for the provider, trading partner, or MCO (managed care organization).
- Ensuring that clerks or clerk administrator accounts are removed/deleted promptly when the user leaves the organization.
- Ensuring that the transactions submitted are valid and recognized by ForwardHealth.
- Ensuring that all users they establish know and follow security and guidelines as required by HIPAA (Health Insurance Portability Accountability Act of 1996). As Portal administrators establish their Portal account and create accounts for others to access private information, administrators are reminded that all users must comply with HIPAA. The HIPAA privacy and security rules require that the confidentiality, integrity, and availability of PHI (protected health information) are maintained at all times. The HIPAA Privacy Rule provides guidelines governing the disclosure of PHI. The HIPAA Security Rule delineates the security measures to be implemented for the protection of electronic PHI. If Portal administrators have any questions concerning the protection of PHI, visit the Portal for additional information.

Portal administrators have access to all secure functions for their Portal account.

Establish an Administrator Account

All Portal accounts require an administrator account. The administrator is a selected individual who has overall responsibility for management of the account. Therefore, he or she has complete access to all functions within the specific secure area of his or her Portal and are permitted to add, remove, and manage other individual roles.

Topic #4912

Portal Clerk Administrators

A Portal administrator may choose to delegate some of the authority and responsibility for setting up and managing the users within their Portal account. If so, the Portal administrator may establish a clerk administrator. An administrator or clerk administrator can create, modify, manage or remove clerks for a Portal account. When a clerk is created, the administrator or clerk administrator must grant permissions to the clerks to ensure they have the appropriate access to the functions they will perform. A clerk administrator can only grant permissions that they themselves have. For example, if an administrator gives a clerk administrator permission only for enrollment verification, then the clerk administrator can only establish clerks with enrollment verification permissions.

Even if a Portal administrator chooses to create a clerk administrator and delegate the ability to add, modify, and remove users from the same account, the Portal administrator is still responsible for ensuring the integrity and security of the Portal account.

Topic #4913

Portal Clerks

The administrator (or the clerk administrator if the administrator has granted them authorization) may set up clerks within their Portal account. Clerks may be assigned one or many roles (i.e., claims, PA, enrollment verification). Clerks do not have the ability to establish, modify, or remove other accounts.

Once a clerk account is set up, the clerk account does not have to be established again for a separate Portal account. Clerks can easily be assigned a role for different Portal accounts (i.e., different ForwardHealth certifications). To perform work under a different Portal account for which they have been granted authorization, a clerk can use the "switch org" function and toggle between the Portal accounts to which they have access. Clerks may be granted different authorization in each Portal account (i.e., they may do enrollment verification for one Portal account, and HealthCheck inquires for another).

Topic #4740

Public Area of the Provider Portal

The public Provider area of the ForwardHealth Portal offers a variety of important business features and functions that will greatly assist in daily business activities with ForwardHealth programs.

Maximum Allowable Fee Schedules

Within the Portal, all maximum allowable fee schedules for Medicaid, BadgerCare Plus, and WCDP (Wisconsin Chronic Disease Program) are interactive and searchable. Providers can enter the DOS (date of service), along with other information such as procedure code, category of supplies, or provider type, to find the maximum allowable fee. Providers can also download all fee schedules.

Online Handbook

The Online Handbook is the single source for all current policy and billing information for ForwardHealth. The Online Handbook is designed to sort information based on user-entered criteria, such as program and provider type.

Revisions to policy information are incorporated into the Online Handbook in conjunction with published *Updates*. The Online

Handbook also links to the ForwardHealth Publications page, an archive section where providers can research previously published *Updates*.

ForwardHealth Publications Archive Section

The ForwardHealth Publications page, available via the Quick Links box, lists *Updates*, *Update Summaries*, archives of provider Handbooks and provider guides, and monthly archives of the Online Handbook. The ForwardHealth Publications page contains both current and obsolete information for research purposes only. Providers should use the Online Handbook for current policy and procedure questions. The *Updates* are searchable by provider type or program (e.g., physician or HealthCheck "Other Services") and by year of publication.

Training

Providers can register for all scheduled trainings and view online trainings via the Portal Training page, which contains an up-to-date calendar of all available training. Additionally, providers can view Webcasts of select trainings.

