

# Claims

# 1

Archive Date:09/04/2018

## Claims:Adjustment Requests

---

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 DHS (Department of Health Services) 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 the claim is found, the provider can alter it to reflect the desired change and resubmit it to ForwardHealth. Any claim ForwardHealth has paid within 365 days of the DOS (date of service) can be adjusted and resubmitted on the Portal, regardless of how the claim was originally submitted.

Claim adjustments with DOS beyond the 365-day submission deadline should *not* be submitted electronically. Providers who attempt to submit a claim adjustment electronically for DOS beyond 365 days will have the entire amount of the claim recouped.

Requests for adjustments to claims with DOS beyond the 365-day submission deadline may be submitted using the [timely filing](#) process (a paper process) if the claim adjustment meets one of the [exceptions](#) to the claim submission deadline.

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.

## Overpayments

---

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 #13437

### ForwardHealth-Initiated Claim Adjustments

There are times when ForwardHealth must initiate a claim adjustment to address claim issues that do not require provider action and do not affect reimbursement.

Claims that are subject to this type of ForwardHealth-initiated claim adjustment will have EOB (Explanation of Benefits) code 8234 noted on the RA (Remittance Advice).

The adjusted claim will be assigned a new claim number, known as an ICN (internal control number). The new ICN will begin with "58." If the provider adjusts this claim in the future, the new ICN will be required when resubmitting the claim.

Topic #11537

### National Correct Coding Initiative

As part of the federal PPACA (Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act) of 2010, the CMS (Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services) are required to promote correct coding and control improper coding leading to inappropriate payment of claims under Medicaid. The NCCI (National Correct Coding Initiative) is the CMS response to this requirement. The NCCI includes the creation and implementation of claims processing edits to ensure correct coding on claims submitted for Medicaid reimbursement.

ForwardHealth is required to implement the NCCI in order to monitor all professional claims and outpatient hospital claims submitted with CPT (Current Procedural Terminology) or HCPCS (Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System) procedure codes for Wisconsin Medicaid, BadgerCare Plus, WCDP (Wisconsin Chronic Disease Program), and Family Planning Only Services for compliance with the following NCCI edits:

- MUE (Medically Unlikely Edits), or units-of-service detail edits.
- Procedure-to-procedure detail edits.

The NCCI editing will occur in addition to/along with current procedure code review and editing completed by McKesson ClaimCheck<sup>®</sup> and in ForwardHealth interChange.

### Medically Unlikely Detail Edits

MUE, or units-of-service detail edits, define the maximum units of service that a provider would report under most circumstances for a single member on a single DOS (date of service) for each CPT or HCPCS procedure code. If a detail on a claim is denied for MUE, providers will receive an EOB (Explanation of Benefits) code on the RA (Remittance Advice) indicating that the detail was denied due to NCCI.

An example of an MUE would be if procedure code 11100 (i.e., biopsy of skin lesion) was billed with a quantity of two or more. This procedure is medically unlikely to occur more than once; therefore, if it is billed with units greater than one, the detail will be denied.

## Procedure-to-Procedure Detail Edits

Procedure-to-procedure detail edits define pairs of CPT or HCPCS codes that should not be reported together on the same DOS for a variety of reasons. This edit applies across details on a single claim or across different claims. For example, an earlier claim that was paid may be denied and recouped if a more complete code is billed for the same DOS on a separate claim. If a detail on a claim is denied for procedure-to-procedure edit, providers will receive an EOB code on the RA indicating that the detail was denied due to NCCI.

An example of a procedure-to-procedure edit would be if procedure codes 11451 (i.e., removal of a sweat gland lesion) and 93000 (i.e., electrocardiogram) were billed on the same claim for the same DOS. Procedure code 11451 describes a more complex service than procedure code 93000, and therefore, the secondary procedure would be denied.

## Quarterly Code List Updates

The CMS will issue quarterly revisions to the table of codes subject to NCCI edits that ForwardHealth will adopt and implement. Refer to the [CMS Medicaid website](#) for downloadable code lists.

## Claim Details Denied as a Result of National Correct Coding Initiative Edits

Providers should take the following steps if they are uncertain why particular services on a claim were denied:

- Review ForwardHealth remittance information for the EOB message related to the denial.
- Review the claim submitted to ensure all information is accurate and complete.
- Consult current CPT and HCPCS publications to make sure proper coding instructions were followed.
- Consult current ForwardHealth publications, including the Online Handbook, to make sure current policy and billing instructions were followed.
- Call [Provider Services](#) for further information or explanation.

If reimbursement for a claim or a detail on a claim is denied due to an MUE or procedure-to-procedure edit, providers may appeal the denial. Following are instructions for submitting an appeal:

- Complete the [Adjustment/Reconsideration Request \(F-13046 \(08/15\)\)](#) form. In Element 16, select the "Consultant review requested" checkbox and the "Other/comments" checkbox. In the "Other/comments" text box, indicate "Reconsideration of an NCCI denial."
- Attach notes/supporting documentation.
- Submit a claim, Adjustment/Reconsideration Request, and additional notes/supporting documentation to ForwardHealth for processing.

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.



## Submission

---

Topic #10677

### Advanced Imaging Services

Claims for advanced imaging services should be submitted to ForwardHealth using normal procedures and claim completion instructions. When PA (prior authorization) is required, providers should always wait two full business days from the date on which [eviCore healthcare](#) approved the PA request before submitting a claim for an advanced imaging service that requires PA. This will ensure that ForwardHealth has the PA on file when the claim is received.

### Submitting Claims for Situations Exempt from the Prior Authorization Requirement

In the following situations, PA is not required for advanced imaging services:

- The service is provided during a member's inpatient hospital stay.
- The service is provided when a member is in observation status at a hospital.
- The service is provided as part of an emergency room visit.
- The service is provided as an emergency service.
- The ordering provider is exempt from the PA requirement.

### Service Provided During an Inpatient Stay

Advanced imaging services provided during a member's inpatient hospital stay are exempt from PA requirements.

Institutional claims for advanced imaging services provided during a member's inpatient hospital stay are automatically exempt from PA requirements. Providers submitting a professional claim for advanced imaging services provided during a member's inpatient hospital stay should indicate POS (place of service) code 21 (Inpatient Hospital) on the claim.

### Service Provided for Observation Status

Advanced imaging services provided when a member is in observation status at a hospital are exempt from PA requirements.

Providers using a paper institutional claim form should include modifier UA in Form Locator 44 (HCPCS (Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System)/Rate/HIPPS Code) with the procedure code for the advanced imaging service. To indicate a modifier on an institutional claim, enter the appropriate five-digit procedure code in Form Locator 44, followed by the two-digit modifier. Providers submitting claims electronically using the 837I (837 Health Care Claim: Institutional) should refer to the appropriate companion guide for instructions on including a modifier.

Providers using a professional claim form should indicate modifier UA with the advanced imaging procedure code.

### Service Provided as Part of Emergency Room Visit

Advanced imaging services provided as part of an emergency room visit are exempt from the PA requirements.

Providers using an institutional claim form should include modifier UA in Form Locator 44 with the procedure code for the advanced imaging service. Providers submitting claims electronically using the 837I should refer to the appropriate companion

guide for instructions on including a modifier.

Providers using a professional claim form should indicate POS code 23 (Emergency Room — Hospital) on the claim.

## Service Provided as Emergency Service

Advanced imaging services provided as emergency services are exempt from the PA requirements.

Providers using an institutional claim form should include modifier UA in Form Locator 44 with the procedure code for the advanced imaging service. Providers submitting claims electronically using the 837I should refer to the appropriate companion guide for instructions on including a modifier.

Providers using a professional claim form should submit a claim with an emergency indicator.

## Ordering Provider Is Exempt from Prior Authorization Requirement

Health systems, groups, and individual providers (requesting providers) that order CT (computed tomography) and MR (magnetic resonance) imaging services and have implemented advanced imaging decision support tools may [request an exemption from PA requirements](#) for these services from ForwardHealth. Upon approval, ForwardHealth will recognize the requesting provider's advanced imaging decision support tool (e.g., ACR Select, Medicalis) as an alternative to current PA requirements for CT and MR imaging services. Requesting providers with an approved tool will not be required to obtain PA through eviCore healthcare for these services when ordered for Medicaid and BadgerCare Plus fee-for-service members.

Providers rendering advanced imaging services for an ordering provider who is exempt from PA requirements are required to include modifier Q4 (Service for ordering/referring physician qualifies as a service exemption) on the claim detail for the CT or MR imaging service. This modifier, which may be used in addition to the TC (Technical component) or 26 (Professional component) modifiers on advanced imaging claims, indicates to ForwardHealth that the referring provider is exempt from PA requirements for these services.

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.
- Place of service codes.

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

- Type of bill.
- Patient status.
- Visit point of origin.
- Visit priority.
- 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.
- Place of service codes.

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 #15957

## Documenting and Billing the Appropriate National Drug Code

Providers are required to use the NDC (National Drug Code) of the administered drug and not the NDC of another manufacturer's product, even if the chemical name is the same. Providers should not preprogram their billing systems to automatically default to NDCs that do not accurately reflect the product that was administered to the member.

Per [DHS \(Department of Health Services\) 106.03\(3\)](#) and [107.10](#), Wis. Admin. Code, submitting a claim with an NDC other than the NDC on the package from which the drug was dispensed is considered an unacceptable practice.

Upon retrospective review, ForwardHealth can seek recoupment for the payment of a claim from the provider if the NDC(s) submitted does not accurately reflect the product that was administered to the member.

Topic #344

## Electronic Claim Submission

Providers are encouraged to submit claims electronically. Electronic claim 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 #1908

## Electronic Claim Submission for Rural Health Clinic Services

Electronic claims for RHC (rural health clinic) services must be submitted using either the 837P (837 Health Care Claim: Professional) or 837I (837 Health Care Claim: Institutional) transaction. Providers should refer to their service-specific area to determine which transaction to use. Electronic claims for RHCs submitted using any transaction other than the 837P or 837I will be denied.

Providers should use the [companion guide](#) for the 837P or 837I transaction when submitting these claims.

## Provider Electronic Solutions Software

The DMS (Division of Medicaid Services) offers electronic billing software at no cost to providers. The PES (Provider Electronic Solutions) software allows providers to submit electronic claims 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](#).

Topic #16937

## **Electronic Claims and Claim Adjustments with Other Commercial Health Insurance Information**

Effective for claims and claim adjustments submitted electronically via the Portal or PES software on and after June 16, 2014, other insurance information must be submitted at the detail level on professional, institutional, and dental claims and adjustments if it was processed at the detail level by the primary insurance. Except for a few instances, Wisconsin Medicaid or BadgerCare Plus is the payer of last resort for any covered services; therefore, providers are 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).

Other insurance information that is submitted at the detail level via the Portal or PES software will be processed at the detail level by ForwardHealth.

Under HIPAA (Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996), claims and adjustments submitted using an 837 transaction must include detail-level information for other insurance if they were processed at the detail level by the primary insurance.

### **Adjustments to Claims Submitted Prior to June 16, 2014**

Providers who submit professional, institutional, or dental claim adjustments electronically on and after June 16, 2014, for claims originally submitted prior to June 16, 2014, are required to submit other insurance information at the detail level on the adjustment if it was processed at the detail level by the primary insurance.

Topic #1909

## **Encounters and Claims Submission**

Through the Wisconsin Medicaid RHC (rural health clinic) annual cost report, RHCs may claim cost-based reimbursement for member visits that meet the encounter criteria. Encounters are based on paid Medicaid or BadgerCare Plus HMO and fee-for-service claims. Therefore, it is important for RHCs to submit claims to ForwardHealth properly to ensure identification of all eligible encounters. Refer to service-specific areas for complete claims submission information and instructions.

### **Reimbursement Available and Billing Requirements**

When an enrolled member's record shows the member has commercial insurance, use the following guidelines for fee-for-service billing.

Submit a fee-for-service claim to ForwardHealth when commercial insurance reimburses either one of the following:

- Less than the current year's final settlement Medicaid encounter rate and less than the charge.
- Zero or denies coverage.

Report the Medicaid encounter and any commercial insurance payments received in the Medicaid cost report.

Do not submit a fee-for-service claim to ForwardHealth when commercial insurance reimburses either one of the following:

- An amount greater than the current year's final settlement Medicaid encounter rate.
- The full amount of the charge.

Do not include the encounter or payments received in the Medicaid cost report.

The following are some examples illustrating this in practice. For simplicity, Medicaid's RHC encounter rate will be \$60 and its maximum fee-for-service reimbursement will be \$30 in each of the following scenarios.

### Scenario 1

When insurance denies or reimburses zero, but the member record indicates commercial insurance coverage, then:

- Bill the fee-for-service claims system.
- Include the encounter and payments received in the Medicaid cost report.
- This is considered a Medicaid-only encounter.

Example:

- RHC charges = \$50.
- Paid by insurance = \$0.
- Bill fee-for-service? Yes.
- Fee-for-service payment = \$30 (indicated in the Medicaid cost report).
- Include the encounter and insurance payment in the Medicaid cost report? = Yes.

*Note:* \$60 (encounter rate) - \$30 (fee-for-service payment) = \$30 (amount payable to provider at final settlement).

### Scenario 2

When insurance reimburses your RHC charges in full, then:

- Do not bill the Medicaid fee-for-service claims system.
- Do not include the encounter in the Medicaid cost report.

Example:

- RHC charges = \$42.
- Paid by insurance = \$42.
- Bill fee-for-service? No.
- Include the encounter and insurance payment in the Medicaid cost report? = No.

### Scenario 3

When insurance reimburses less than your RHC charges and less than the RHC encounter rate, but more than Medicaid or BadgerCare Plus' fee-for-service maximum allowable fee, then:

- Bill the fee-for-service claims system.
- Include the encounter and the payments received in the Medicaid cost report.

Example:

- RHC charges = \$65.
- Paid by insurance = \$45.
- Bill fee-for-service? Yes.

- Fee-for-service payment (indicated in the Medicaid cost report) = \$0.
- Include the encounter and insurance payment in the Medicaid cost report? = Yes.

*Note:* \$60 (encounter rate) - \$45 (insurance payment) = \$15 (amount payable to provider at final settlement).

#### Scenario 4

When insurance reimburses less than your RHC charges, less than Medicaid or BadgerCare Plus's fee-for-service maximum allowable fee, and less than the RHC encounter rate, then:

- Bill the fee-for-service claims system.
- Include the encounter and the payments in the Medicaid cost report.

Example:

- RHC charges = \$50.
- Paid by insurance = \$25.
- Bill fee-for-service? Yes.
- Fee-for-service payment (indicated in the Medicaid cost report) = \$5.
- Include the encounter and insurance payment in the Medicaid cost report? = Yes.

*Note:* \$50 (charge) - \$25 (insurance payment) - \$5 (fee-for-service payment) = \$20 (amount payable to provider at final settlement).

#### Scenario 5

When insurance reimburses more than your RHC encounter rate and less than your RHC charges, then:

- Do not bill the fee-for-service claims system.
- Do not include the encounter and the payments in the Medicaid cost report.

Example:

- RHC charges = \$80.
- Paid by insurance = \$70.
- Bill Medicaid fee-for-service? No.
- Include the encounter and insurance payment in the Medicaid cost report? No.

## Commercial Insurance Requirement and Verification

Federal and state regulations require providers to bill a member's commercial insurance plan and Medicare before billing Medicaid.

To verify whether the member has commercial insurance, providers may access the EVS (Wisconsin's Enrollment Verification System), which includes the following enrollment verification methods:

- A magnetic stripe card reader that may be purchased through a commercial enrollment verification vendor.
- Personal computer software that may be purchased through a commercial enrollment verification vendor.
- WiCall, Wisconsin's [AVR \(Automated Voice Response\) system](#).
- [Provider Services](#).

Providers may not hold members responsible for any commercial cost-sharing amounts, such as copayments, deductibles, or coinsurance.

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 an 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 PA (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:

- Professional.
- Institutional.
- Dental.

On the professional form, the Notes field is available on each detail. On the institutional and dental forms, 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 [companion guides](#) for more information.

Topic #1919

## Outpatient Mental Health/Substance Abuse Services

Psychiatrists and Ph.D. psychologists who are Medicaid-enrolled and are either employed by or under contract with an RHC (rural health clinic) may submit claims for outpatient mental health or substance abuse services under the RHC billing NPI (National Provider Identifier). These services are eligible for cost-based reimbursement.

Master's-level therapists and substance abuse counselors must work in an enrolled mental health or substance abuse clinic and may submit claims for services only through a licensed, Medicaid-enrolled outpatient mental health or substance abuse clinic. An RHC must become enrolled as an outpatient mental health or substance abuse clinic to use the services of a Master's level therapist and report them as RHC service costs and encounters on the Medicaid cost report.

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 ((02/12)) 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 \(04/17\)\)](#) and the [Noncompound Drug Claim \(F-13072 \(04/17\)\)](#).

## 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 12 diagnosis codes in Item Number 21 of the 1500 Health Insurance Claim Form.