Contacting Provider Services

Providers and other Portal users will have an additional option for contacting Provider Services through the Contact link on the Portal. Providers can enter the relevant inquiry information, including selecting the preferred method of response (i.e., telephone call or e-mail) the provider wishes to receive back from Provider Services. Provider Services will respond to the inquiry within five business days. Information will be submitted via a secure connection.

Online Certification

Providers can speed up the certification process for Medicaid by completing a provider certification application via the Portal. Providers can then track their application by entering their ATN (application tracking number) given to them on completion of the application.

Other Business Enhancements Available on the Portal

The public Provider area of the Portal also includes the following features:

- A "What's New?" section for providers that links to the latest provider publication summaries and other new information posted to the Provider area of the Portal.
- Home page for the provider. Providers have administrative control over their Portal homepage and can grant other employees access to specified areas of the Portal, such as claims and PA (prior authorization).
- E-mail subscription service for *Updates*. Providers can register for e-mail subscription to receive notifications of new provider publications via e-mail. Users are able to select, by program and service area, which publication notifications they would like to receive.
- A forms library.

Topic #4741

Secure Area of the Provider Portal

Providers can accomplish many processes via the ForwardHealth Portal, including submitting, adjusting, and correcting claims, submitting and amending PA (prior authorization) requests, and verifying enrollment.

Claims and Adjustments Using the Portal

Providers can track the status of their submitted claims, submit individual claims, correct errors on claims, and determine what claims are in "pay" status on the Portal. Providers have the ability to search for and view the status of all of their finalized claims, regardless of how they were submitted (i.e., paper, electronic, clearinghouse). If a claim contains an error, providers can correct it on the Portal and resubmit it to ForwardHealth.

Providers can submit an individual claim or adjust a claim via DDE (Direct Data Entry) through the secure Portal.

Submitting Prior Authorization and Amendment Requests Via the Portal

Nearly all service areas can submit PAs via the Portal. Providers can do the following:

- Correct errors on PAs or amendment requests via the Portal, regardless of how the PA was originally submitted.
- View all recently submitted and finalized PA and amendment requests.
- View the latest provider review and decision letters.
- Receive messages about PA and amendment requests that have been adjudicated or returned for provider review.

Electronic Communications

The secure Portal contains a one-way message center where providers can receive electronic notifications and provider publications from ForwardHealth. All new messages display on the provider's main page within the secure Portal.

Enrollment Verification

The secure Portal offers real-time member enrollment verification for all ForwardHealth programs. Providers are able to use this tool to determine:

- The health care program(s) in which the member is enrolled.
- Whether or not the member is enrolled in a state-contracted MCO (managed care organization).
- Whether or not the member has any third-party liability, such as Medicare or commercial health insurance.

Using the Portal to check enrollment may be more efficient than calling the AVR (Automated Voice Response) system or the EVS (Enrollment Verification System) (although both are available).

Providers will be assigned a unique enrollment verification number for each inquiry. Providers can also use the "print screen" function to print a paper copy of enrollment verification inquiries for their records.

Other Business Enhancements Available on the Portal

The secure Provider area of the Portal enables providers to do the following:

- Verify member enrollment.
- View RAs (Remittance Advices).
- Designate which trading partner is eligible to receive the provider's 835 (835 Health Care Claim Payment/Advice).
- Update and maintain provider file information. Providers will have the choice to indicate separate addresses for different business functions.
- Receive electronic notifications and provider publications from ForwardHealth.
- Enroll in EFT (electronic funds transfer).
- Track provider-submitted PA requests.

Topic #4905

Submitting Prior Authorization and Amendment Requests Via the Portal

Nearly all service areas can submit PA (prior authorization) requests via the ForwardHealth Portal. Providers can do the following:

- Correct errors on PAs or amendment requests via the Portal, regardless of how the PA was originally submitted.
- View all recently submitted and finalized PAs and amendment requests.
- View the latest provider review and decision letters.
- Receive messages about PA and amendment requests that have been adjudicated or returned for provider review.

Topic #4401

System and Browser Requirements

The following table lists the recommended system and browser requirements for using the Portal. PES (Provider Electronic Solutions) users should note that the Windows-based requirements noted in the table apply; PES cannot be run on Apple-based systems.

Recommended System Requirements	Recommended Browser Requirements
Windows-Based Systems	
Computer with at least a 500Mhz processor, 256 MB of RAM, and 100MB of free disk space	Microsoft Internet Explorer v. 6.0 or higher, or Firefox v. 1.5 or higher
Windows XP or higher operating system	
Apple-Based Systems	
Computer running a PowerPC G4 or Intel processor, 512 MB of RAM, and 150MB of free disk space	Safari, or Firefox v. 1.5 or higher
Mac OS X 10.2.x or higher operating system	

Topic #4742

Trading Partner Portal

The following information is available on the public Trading Partner area of the ForwardHealth Portal:

- Trading partner testing packets.
- Trading Partner Profile submission.
- PES (Provider Electronic Solutions) software and upgrade information.
- EDI (Electronic Data Interchange) companion guides.

In the secure Trading Partner area of the Portal, trading partners can exchange electronic transactions with ForwardHealth.

Trading partners using PES should be sure to enter the Web logon and Web password associated with the ForwardHealth trading partner ID that will be used on PES transactions. Prior to submitting transactions through PES, trading partners must also make sure their trading partner account is entered as the "Default Provider ID" on the Switch Organization page of the secure Trading Partner account on the Portal.

Training Opportunities

Topic #12757

Training Opportunities

The Provider Relations representatives conduct training sessions in a variety of formats on both program-specific and topic-specific subjects. There is no fee for attending/accessing these training sessions.

On-Site Sessions

On-site training sessions are offered at various locations (e.g., hotel conference rooms, provider facilities) throughout the state. These training sessions include general all-provider sessions, service-specific and/or topic-specific sessions, and program-specific (such as WCDP (Wisconsin Chronic Disease Program) or the WWWP (Wisconsin Well Woman Program)) sessions.

Registration is required to attend on-site sessions. Online registration is available on the Trainings page of the Providers area of the Portal.

Online (Real-Time, Web-Based) Sessions

Online (real-time, Web-based) training sessions are available and are facilitated through HP® Virtual Room. Virtual Room sessions are offered on many of the same topics as on-site sessions, but online sessions offer the following advantages:

- Participants can attend training at their own computers without leaving the office.
- Sessions are interactive as participants can ask questions during the session.
- If requested or needed, a session can be quickly organized to cover a specific topic for a small group or office.

For some larger training topics (such as ForwardHealth Portal Fundamentals), the training may be divided into individual modules, with each module focused on a particular subject. This allows participants to customize their training experience.

Registration, including an e-mail address, is required to attend Virtual Room sessions, so important session information can be sent to participants prior to the start of the session. Online registration is available on the Trainings page of the Portal.

Recorded Webcasts

Recorded Webcasts are available on a variety of topics, including some of the same topics as on-site and online sessions. Like Virtual Room sessions, some recorded Webcasts on larger training topics may be divided into individual Webcast modules, allowing participants to customize their training experience. Recorded Webcasts allow providers to view the training at their convenience on their own computers.

Registration is not required to view a recorded Webcast. Related training materials are available to download and print from the specific Webcast training session page on the Portal.

Notification of Training Opportunities

In addition to information on the Trainings page of the Portal, upcoming training session information is distributed directly through messages to providers who have secure Portal accounts and to providers who have registered for the ForwardHealth e-mail subscription service.

To sign up for a secure Portal account, click the "Request Portal Access" link in the Quick Links box on the Provider page of the Portal. To sign up for e-mail subscription, click "Register for E-mail Subscription" in the Quick Links box on the Provider page of the Portal.

Updates

Topic #4460

Full Text Publications Available

Providers may request full-text versions of *ForwardHealth Updates* to be mailed to them by calling Provider Services.

Topic #478

General Information

ForwardHealth Updates are the first source of provider information. *Updates* announce the latest information on policy and coverage changes, PA (prior authorization) submission requirements, claims submission requirements, and training announcements.

The *ForwardHealth Update Summary* is posted to the ForwardHealth Portal on a monthly basis and contains an overview of *Updates* published that month. Providers with a ForwardHealth Portal account are notified through their Portal message box when the *Update Summary* is available on the Portal.