# Sample of a Correctly Aligned 1500 Health Insurance Claim Form



## HEALTH INSURANCE CLAIM FORM

APPROVED BY NATIONAL UNIFORM CLAIM COMMITTEE (NUCC) 02/12

PICA <input type="checkbox"/>										PICA <input type="checkbox"/>									
1. MEDICARE <input type="checkbox"/> MEDICAID <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> TRICARE <input type="checkbox"/> CHAMPVA <input type="checkbox"/> GROUP HEALTH PLAN <input type="checkbox"/> FECA <input type="checkbox"/> BLK LUNG <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER <input type="checkbox"/> <small>(Medicare) (Medical) (IDA/DoDI) (Member ID#) (ID#) (ID#)</small>										1a. INSURED'S I.D. NUMBER (For Program in Item 1) <b>1234567890</b>									
2. PATIENT'S NAME (Last Name, First Name, Middle Initial) <b>MEMBER, IM A</b>										4. INSURED'S NAME (Last Name, First Name, Middle Initial) <b>SAME</b>									
3. PATIENT'S BIRTH DATE MM DD YY <b>MM DD YY</b> M <input type="checkbox"/> F <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>										6. PATIENT RELATIONSHIP TO INSURED Self <input type="checkbox"/> Spouse <input type="checkbox"/> Child <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/>									
5. PATIENT'S ADDRESS (No., Street) <b>609 WILLOW ST</b>										7. INSURED'S ADDRESS (No., Street)									
CITY <b>ANYTOWN</b>					STATE <b>WI</b>					CITY					STATE				
ZIP CODE <b>55555</b>					TELEPHONE (Include Area Code) <b>(444) 444-4444</b>					ZIP CODE					TELEPHONE (Include Area Code)				
9. OTHER INSURED'S NAME (Last Name, First Name, Middle Initial)										10. IS PATIENT'S CONDITION RELATED TO:									
a. OTHER INSURED'S POLICY OR GROUP NUMBER										a. EMPLOYMENT? (Current or Previous) <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO									
b. RESERVED FOR NUCC USE										b. AUTO ACCIDENT? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO PLACE (State)									
c. RESERVED FOR NUCC USE										c. OTHER ACCIDENT? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO									
d. INSURANCE PLAN NAME OR PROGRAM NAME										10d. CLAIM CODES (Designated by NUCC)									
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 _____										11. INSURED'S POLICY GROUP OR FECA NUMBER									
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 _____										a. INSURED'S DATE OF BIRTH MM DD YY _____ SEX M <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/>									
14. DATE OF CURRENT ILLNESS, INJURY, or PREGNANCY (LMP) MM DD YY _____ QUAL _____										b. OTHER CLAIM ID (Designated by NUCC)									
15. OTHER DATE MM DD YY _____ QUAL _____										c. INSURANCE PLAN NAME OR PROGRAM NAME									
17. NAME OF REFERRING PROVIDER OR OTHER SOURCE <b>I.M. REFERRING PROVIDER</b>										d. IS THERE ANOTHER HEALTH BENEFIT PLAN? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <i>if yes, complete items 9, 9a, and 9c.</i>									
17a. _____										16. DATES PATIENT UNABLE TO WORK IN CURRENT OCCUPATION FROM MM DD YY _____ TO MM DD YY _____									
17b. NPI <b>0111111110</b>										18. HOSPITALIZATION DATES RELATED TO CURRENT SERVICES FROM MM DD YY _____ TO MM DD YY _____									
19. ADDITIONAL CLAIM INFORMATION (Designated by NUCC)										20. OUTSIDE LAB? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO \$ CHARGES _____									
21. DIAGNOSIS OR NATURE OF ILLNESS OR INJURY Relate A-L to service line below (24E) ICD Ind. _____ A. <b>XXX.X</b> B. _____ C. _____ D. _____ E. _____ F. _____ G. _____ H. _____ I. _____ J. _____ K. _____ L. _____										22. RESUBMISSION CODE _____ ORIGINAL REF. NO. _____									
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+CPCS _____ MODIFIER _____ E. DIAGNOSIS POINTER _____ F. \$ CHARGES _____ G. GAT9 Out UNITS _____ H. SPDT (Punk) Pen _____ I. ID. DUAL _____ J. RENDERING PROVIDER ID. # _____										23. PRIOR AUTHORIZATION NUMBER _____									
1 <b>MM DD YY</b> <b>XX</b> <b>XXXXX</b> <b>XX</b> <b>X</b> <b>XXX XX</b> <b>1</b> <b>NPI</b>										25. FEDERAL TAX I.D. NUMBER SSN EIN <b>1234JED</b> 26. PATIENT'S ACCOUNT NO. <b>1234JED</b> 27. ACCEPT ASSIGNMENT? (For govt. disca, see back) <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO									
2										28. TOTAL CHARGE \$ <b>XXX XX</b> 29. AMOUNT PAID \$ _____ 30. Rev'd for NUCC Use _____									
3										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.) <b>I.M. Provider</b> <b>MMDDCCYY</b>									
4										32. SERVICE FACILITY LOCATION INFORMATION									
5										33. BILLING PROVIDER INFO & PH # ( ) <b>I.M. PROVIDER</b> <b>1 W WILLIAMS ST</b> <b>ANYTOWN WI 55555-1234</b>									
6										a. <b>0222222220</b> b. <b>ZZ123456789X</b>									

NUCC Instruction Manual available at: [www.nucc.org](http://www.nucc.org)

PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE

APPROVED OMB-0938-1197 FORM 1500 (02-12)

CARRIER  
PATIENT AND INSURED INFORMATION  
PHYSICIAN OR SUPPLIER INFORMATION

# Sample of an Incorrectly Aligned 1500 Health Insurance Claim Form



## HEALTH INSURANCE CLAIM FORM

APPROVED BY NATIONAL UNIFORM CLAIM COMMITTEE (NUCC) 02/12

PICA <input type="checkbox"/>										PICA <input type="checkbox"/>									
1. MEDICARE <input type="checkbox"/> MEDICAID <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> TRICARE <input type="checkbox"/> CHAMPVA <input type="checkbox"/> GROUP HEALTH PLAN <input type="checkbox"/> FECA <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER <input type="checkbox"/> (Medicare) (Medicaid) (IDA/DoDI) (Member ID#) (ID#)										1a. INSURED'S I.D. NUMBER (For Program in Item 1) <b>1234567890</b>									
2. PATIENT'S NAME (Last Name, First Name, Middle Initial) <b>MEMBER, IM A</b>										3. PATIENT'S BIRTH DATE <b>MM DD YY</b> SEX <input type="checkbox"/> M <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> F									
4. INSURED'S NAME (Last Name, First Name, Middle Initial) <b>SAME</b>										5. PATIENT'S ADDRESS (No., Street) <b>609 WILLOW ST</b>									
6. PATIENT RELATIONSHIP TO INSURED Self <input type="checkbox"/> Spouse <input type="checkbox"/> Child <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/>										7. INSURED'S ADDRESS (No., Street)									
CITY <b>ANYTOWN</b> STATE <b>WI</b>										8. RESERVED FOR NUCC USE									
ZIP CODE <b>55555</b>										9. OTHER INSURED'S NAME (Last Name, First Name, Middle Initial) <b>111 111 1111</b>									
10. IS PATIENT'S CONDITION RELATED TO:										11. INSURED'S POLICY GROUP OR FECA NUMBER									
a. EMPLOYMENT? (Current or Previous) <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO										a. INSURED'S DATE OF BIRTH MM DD YY SEX M <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/>									
b. AUTO ACCIDENT? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO PLACE (State)										b. OTHER CLAIM ID (Designated by NUCC)									
c. OTHER ACCIDENT? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO										c. INSURANCE PLAN NAME OR PROGRAM NAME									
d. IS THERE ANOTHER HEALTH BENEFIT PLAN? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO If yes, complete items 9, 9a, and 9c.										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 _____									
14. DATE OF CURRENT ILLNESS, INJURY, or PREGNANCY (LMP) MM DD YY QUAL										15. OTHER DATE MM DD YY QUAL									
17. NAME OF REFERRING PROVIDER OR OTHER SOURCE <b>I.M. REFERRING PROVIDER</b>										17a. NPI <b>011111110</b>									
19. ADDITIONAL CLAIM INFORMATION (Designated by NUCC)										18. HOSPITALIZATION DATES RELATED TO CURRENT SERVICES FROM MM DD YY TO MM DD YY									
21. DIAGNOSIS OR NATURE OF ILLNESS OR INJURY Relate A-L to service line below (24E) ICD 10d.										20. OUTSIDE LAB? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO \$ CHARGES									
A. <b>XXX.X</b> B. _____ C. _____ D. _____										22. RESUBMISSION CODE ORIGINAL REF. NO.									
E. _____ F. _____ G. _____ H. _____										23. PRIOR AUTHORIZATION NUMBER									
I. _____ J. _____ K. _____ L. _____										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+CPCS MODIFIER E. DIAGNOSIS POINTER F. \$ CHARGES G. GATE OUT UNITS H. SPDT (Rank) Per I. ID. DUAL J. RENDERING PROVIDER ID. #									
1 <b>MM DD YY XX XXXXX XX X</b>										<b>XXX XX 1</b>									
2										NPI									
3										NPI									
4										NPI									
5										NPI									
6										NPI									
25. FEDERAL TAX I.D. NUMBER SSN EIN <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>										26. PATIENT'S ACCOUNT NO. <b>1234JED</b>									
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.) <b>I.M. Provider</b> <b>MMDDCCYY</b>										27. ACCEPT ASSIGNMENT? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO									
32. SERVICE FACILITY LOCATION INFORMATION										28. TOTAL CHARGE \$ <b>XXX XX</b> 29. AMOUNT PAID \$									
33. BILLING PROVIDER INFO & PH # <b>I.M. PROVIDER</b> <b>1 W WILLIAMS ST</b> <b>ANYTOWN WI 55555-1234</b> <b>022222220 ZZ123456789X</b>										30. Revid for NUCC Use									

NUCC Instruction Manual available at: [www.nucc.org](http://www.nucc.org) PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE APPROVED OMB-0938-1197 FORM 1500 (02-12)