Updates included in the *Update Summary* are posted in their entirety on the Provider area of the Portal. Providers may access Updates from direct links in the electronic *Update Summary* as well as navigate to other Medicaid iinformation available on the Portal.

Providers without Internet access may call Provider Services to request a paper copy of an *Update*. To expedite the call, correspondents will ask providers for the *Update* number. Providers should allow seven to 10 business days for delivery.

Revisions to policy information are incorporated into the Online Handbook in conjunction with published *Updates*. The Online Handbook also includes a link to the ForwardHealth Publications page, an archive section where providers can research previously published *Updates*.

Topic #4458

Multiple Ways to Access ForwardHealth Publications

Users may register for e-mail subscription service. Providers who have established a ForwardHealth Portal account will automatically receive notification of *ForwardHealth Updates* and the monthly *ForwardHealth Update Summary* in their Portal message box. Providers will receive notification via their Portal accounts or e-mail subscription.

E-mail Subscription Service

Providers and other interested parties may register for e-mail subscription on the Portal to receive e-mail notifications of new provider publications. Users are able to select, by program (Wisconsin Medicaid, BadgerCare Plus, or WCDP (Wisconsin Chronic Disease Program)) and provider type (e.g., physician, hospital, DME (durable medical equipment) vendor), and which publication notifications they would like to receive. Any number of staff or other interested parties from an organization may sign up for an e-mail subscription.

Users may sign up for an e-mail subscription by following these steps:

1. Click the Providers link on the ForwardHealth Portal at www.forwardhealth.wi.gov/.
2. In the Quick Links section on the right side of the screen, click Register for E-mail Subscription.
3. The Subscriptions page will be displayed. In the E-Mail field in the New Subscriber section, enter the e-mail address to which messages should be sent.
4. Enter the e-mail address again in the Confirm E-Mail field.
5. Click Register. A message will be displayed at the top of the Subscriptions page indicating the registration was successful. If there are any problems with the registration, an error message will be displayed instead.
6. Once registration is complete, click the program for which you want to receive messages in the Available Subscriptions section of the Subscriptions page. The selected program will expand and a list of service areas will be displayed.
7. Select the service area(s) for which you want to receive messages. Click Select All if you want to receive messages for all service areas.
8. When service area selection is complete, click Save at the bottom of the page.
9. The selected subscriptions will load and a confirmation message will appear at the top of the page.

WiCall

Topic #257

Enrollment Inquiries

WiCall is an AVR (Automated Voice Response) system that allows providers with touch-tone telephones direct access to enrollment information.

Information from WiCall will be returned in the following order if applicable to the member's current enrollment:

- Transaction number: A number will be given as a transaction confirmation that providers should keep for their records.
- Benefit enrollment: All benefit plans the member is enrolled in on the DOS (date of service) or within the DOS range selected for the financial payer.
- County Code: The member's county code will be provided if available. The county code is a two-digit code between 01 and 72 that represents the county in which member resides. If the enrollment response reflects that the member resides in a designated HPSA (Health Personnel Shortage Area) on the DOS or within the DOS range selected, HPSA information will be given.
- MCO (managed care organization): All information about state-contracted MCO enrollment, including MCO names and telephone numbers (that exists on the DOS or within the DOS range selected), will be listed. This information is applicable to Medicaid and BadgerCare Plus members only.
- Hospice: If the member is enrolled in the hospice benefit on the DOS or within the DOS range that the provider selected, the hospice information will be given. This information is applicable to Medicaid and BadgerCare Plus members only.
- Lock-in: Information about the Pharmacy Services Lock-In Program that exists on the DOS or within the DOS range selected will be provided. This information is applicable to Medicaid, BadgerCare Plus, and SeniorCare members only.
- Medicare: All information about Medicare coverage, including type of coverage and Medicare number, if available, that exists on the DOS or within the DOS range selected will be listed.
- Other Commercial Insurance Coverage: All information about commercial coverage, including carrier names and telephone numbers, if available, that exists on the DOS or within the DOS range selected will be listed.
- Transaction Completed: After the member's enrollment information has been given using the financial payer that was selected, providers will be given the following options:
    - To hear the information again.
    - To request enrollment information for the same member using a different financial payer.
    - To hear another member's enrollment information using the same financial payer.
    - To hear another member's enrollment information using a different financial payer.
    - To return to the main menu.