Sample of a Correctly Aligned UB-04 Claim Form

1 IM BILLING PROVIDER 444 E CLAIREMONT ANYTOWN WI 55555-1234 (444) 444-4444	2	3a PAT CNTL #	4 TYPE OF BILL XXX
5 MED REC # 11 7654321	6 STATEMENT COVERS PERIOD FROM	7 THROUGH	
8 PATIENT NAME	9 PATIENT ADDRESS	10	11
b MEMBER, IM A	c	d	e
10 BIRTHDATE	11 SEX	12 DATE	13
14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29
30	31	32	33
34	35	36	37
38	39	40	41
42	43	44	45
46	47	48	49
50	51	52	53
54	55	56	57
58	59	60	61
62	63	64	65
66	67	68	69
70	71	72	73
74	75	76	77
78	79	80	81
82	83	84	85
86	87	88	89
90	91	92	93
94	95	96	97
98	99	100	101
102	103	104	105
106	107	108	109
110	111	112	113
114	115	116	117
118	119	120	121
122	123	124	125
126	127	128	129
130	131	132	133
134	135	136	137
138	139	140	141
142	143	144	145
146	147	148	149
150	151	152	153
154	155	156	157
158	159	160	161
162	163	164	165
166	167	168	169
170	171	172	173
174	175	176	177
178	179	180	181
182	183	184	185
186	187	188	189
190	191	192	193
194	195	196	197
198	199	200	201
202	203	204	205
206	207	208	209
210	211	212	213
214	215	216	217
218	219	220	221
222	223	224	225
226	227	228	229
230	231	232	233
234	235	236	237
238	239	240	241
242	243	244	245
246	247	248	249
250	251	252	253
254	255	256	257
258	259	260	261
262	263	264	265
266	267	268	269
270	271	272	273
274	275	276	277
278	279	280	281
282	283	284	285
286	287	288	289
290	291	292	293
294	295	296	297
298	299	300	301
302	303	304	305
306	307	308	309
310	311	312	313
314	315	316	317
318	319	320	321
322	323	324	325
326	327	328	329
330	331	332	333
334	335	336	337
338	339	340	341
342	343	344	345
346	347	348	349
350	351	352	353
354	355	356	357
358	359	360	361
362	363	364	365
366	367	368	369
370	371	372	373
374	375	376	377
378	379	380	381
382	383	384	385
386	387	388	389
390	391	392	393
394	395	396	397
398	399	400	401
402	403	404	405
406	407	408	409
410	411	412	413
414	415	416	417
418	419	420	421
422	423	424	425
426	427	428	429
430	431	432	433
434	435	436	437
438	439	440	441
442	443	444	445
446	447	448	449
450	451	452	453
454	455	456	457
458	459	460	461
462	463	464	465
466	467	468	469
470	471	472	473
474	475	476	477
478	479	480	481
482	483	484	485
486	487	488	489
490	491	492	493
494	495	496	497
498	499	500	501
502	503	504	505
506	507	508	509
510	511	512	513
514	515	516	517
518	519	520	521
522	523	524	525
526	527	528	529
530	531	532	533
534	535	536	537
538	539	540	541
542	543	544	545
546	547	548	549
550	551	552	553
554	555	556	557
558	559	560	561
562	563	564	565
566	567	568	569
570	571	572	573
574	575	576	577
578	579	580	581
582	583	584	585
586	587	588	589
590	591	592	593
594	595	596	597
598	599	600	601
602	603	604	605
606	607	608	609
610	611	612	613
614	615	616	617
618	619	620	621
622	623	624	625
626	627	628	629
630	631	632	633
634	635	636	637
638	639	640	641
642	643	644	645
646	647	648	649
650	651	652	653
654	655	656	657
658	659	660	661
662	663	664	665
666	667	668	669
670	671	672	673
674	675	676	677
678	679	680	681
682	683	684	685
686	687	688	689
690	691	692	693
694	695	696	697
698	699	700	701
702	703	704	705
706	707	708	709
710	711	712	713
714	715	716	717
718	719	720	721
722	723	724	725
726	727	728	729
730	731	732	733
734	735	736	737
738	739	740	741
742	743	744	745
746	747	748	749
750	751	752	753
754	755	756	757
758	759	760	761
762	763	764	765
766	767	768	769
770	771	772	773
774	775	776	777
778	779	780	781
782	783	784	785
786	787	788	789
790	791	792	793
794	795	796	797
798	799	800	801
802	803	804	805
806	807	808	809
810	811	812	813
814	815	816	817
818	819	820	821
822	823	824	825
826	827	828	829
830	831	832	833
834	835	836	837
838	839	840	841
842	843	844	845
846	847	848	849
850	851	852	853
854	855	856	857
858	859	860	861
862	863	864	865
866	867	868	869
870	871	872	873
874	875	876	877
878	879	880	881
882	883	884	885
886			

Sample of an Incorrectly Aligned UB-04 Claim Form

1 IM BILLING PROVIDER 444 E CLAIREMONT ANYTOWN WI 55555-1234 (444) 444-4444		2		3a PAT CNTL #		4 TYPE OF BILL XXX	
8 PATIENT NAME MEMBER, IM A		9 PATIENT ADDRESS ON FILE		5 MED REC # 117654321		6 STATEMENT COVERS PERIOD FROM THROUGH 01-2345678 MMDDCCYY MMDDCCYY	
10 BIRTHDATE		11 SEX		12 DATE		13 ADMISSION 13 HR 14 TYPE 15 SRC 16 DHR	
17 STAT		18		19		20	
21		22		23		24	
25		26		27		28	
29 ACUT STATE		30		31 OCCURRENCE DATE		32 OCCURRENCE DATE	
33 OCCURRENCE DATE		34 OCCURRENCE DATE		35 OCCURRENCE DATE		36 OCCURRENCE DATE	
37		38		39 VALUE CODES AMOUNT		40 VALUE CODES AMOUNT	
41		42		43		44	
45		46		47		48	
49		50		51		52	
53		54		55		56	
57		58		59		60	
61		62		63		64	
65		66		67		68	
69		70		71		72	
73		74		75		76	
77		78		79		80	
81		82		83		84	
85		86		87		88	
89		90		91		92	
93		94		95		96	
97		98		99		100	
101		102		103		104	
105		106		107		108	
109		110		111		112	
113		114		115		116	
117		118		119		120	
121		122		123		124	
125		126		127		128	
129		130		131		132	
133		134		135		136	
137		138		139		140	
141		142		143		144	
145		146		147		148	
149		150		151		152	
153		154		155		156	
157		158		159		160	
161		162		163		164	
165		166		167		168	
169		170		171		172	
173		174		175		176	
177		178		179		180	
181		182		183		184	
185		186		187		188	
189		190		191		192	
193		194		195		196	
197		198		199		200	
201		202		203		204	
205		206		207		208	
209		210		211		212	
213		214		215		216	
217		218		219		220	
221		222		223		224	
225		226		227		228	
229		230		231		232	
233		234		235		236	
237		238		239		240	
241		242		243		244	
245		246		247		248	
249		250		251		252	
253		254		255		256	
257		258		259		260	
261		262		263		264	
265		266		267		268	
269		270		271		272	
273		274		275		276	
277		278		279		280	
281		282		283		284	
285		286		287		288	
289		290		291		292	
293		294		295		296	
297		298		299		300	
301		302		303		304	
305		306		307		308	
309		310		311		312	
313		314		315		316	
317		318		319		320	
321		322		323		324	
325		326		327		328	
329		330		331		332	
333		334		335		336	
337		338		339		340	
341		342		343		344	
345		346		347		348	
349		350		351		352	
353		354		355		356	
357		358		359		360	
361		362		363		364	
365		366		367		368	
369		370		371		372	
373		374		375		376	
377		378		379		380	
381		382		383		384	
385		386		387		388	
389		390		391		392	
393		394		395		396	
397		398		399		400	
401		402		403		404	
405		406		407		408	
409		410		411		412	
413		414		415		416	
417		418		419		420	
421		422		423		424	
425		426		427		428	
429		430		431		432	
433		434		435		436	
437		438		439		440	
441		442		443		444	
445		446		447		448	
449		450		451		452	
453		454		455		456	
457		458		459		460	
461		462		463		464	
465		466		467		468	
469		470		471		472	
473		474		475		476	
477		478		479		480	
481		482		483		484	
485		486		487		488	
489		490		491		492	
493		494		495		496	
497		498		499		500	
501		502		503		504	
505		506		507		508	
509		510		511		512	
513		514		515		516	
517		518		519		520	
521		522		523		524	
525		526		527		528	
529		530		531		532	
533		534		535		536	
537		538		539		540	
541		542		543		544	
545		546		547		548	
549		550		551		552	
553		554		555		556	
557		558		559		560	
561		562		563		564	
565		566		567		568	
569		570		571		572	
573		574		575		576	
577		578		579		580	
581		582		583		584	
585		586		587		588	
589		590		591		592	
593		594		595		596	
597		598		599		600	
601		602		603		604	
605		606		607		608	
609		610		611		612	
613		614		615		616	
617		618		619		620	
621		622		623		624	
625		626		627		628	
629		630		631		632	
633		634		635		636	
637		638		639		640	
641		642		643		644	
645		646		647		648	
649		650		651		652	
653		654		655		656	
657		658		659		660	
661		662		663		664	
665		666		667		668	
669		670		671		672	
673		674		675		676	
677		678		679		680	
681		682		683		684	
685		686		687		688	
689		690		691		692	
693		694		695		696	
697		698		699		700	
701		702		703		704	
705		706		707		708	
709		710		711		712	
713		714		715		716	
717		718		719		720	
721		722		723		724	
725		726		727		728	
729		730		731		732	
733		734		735		736	
737		738		739		740	
741		742		743		744	
745		746		747		748	
749		750		751		752	
753		754		755		756	
757		758		759		760	
761		762		763		764	
765		766		767		768	
769		770		771		772	
773		774		775		776	
777		778		779		780	
781		782		783		784	
785		786		787		788	
789		790		791		792	
793		794		795		796	
797		798		799		800	
801		802		803		804	
805		806		807		808	
809		810		811		812	
813		814		815		816	
817		818		819		820	
821		822		823		824	
825		826		827		828	
829		830		831		832	
833		834		835		836	
837		838		839		840	
841		842		843		844	
845		846		847		848	
849		850		851		852	
853		854		855		856	
857		858		859		860	
861		862		863		864	
865		866		867		868	
869		870		871		872	
873		874		875		876	
877		878		879		880	
881		882		883		884	
885		886		887		888	
889							