WiCall is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week. If for some reason the system is unavailable, providers may call Provider Services.

Transaction Number

The AVR system issues a transaction number every time a provider verifies enrollment, even when an individual is *not* enrolled in BadgerCare Plus or Wisconsin Medicaid. The provider should retain this transaction number. It is proof that an inquiry was made about the member's enrollment. If a provider thinks a claim was denied in error, the provider can reference the transaction number to ForwardHealth to confirm the enrollment response that was actually given.

Topic #6257

Entering Letters into WiCall

For some WiCall inquries, health care providers are required to enter their taxonomy code with their NPI (National Provider Identifier). Because taxonomy codes are a combination of numbers and letters, telephone key pad combinations, shown in the table below, allow providers to successfully enter taxonomy code letters for WiCall functions (e.g., press *21 to enter an "A," press *72 to enter an "R").

Letter	Key Combination	Letter	Key Combination
A	*21	N	*62
B	*22	O	*63
C	*23	P	*71
D	*31	Q	*11
E	*32	R	*72
F	*33	S	*73
G	*41	T	*81
H	*42	U	*82
I	*43	V	*83
J	*51	W	*91
K	*52	X	*92
L	*53	Y	*93
M	*61	Z	*12

Additionally, providers may select option 9 and press "#" for an automated voice explanation of how to enter letters in WiCall.

Topic #466

Information Available Via WiCall

WiCall, ForwardHealth's AVR (Automated Voice Response) system, gathers inquiry information from callers through voice prompts and accesses ForwardHealth interChange to retrieve and "speak" back the following ForwardHealth information:

- Claim status.
- Enrollment verification.
- PA (prior authorization) status.
- Provider CheckWrite information.

Note: ForwardHealth releases CheckWrite information to WiCall no sooner than on the first state business day following the financial cycle.

Providers are prompted to enter NPI (National Provider Identifier) or provider ID and in some cases, NPI-related data, to retrieve query information.

In all inquiry scenarios, WiCall offers the following options after information is retrieved and reported back to the caller:

- Repeat the information.
- Make another inquiry of the same type.
- Return to the main menu.

- Repeat the options.

Claim Status

Providers may check the status of a specific claim by selecting the applicable program ("financial payer" option, i.e., Wisconsin Medicaid, WCDP (Wisconsin Chronic Disease Program), or WWWP (Wisconsin Well Woman Program) by entering their provider ID, member identification number, DOS (date of service), and the amount billed.

Note: Claim information for BadgerCare Plus and SeniorCare is available by selecting the Medicaid option.

Enrollment Verification

Providers may request enrollment status for any date of eligibility the member has on file by entering their provider ID and the member ID. If the member ID is unknown, providers may enter the member's date of birth and SSN (Social Security number). Additionally, the provider is prompted to enter the "From DOS" and the "To DOS" for the inquiry. The "From" DOS is the earliest date the provider requires enrollment information and the "To" DOS must be within 365 days of the "From" DOS.

Each time a provider verifies member enrollment, the enrollment verification is saved and assigned a transaction number as transaction confirmation. Providers should note the transaction number for their records.

Prior Authorization Status

Except in certain instances, providers may obtain the status of PA requests for Medicaid and WCDP via WiCall by entering their provider ID and the applicable PA number. If the provider does not know the PA number, there is an option to bypass entering the PA number and the caller will be prompted to enter other PA information such as member ID and type of service (i.e., NDC (National Drug Code), procedure code, revenue code, or ICD-9-CM (International Classification of Diseases, Ninth Revision, Clinical Modification) diagnosis code.) When a match is found, WiCall reports back the PA status information, including the PA number for future reference, and the applicable program.

Information on past PAs is retained indefinitely. Paper PAs require a maximum of 20 working days from receipt to be processed and incorporated into WiCall's PA status information.