Paper claims for RHC (rural health clinic) services must be submitted using the 1500 Health Insurance Claim Form ((02/12)) or the UB-04 Claim Form. Providers should refer to the appropriate service area to determine which claim form to use.

Claims submitted on any paper claim form other than these are denied.

## Obtaining the Claim Forms

ForwardHealth does not provide these claim forms. The forms may be obtained from any federal forms supplier.

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 ((02/12)).
- UB-04 (CMS 1450) Claim Form.
- [Compound Drug Claim \(F-13073 \(04/17\)\)](#) form.
- [Noncompound Drug Claim \(F-13072 \(04/17\)\)](#) 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 an [Acknowledgment of Receipt of Hysterectomy Information \(F-01160 \(06/13\)\)](#) form.
  - Sterilization claims must be submitted along with a paper [Consent for Sterilization \(F-01164 \(10/08\)\)](#) form.
  - Claims submitted to Timely Filing appeals must be submitted on paper with a [Timely Filing Appeals Request \(F-13047 \(08/15\)\)](#) form.
  - In certain circumstances, drug claims must be submitted on paper with a [Pharmacy Special Handling Request \(F-13074 \(07/12\)\)](#) form.
  - Claims submitted with four or more NDCs (National Drug Codes) for compound and noncompound drugs with specific and non-specific HCPCS (Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System) procedure codes.

Topic #18197

# Sleep Medicine Testing

## Facility-Based Sleep Studies and Polysomnography

When submitting a professional claim to ForwardHealth for a facility-based sleep study or polysomnography, providers are reminded of the following:

- If less than six hours of testing were recorded, or if other reduced services were provided, modifier 52 (Reduced Services) must be indicated.
- It is not appropriate to bill twice for any single component of a sleep study.

## Home-Based Sleep Studies

When submitting a professional claim to ForwardHealth for a home-based sleep study, providers are reminded of the following:

- If less than six hours of testing were recorded, or if other reduced services were provided, modifier 52 must be indicated.
- When billing for only the interpretation of a home-based sleep study, the code that was used for the technical service must be used with the POS (place of service) code for where the physician performed the interpretation, along with modifier 26 (Professional Component), to indicate that only the professional service was performed.
- When billing for only the technical portion of a home-based sleep study, the procedure code and POS are based on the physical location of the service. Modifier TC (Technical Component) must be included to indicate that only the technical services were performed.
- It is not appropriate to bill twice for any single component of a sleep study.

Topic #15977

# Submitting Multiple National Drug Codes per Procedure Code

If two or more NDCs (National Drug Codes) are submitted for a single procedure code, the procedure code is required to be repeated on separate details for each unique NDC. Whether billing a compound or noncompound drug, the procedures for billing multiple components (NDCs) with a single HCPCS (Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System) code are the same.

## Claim Submission Instructions for Claims with Two or Three National Drug Codes

When two NDCs are submitted on a claim, a KP modifier (first drug of a multiple drug unit dose formulation) is required on the first detail and a KQ modifier (second or subsequent drug of a multiple drug unit dose formulation) is required on the second detail.

For example, if a provider administers 150 mg of Synagis<sup>®</sup>, and a 100 mg vial and a 50 mg vial were used, then the NDC from each vial must be submitted on the claim. Although the vials have different NDCs, the drug has one procedure code, 90378 (Respiratory syncytial virus, monoclonal antibody, recombinant, for intramuscular use, 50 mg, each). In this example, the same procedure code would be reported on two details of the claim and paired with different NDCs.

Procedure Code	NDC	NDC Description
90378	60574-4111-01	Synagis <sup>®</sup> — 100 mg

90378	60574-4112-01	Synagis® — 50 mg
-------	---------------	------------------

### Example 1500 Health Insurance Claim Form for Submitting Two National Drug Codes per Procedure Code

	24. A. DATE(S) OF SERVICE						B. PLACE OF SERVICE	C. EMG	D. PROCEDURES, SERVICES, OR SUPPLIES			E. DIAGNOSIS POINTER	F. \$ CHARGES	G. DAYS OR UNITS	H. EPSON Family Plan	I. ID. QUAL.	J. RENDERING PROVIDER ID. #
	From	To	MM	DD	YY	MM			DD	YY	CPT/HCPCS						
1	N460574411101 ME100						11		90378	KP		AC	500.00	2	N	NPI	0123456789
2	N460574411201 ME50						11		90378	KQ		AC	500.00	1	N	NPI	0123456789

When three NDCs are submitted on a claim, a KP modifier is required on the first detail, a KQ modifier on the second detail, and the modifier should be left blank on the third detail.

For example, if a provider administers a mixture of 1 mg of hydromorphone HCl powder, 125 mg of bupivacaine HCl powder, and 50 ml of sodium chloride 0.9 percent solution, each NDC is required on a separate detail. However, this compound drug formulation is required to be billed under one procedure code, J3490 (Unclassified drugs), and the same procedure code must be reported on three separate details on the claim and paired with different NDCs.

Procedure Code	NDC	NDC Description
J3490	00406-3245-57	Hydromorphone HCl Powder — 1 mg
J3490	38779-0524-03	Bupivacaine HCl Powder — 125 mg
J3490	00409-7984-13	Sodium Chloride 0.9% Solution — 50 ml

### Example 1500 Health Insurance Claim Form for Submitting Three National Drug Codes per Procedure Code

	24. A. DATE(S) OF SERVICE						B. PLACE OF SERVICE	C. EMG	D. PROCEDURES, SERVICES, OR SUPPLIES			E. DIAGNOSIS POINTER	F. \$ CHARGES	G. DAYS OR UNITS	H. EPSON Family Plan	I. ID. QUAL.	J. RENDERING PROVIDER ID. #
	From	To	MM	DD	YY	MM			DD	YY	CPT/HCPCS						
1	N400406324557 ME1						11		J3490	KP		AC	500.00	1	N	NPI	0123456789
2	N438779052403 ME125						11		J3490	KQ		AC	500.00	1	N	NPI	0123456789
3	N400409798413 ML50						11		J3490			AC	500.00	1	N	NPI	0123456789

Claims for provider-administered drugs with two or three NDCs may be submitted to ForwardHealth via the following methods:

- The 837P (837 Health Care Claim: Professional) transaction.
- PES (Provider Electronic Solutions) software.
- DDE (Direct Data Entry) on the ForwardHealth Portal.
- A 1500 Health Insurance Claim Form ((02/12)).

## Claim Submission Instructions for Claims with Four or More National Drug Codes

When four or more components are reported, each component is required to be listed separately in a statement of ingredients on an attachment that must be appended to a paper 1500 Health Insurance Claim Form.

*Note:* The reimbursement reduction for paper claims will not affect claims submitted on paper with four or more NDCs, as described above.

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  
313 Blettner Blvd  
Madison WI 53784

This does not apply to compound and noncompound claims.



# Coordination of Benefits

2

Archive Date:09/04/2018

## Coordination of Benefits:Commercial Health Insurance

---

Topic #18497

### Explanation of Medical Benefits Form Requirement

An [Explanation of Medical Benefits \(F-01234 \(04/2018\)\)](#) form must be included for each other payer when other health insurance sources (e.g., commercial insurance, Medicare) are indicated on a paper claim or paper adjustment.

*Note:* ADA (American Dental Association) claims and claim adjustments and compound and noncompound drug claims and claim adjustments are **not** subject to the requirements regarding use of the Explanation of Medical Benefits form.

Paper claims or adjustment requests that have other health insurance indicated may be returned to the provider unprocessed or denied if they are submitted without the Explanation of Medical Benefits form for each other payer. Paper claims or adjustments submitted with incorrect or incomplete Explanation of Medical Benefits forms will also be returned or denied.

Use of the ForwardHealth Explanation of Medical Benefits form is mandatory; providers are required to use an exact copy. ForwardHealth will not accept alternate versions (i.e., retyped or otherwise reformatted) of the Explanation of Medical Benefits form.

The Explanation of Medical Benefits form requirement for paper claims and adjustments is intended to help ensure consistency with electronic claims and adjustments submitted via the ForwardHealth Portal or using an 837 (837 Health Care Claim) transaction (including those submitted using PES (Provider Electronic Solutions) software or through a clearinghouse or software vendor).

The Explanation of Medical Benefits form requirement applies to paper claims and paper adjustments submitted to Wisconsin Medicaid, BadgerCare Plus, SeniorCare, and the WCDP (Wisconsin Chronic Disease Program). Providers are reminded that, except for a few instances, Wisconsin Medicaid, BadgerCare Plus, SeniorCare, and WCDP are payers of last resort for any covered service. Therefore, providers are required to make a reasonable effort to exhaust all other existing health insurance sources before submitting claims to ForwardHealth or to a state-contracted MCO (managed care organization).

Wisconsin Medicaid and BadgerCare Plus are not payers of last resort for members who receive coverage from [certain governmental programs](#). Providers should ask members if they have coverage from these other government programs.

If a member becomes retroactively enrolled in Wisconsin Medicaid or BadgerCare Plus after the provider has already been reimbursed by one of these government programs, the provider may be required to submit the claims to ForwardHealth and refund the payment from the government program.

### Ink, Data Alignment, and Quality Standards for Paper Claim Submission

In order for OCR (Optical Character Recognition) software to read paper claim forms accurately, the claim forms must comply with certain ink standards, as well as other data alignment and quality standards. The Explanation of Medical Benefits form will also need to comply with [these standards](#).

# Covered and Noncovered Services

3

Archive Date:09/04/2018

## Covered and Noncovered Services:Codes

Topic #17537

### Cellular/Tissue-Based Products

Information is available for [DOS \(dates of service\) before January 1, 2018](#).

The following table lists allowable procedure codes, corresponding application codes, and related ICD (International Classification of Diseases) diagnosis codes for CTPs (cellular/tissue-based products). Providers are required to follow CPT (Current Procedural Terminology) and HCPCS (Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System) coding guidelines for reporting application procedure codes and product codes when submitting claims to ForwardHealth. Application procedure codes will not be covered when associated with noncovered CTPs.

No PA (prior authorization) is required for CTP products. All non-indicated conditions are considered noncovered. More information regarding ForwardHealth's [coverage policy](#) for CTPs is available.

HCPCS Code	Description	Covered Conditions	CPT Application Code	Allowable ICD Diagnosis Code (s)	Description
Q4101	Apligraf, per square centimeter	Venous leg ulcers	15271–15278	I83.001–I83.029	Varicose veins of lower extremity with ulcer
				I83.201–I83.229	Varicose veins of lower extremity with ulcer and inflammation
				I87.2	Venous insufficiency (chronic) (peripheral)
				I70.231* – I70.25*	Atherosclerosis of native arteries of leg with ulceration
				I70.331* – I70.749*	Atherosclerosis of bypass graft(s) of leg with ulceration
				L97.201* – L97.529*	Non-pressure chronic ulcer
		E08.621, E09.621, E10.621, E11.621,	Diabetes mellitus with foot ulcer		

		<b>Full-thickness neuropathic diabetic foot ulcers</b>	<b>15275–15278</b>	E13.621	
				E08.622, E09.622, E10.622, E11.622, E13.622	Diabetes mellitus with other skin ulcer
				L97.301** – L97.529**	Non-pressure chronic ulcer of ankle, heel, or foot
<b>Q4106</b>	Dermagraft, per square centimeter	<b>Full-thickness neuropathic diabetic foot ulcers</b>	<b>15275–15278</b>	E08.621, E09.621, E10.621, E11.621, E13.621	Diabetes mellitus with foot ulcer
				E08.622, E09.622, E10.622, E11.622, E13.622	Diabetes mellitus with other skin ulcer
				L97.301** – L97.529**	Non-pressure chronic ulcer of ankle, heel, or foot
				C50.011– C50.019	Malignant neoplasm of nipple and areola, female
				C50.111– C50.119	Malignant neoplasm of central portion of breast, female
				C50.211– C50.219	Malignant neoplasm of upper-inner quadrant of breast, female
				C50.311– C50.319	Malignant neoplasm of lower-inner quadrant of breast, female
				C50.411– C50.419	Malignant neoplasm of upper-outer quadrant of breast, female

<b>Q4116</b>	Alloderm, per square centimeter	<b>Breast reconstructive surgery</b>	<b>15271–15274, 15777</b>	C50.511–C50.519	Malignant neoplasm of lower-outer quadrant of breast, female
				C50.611–C50.619	Malignant neoplasm of axillary tail of breast, female
				C50.811–C50.819	Malignant neoplasm of overlapping sites of breast, female
				C50.911–C50.919	Malignant neoplasm of breast of unspecified site, female
				C50.021–C50.029	Malignant neoplasm of nipple and areola, male
				C50.121–C50.129	Malignant neoplasm of central portion of breast, male
				C50.221–C50.229	Malignant neoplasm of upper-inner quadrant of breast, male
				C50.321–C50.329	Malignant neoplasm of lower-inner quadrant of breast, male
				C50.421–C50.429	Malignant neoplasm of upper-outer quadrant of breast, male
				C50.521–C50.529	Malignant neoplasm of lower-outer quadrant of breast, male
C50.621–C50.629	Malignant neoplasm of axillary tail of breast, male				
C50.821–C50.829	Malignant neoplasm of overlapping sites of breast, male				

				C50.921– C50.929	Malignant neoplasm of breast of unspecified site, male
				D05.00–D05.02	Lobular carcinoma in situ of breast
				D05.10–D05.12	Intraductal carcinoma in situ of breast
				D05.80–D05.82	Other specified type of carcinoma in situ of breast
				D05.90–D05.92	Unspecified type of carcinoma in situ of breast
				Z85.3	Personal history of malignant neoplasm of breast
				Z90.10–Z90.13	Acquired absence of breast and nipple
<b>Q4131</b>	Epifix or epicord, per square centimeter	<b>Venous leg ulcers</b>	<b>15271–15278</b>	I83.001–I83.029	Varicose veins of lower extremity with ulcer
				I83.201–I83.229	Varicose veins of lower extremity with ulcer and inflammation
				I87.2	Venous insufficiency (chronic) (peripheral)
				I70.231* – I70.25*	Atherosclerosis of native arteries of leg with ulceration
				I70.331* – I70.749*	Atherosclerosis of bypass graft(s) of leg with ulceration
				L97.201* – L97.529*	Non-pressure chronic ulcer
				E08.621,	

		<b>Full-thickness neuropathic diabetic foot ulcers</b>	<b>15275–15278</b>	E09.621, E10.621, E11.621, E13.621	Diabetes mellitus with foot ulcer
				E08.622, E09.622, E10.622, E11.622, E13.622	Diabetes mellitus with other skin ulcer
				L97.301** – L97.529**	Non-pressure chronic ulcer of ankle, heel, or foot
<b>Q4132</b>	Grafix core and GrafixPL core, per square centimeter	<b>Venous leg ulcers</b>	<b>15271–15278</b>	I83.001–I83.029	Varicose veins of lower extremity with ulcer
				I83.201–I83.229	Varicose veins of lower extremity with ulcer and inflammation
				I87.2	Venous insufficiency (chronic) (peripheral)
				I70.231* – I70.25*	Atherosclerosis of native arteries of leg with ulceration
				I70.331* – I70.749*	Atherosclerosis of bypass graft(s) of leg with ulceration
				L97.201* – L97.529*	Non-pressure chronic ulcer
		<b>Full-thickness neuropathic diabetic foot ulcers</b>	<b>15275–15278</b>	E08.621, E09.621, E10.621, E11.621, E13.621	Diabetes mellitus with foot ulcer
E08.622, E09.622, E10.622, E11.622, E13.622	Diabetes mellitus with other skin ulcer				



				L97.301 <sup>**</sup> – L97.529 <sup>**</sup>	Non-pressure chronic ulcer of ankle, heel, or foot
<b>Q4133</b>	Grafix prime and GrafixPL prime, per square centimeter	<b>Venous leg ulcers</b>	<b>15271–15278</b>	I83.001–I83.029	Varicose veins of lower extremity with ulcer
				I83.201–I83.229	Varicose veins of lower extremity with ulcer and inflammation
				I87.2	Venous insufficiency (chronic) (peripheral)
				I70.231 <sup>*</sup> – I70.25 <sup>*</sup>	Atherosclerosis of native arteries of leg with ulceration
				I70.331 <sup>*</sup> – I70.749 <sup>*</sup>	Atherosclerosis of bypass graft(s) of leg with ulceration
				L97.201 <sup>*</sup> – L97.529 <sup>*</sup>	Non-pressure chronic ulcer
		<b>Full-thickness neuropathic diabetic foot ulcers</b>	<b>15275–15278</b>	E08.621, E09.621, E10.621, E11.621, E13.621	Diabetes mellitus with foot ulcer
				E08.622, E09.622, E10.622, E11.622, E13.622	Diabetes mellitus with other skin ulcer
				L97.301 <sup>**</sup> – L97.529 <sup>**</sup>	Non-pressure chronic ulcer of ankle, heel, or foot

\* The ICD diagnosis code must be billed with ICD code I87.2 (Venous insufficiency [chronic] [peripheral]) as the primary diagnosis.