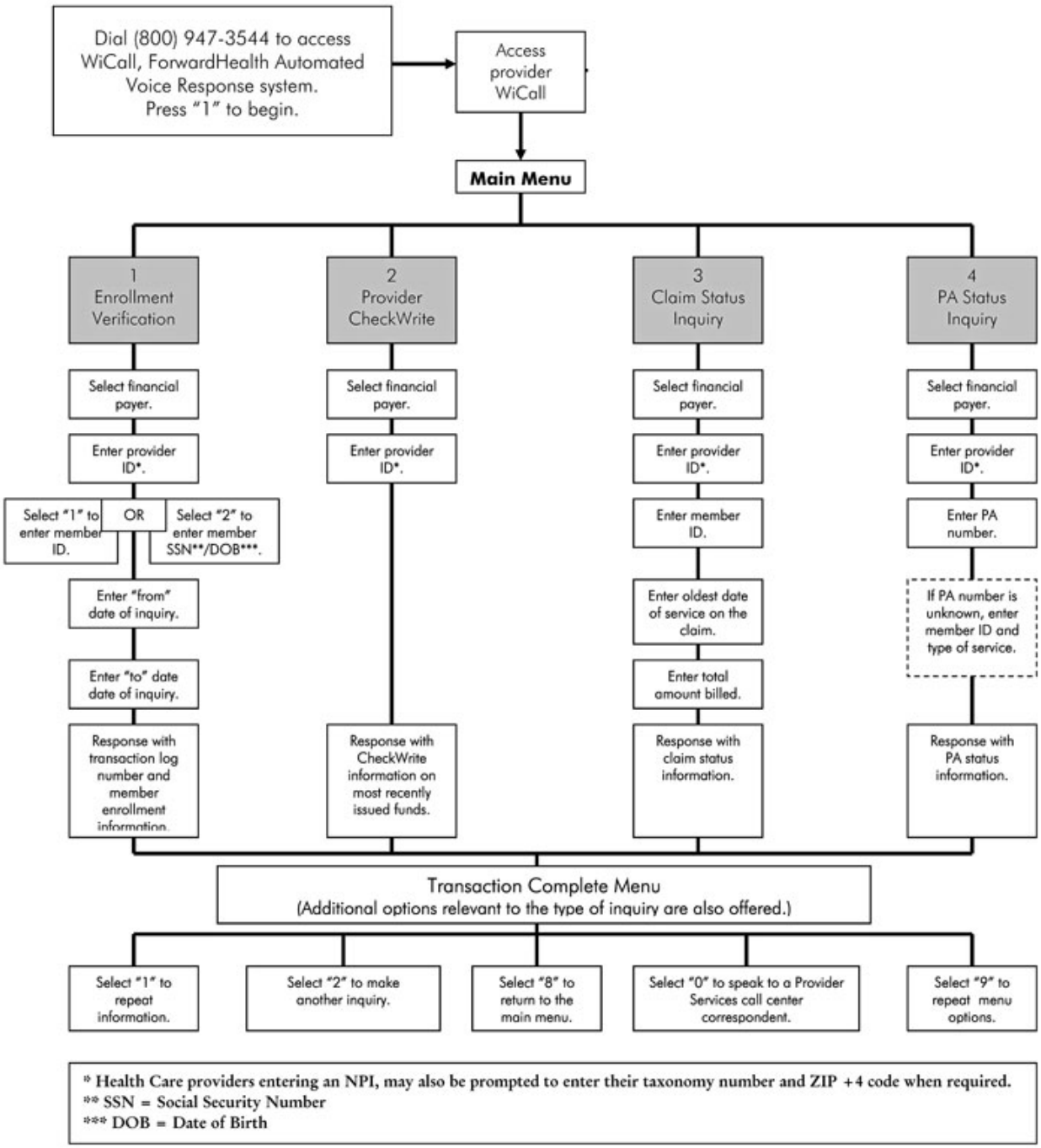
Note: PA information for BadgerCare Plus and SeniorCare is available by selecting the Medicaid option.

Topic #765

Quick Reference Guide

The WiCall AVR (Automated Voice Response) Quick Reference Guide displays the information available for WiCall inquiries.

Automated Voice Response Quick Reference Guide



* Health Care providers entering an NPI, may also be prompted to enter their taxonomy number and ZIP +4 code when required.
** SSN = Social Security Number
*** DOB = Date of Birth