The ICD code must be billed with an ICD diagnosis code for diabetic ulcers (E08.621, E08.622, E09.621, E09.622, E10.621, E10.622, E11.621, E11.622, E13.621, E13.622). Note that categories E08 and E09 have a code

first rule which states the underlying condition precipitating the diabetes must be coded first.

Topic #1906

## Diagnosis Codes

All codes indicated on submissions to ForwardHealth are required to be [valid codes](#).

All claims submitted for RHC (rural health clinic) services must include an appropriate diagnosis code from the ICD (International Classification of Diseases) coding structure. Claims received without an appropriate ICD coding structure are denied.

Topic #1905

## Procedure Codes

Use the single five-character CPT (Current Procedural Terminology) procedure code, HCPCS (Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System) procedure code, approved local procedure code, or revenue code that best describes the service performed, as appropriate. Claims without an appropriate procedure code are denied. Providers should refer to service-specific areas for current procedure code information.

Do not use multiple procedure codes to describe a single service.

Topic #18198

## Sleep Medicine Testing

The following tables contain lists of procedure codes that are covered by Wisconsin Medicaid and BadgerCare Plus for sleep studies and polysomnography.

*Note:* The information included in the tables is subject to change. For the most current information, refer to the [maximum allowable fee schedule](#).

### Allowable Facility-Based Sleep Studies and Polysomnography Procedure Codes

CPT (Current Procedural Terminology) Procedure Code	Description
95805 Multiple Sleep Latency Test/Maintenance of Wakefulness Test	Multiple sleep latency or maintenance of wakefulness testing, recording, analysis and interpretation of physiological measurements of sleep during multiple trials to assess sleepiness
95806 Unattended Sleep Study — Type III	Sleep study, unattended, simultaneous recording of heart rate, oxygen saturation, respiratory airflow, and respiratory effort (eg, thoracoabdominal movement)
95807 In-Lab Sleep Study (PSG)	Sleep study, simultaneous recording of ventilation, respiratory effort, ECG or heart rate, and oxygen saturation, attended by a technologist

95808 In-Lab Sleep Study (PSG)	Polysomnography; any age, sleep staging with 1-3 additional parameters of sleep, attended by a technologist
95810 In-Lab Sleep Study (PSG)	age 6 years or older, sleep staging with 4 or more additional parameters of sleep, attended by a technologist
95811 In-Lab Sleep Study (PSG)	age 6 years or older, sleep staging with 4 or more additional parameters of sleep, with initiation of continuous positive airway pressure therapy or bilevel ventilation, attended by a technologist
95782 In-Lab Sleep Study (PSG)	younger than 6 years, sleep staging with 4 or more additional parameters of sleep, attended by a technologist
95783 In-Lab Sleep Study (PSG)	younger than 6 years, sleep staging with 4 or more additional parameters of sleep, with initiation of continuous positive airway pressure therapy or bi-level ventilation, attended by a technologist

## Allowable Home-Based Sleep Studies Procedure Codes

HCPCS (Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System) Procedure Code	Description
G0398 Home Sleep Study — Type II	Home sleep study test (HST) with type II portable monitor, unattended; minimum of 7 channels: EEG, EOG, EMG, ECG/heart rate, airflow, respiratory effort and oxygen saturation
G0399 Home Sleep Study — Type III	Home sleep test (HST) with type III portable monitor, unattended; minimum of 4 channels: 2 respiratory movement/airflow, 1 ECG/heart rate and 1 oxygen saturation

Topic #643

## Unlisted Procedure Codes

According to the HCPCS (Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System) codebook, 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:

- If submitting on paper using the 1500 Health Insurance Claim Form ((02/12)), the provider may do either of the following:
  - Include supporting information/description in Item Number 19 of the claim form.
  - Include supporting documentation on a separate paper attachment. This option should be used if Item Number 19 on the 1500 Health Insurance Claim Form does not allow enough space for the description or when billing multiple unlisted procedure codes. Providers should indicate "See Attachment" in Item Number 19 of the claim form and send the supporting documentation along with the claim form.
- If submitting electronically using DDE (Direct Data Entry) on the Portal, PES (Provider Electronic Solutions) software, or

837 (837 Health Care Claim) electronic transactions, the provider may do one of the following:

- Include supporting documentation in the Notes field. The Notes field is limited to 80 characters.
- Indicate 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.

Topic #830

## Valid Codes Required on Claims

ForwardHealth requires that all codes indicated on claims and PA (prior authorization) requests, including diagnosis codes, revenue codes, HCPCS (Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System) codes, and CPT (Current Procedural Terminology) codes be valid codes. Claims received without valid diagnosis codes, revenue codes, and HCPCS or CPT codes will be denied; PA requests received without valid codes will be returned to the provider. Providers should refer to current national coding and billing manuals for information on valid code sets.

### Code Validity

In order for a code to be valid, it must reflect the highest number of required characters as indicated by its national coding and billing manual. If a stakeholder uses a code that is not valid, ForwardHealth will deny the claim or return the PA request, and it will need to be resubmitted with a valid code.

### Code Specificity for Diagnosis

All codes allow a high level of detail for a condition. The level of detail for ICD (International Classification of Diseases) diagnosis codes is expressed as the level of specificity. In order for a code to be valid, it must reflect the highest level of specificity (i.e., contain the highest number of characters) required by the code set. For some codes, this could be as few as three characters. If a stakeholder uses an ICD diagnosis code that is not valid (i.e., not to the specific number of characters required), ForwardHealth will deny the claim or return the PA request, and it will need to be resubmitted with a valid ICD diagnosis code.

## Covered Services and Requirements

---

Topic #1925

### An Overview

An RHC (rural health clinic) is a primary care clinic serving a rural, underserved area and is eligible for cost-based reimbursement from Wisconsin Medicaid for specific services, known as RHC services. In addition, RHCs provide a range of medical and surgical services for which they may be reimbursed based on the appropriate provider-specific maximum allowable fee schedule.

Cost-based reimbursement is based on an RHC's "reasonable costs." Reasonable costs are determined using Medicare reasonable cost principles. Generally, RHCs report reasonable costs on an annual cost report, which is used to generate an average rate per visit, also known as an encounter rate. The encounter rate is applied to member visits that meet the encounter criteria to generate a settlement amount. The settlement amount is paid to the RHC in a lump sum.

Topic #17517

### Cellular/Tissue-Based Products

ForwardHealth covers CTPs (cellular/tissue-based products) in limited circumstances where evidence of efficacy is strong. ForwardHealth only covers CTPs for wound treatment for members with neuropathic diabetic foot ulcers, non-infected venous leg ulcers, or members who are undergoing breast reconstruction surgery following a breast cancer diagnosis.

CTPs are biological or biosynthetic products used to assist in the healing of open wounds. Evidence of the efficacy of this treatment varies significantly by both the patient treated and the product being used.

### Product Coverage Review Policy

Currently, limited research is available on the effectiveness of CTPs. ForwardHealth uses [Hayes ratings](#) to determine the appropriateness and effectiveness of medical products such as CTPs.

Topic #1903

### Covered Services That Are Not Rural Health Clinic Services

There are items and services covered and reimbursable by Wisconsin Medicaid that do not fall under the definition of RHC (rural health clinic) services and may not be claimed as RHC service costs or encounters on the cost report. Nevertheless, RHCs may be reimbursed by Medicaid fee-for-service for these services if they are appropriately enrolled and have the appropriate billing provider NPI (National Provider Identifier). Further information concerning coverage and payment procedures for non-RHC services may be obtained from the appropriate service-specific area.

Covered items or services that cannot be included in the cost report as RHC service costs or encounters include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Ambulance services.

- Charges for hearing aids or eyeglasses.
- Diagnostic tests, unless an interpretation of the test is provided by an RHC physician.
- DME (durable medical equipment) (whether rented or sold), including oxygen tents, hospital beds, and wheelchairs used in the member's place of residence.
- Drugs routinely self-administered.
- Home health therapy or aide services.
- Laboratory services, diagnostic and screening.
- Leg, arm, back, and neck braces and artificial legs, arms, and eyes, including replacements (if required because of a change in the member's physical condition).
- Services provided to inpatient or outpatient hospital members.

Reimbursement is not available for [noncovered outpatient mental health and substance abuse services](#).

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 #1904

## Home Health Services

Intermittent visiting nurse care and related medical services, other than drugs and biologicals, are covered as RHC (rural health clinic) services when:

- The clinic is located in an area where there is a shortage of home health agencies.
- Services are provided by an RN (registered nurse) or LPN (licensed practical nurse).
- The services are furnished under a written plan of treatment that is established and reviewed at least every 60 days by a supervising physician of the RHC or established by a physician, physician assistant, or nurse practitioner and reviewed and approved every 60 days by a supervising physician of the RHC.

RHCs interested in providing home health services should call [Provider Services](#) and ask to speak with the DMS (Division of Medicaid Services) RHC Analyst.

## Covered Services

For complete information on covered services and PA (prior authorization), providers can refer to the [Home Health service area](#).

Topic #17937

## Low-Dose Computed Tomography Scans

ForwardHealth covers low-dose CT (computed tomography) scans (identified by HCPCS (Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System) procedure code G0297) for lung cancer screening without PA (prior authorization) for Wisconsin Medicaid and BadgerCare Plus-enrolled members who are at high risk for lung cancer and meet all of the following criteria:

- Are aged 55 to 80
- Have a 30-pack-a-year smoking history, as indicated by the appropriate ICD (International Classification of Diseases)

diagnosis code

- Are either current smokers or have quit smoking within the past 15 years, as indicated by the appropriate ICD diagnosis code
- Have no signs or symptoms suggestive of underlying cancer

ForwardHealth requires PA for coverage of all other CT scans, including those that would be performed as a follow up to the initial low-dose CT screening, unless the provider has an exemption under ForwardHealth's [advanced imaging PA exemption program](#).

Topic #1902

## Nurse Practitioner and Nurse Midwife Services

Nurse practitioner and nurse midwife services are covered as RHC (rural health clinic) services when the services are:

- Provided by a nurse practitioner or nurse midwife employed by or under contract with an RHC.
- Performed under the general supervision of a physician.
- Provided in accordance with clinic policies for a patient's care and treatment.
- Performed within the legal scope of practice as defined under the Wisconsin Board of Nursing licensure or certification.
- Included in the individual nurse practitioner's protocols or a collaborative relationship with a physician as defined by the Board of Nursing.

Nurse practitioner and nurse midwife services include diagnosis, treatment, therapy, and consultation performed directly by a nurse practitioner or nurse midwife.

### Supervision

Medicaid-enrolled nurse practitioners who work under the general supervision of a physician are required to be supervised to the extent required pursuant to Board of Nursing [N 6.02\(7\)](#), Wis. Admin. Code, which defines general supervision as the regular coordination, direction, and inspection of the practice of another and does not require the physician to be on site.

Pursuant to Board of Nursing [N 8.10\(7\)](#), Wis. Admin. Code, APNPs (advanced practice nurse prescribers) work in a collaborative relationship with a physician. The collaborative relationship means an APNP works with a physician, "in each other's presence when necessary, to deliver health care services within the scope of the practitioner's professional expertise."

Clinics that are not physician directed must arrange with a physician to provide supervision and guidance to nurse practitioners and nurse midwives, according to protocols and established clinic policies and procedures. The arrangement must be consistent with Wisconsin state law. The physician must be a doctor of medicine or osteopathy.

In the case of a physician-directed clinic, one or more clinic staff physicians must perform general supervision of nurse practitioners and nurse midwives.

### Covered Services

Medically necessary nurse practitioner and nurse midwife services are covered when they are also considered covered physician services.

Medicaid-enrolled nurse midwives are limited to providing the following categories of covered services:

- Family planning services.
- Laboratory services.



- Obstetric services.
- Office and outpatient visits.
- TB (Tuberculosis)-related services.

The practice of nurse midwifery means the management of women's health care, pregnancy, childbirth, postpartum care for newborns, family planning, and gynecological services consistent with the standards of practice of the American College of Nurse Midwives and the education, training, and experience of the nurse midwife (Board of Nursing s. [441.15](#), Wis. Stats.).

Only antepartum and postpartum visits and outpatient treatment of complications are eligible for cost-based reimbursement.

Topic #1901

## Obstetric Services

Providers have a choice of how and when to file claims for OB (obstetric) care. Providers may choose to submit claims using either the separate OB component procedure codes as they are performed or the appropriate global OB procedure code with the date of delivery as the DOS (date of service).

*Note:* Only antepartum and postpartum care services are considered RHC (rural health clinic) services (i.e., they can be included on the annual and quarterly Medicaid RHC cost reports). Deliveries, while they may be covered by Wisconsin Medicaid or BadgerCare Plus, are not RHC services, and therefore, they cannot be included on the cost report.

Wisconsin Medicaid will not reimburse individual antepartum care, delivery, or postpartum care codes if a provider also submits a claim for global OB care codes for the same member during the same pregnancy or delivery. The exception to this rule is in the case of multiple births where more than one delivery procedure code may be reimbursed. (Refer to "Delivery" for details.)

### Separate Obstetric Care Components

Providers should use the following guidelines when submitting claims for separate OB components.

*Note:* A telephone call between a member and a provider does not qualify as an office visit.

#### Antepartum Care

Antepartum care includes dipstick urinalysis, routine exams, and recording of weight, blood pressure, and fetal heart tones.

Providers should provide **all** antepartum care visits before submitting a claim to ForwardHealth.

Use the appropriate E&M (evaluation and management) service code representing the POS (place of service) and visit level with modifier TH when submitting claims for one to three total antepartum care visits with the same provider or provider group. For example, if a total of two or three antepartum care visits is performed during a woman's pregnancy, the provider should indicate the appropriate E&M procedure code with modifier TH and a quantity of "1.0" for the first DOS. For the second and third visits, the provider should indicate the appropriate E&M procedure code with modifier TH and a quantity of "1.0" or "2.0," as indicated in the table. The date of the last antepartum care visit is the DOS.

Similarly, for CPT (Current Procedural Terminology) codes 59425 (Antepartum care only; 4-6 visits) and 59426 (Antepartum care only; 7 or more visits), the provider should indicate the date of the last antepartum care visit as the DOS. The quantity indicated for these two codes may not exceed "1.0."

#### Antepartum Care Claims Submission Guide

Total Visit(s)	Procedure Code and Description *		Modifier and Description	Quantity
1	Appropriate E&M service code representing POS and LOC (level of care)		TH (Obstetrical treatment/ services, prenatal or postpartum)	1.0
2	Appropriate E&M service code representing POS and LOC		TH	1.0
	Appropriate E&M service code representing POS and LOC		TH	1.0
3	Appropriate E&M service code representing POS and LOC		TH	1.0
	Appropriate E&M service code representing POS and LOC		TH	2.0
4-6	59425	Antepartum care only; 4-6 visits		1.0
7+	59426	7 or more visits		1.0

\*Refer to the current CPT code book for a complete description of procedure codes.

Occasionally, a provider may be unsure of whether a member has had previous antepartum care with another provider. If the member is unable to provide this information, the provider should assume the first time they see the member is the first antepartum visit.

Reimbursement for antepartum care (appropriate E&M service code representing POS and LOC with modifier TH, appropriate E&M service code representing POS and LOC with modifier TH, 59425, and 59426) is limited to once per pregnancy, per member, per billing provider.

## Postpartum Care

Postpartum care includes all routine management and care of the postpartum patient including exploration of the uterus, episiotomy and repair, repair of obstetrical lacerations and placement of hemostatic packs or agents. These are part of both the post-delivery and post-hospital office visits, both of which must occur in order to receive reimbursement for postpartum care or global obstetric care.

In accordance with the standards of the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, Medicaid reimbursement for postpartum care includes **both** the routine post-delivery hospital care **and** an outpatient/office visit. Post-delivery hospital care alone is included in the reimbursement for delivery. When submitting a claim for postpartum care, the DOS is the date of the post-hospital discharge office visit. In order to receive reimbursement, the member **must** be seen in the office.

The length of time between a delivery and the office postpartum visit should be dictated by good medical practice. Wisconsin Medicaid or BadgerCare Plus do not dictate an "appropriate" period for postpartum care; however, the industry standard is six to eight weeks following delivery. A telephone call between a member and a provider does **not** qualify as a postpartum visit.

## Reporting Antepartum Care and Postpartum Care Encounters on the Cost Report

To report encounters when claims for antepartum care and postpartum care only procedure codes have been submitted, include:

- The actual number of encounters.
- One hundred percent of fee-for-service payments received.

## Global Obstetric Care

Providers may submit claims using global OB codes. However, the delivery component, although covered, is not an allowable RHC service.

Providers choosing to submit claims for global OB care are required to perform all of the following:

- A minimum of six antepartum visits.
- Vaginal or cesarean delivery.
- The post-delivery hospital visit and a minimum of one postpartum office visit.

When submitting claims for total OB care, providers should use the single most appropriate CPT OB procedure code and a single charge for the service. Use the date of delivery as the DOS.

All services must be performed to receive reimbursement for global obstetric care. Providers are required to provide all six (or more) antepartum visits, delivery, and the postpartum office visit in order to receive reimbursement for global OB care. If fewer than six antepartum visits have been performed, the provider performing the delivery may submit a claim using the appropriate delivery procedure code and, as appropriate, antepartum and postpartum visit procedure codes.

If the required postpartum office visit does not occur following claims submission for the global delivery, the provider is required to adjust the claim to reflect antepartum care and delivery if there is no documentation of a postpartum visit in the member's medical record.

### Group Claims Submission for Global Obstetric Care

When several OB providers in the same clinic or medical/surgical group practice perform the delivery and provide antepartum and postpartum care to the same member during the pregnancy, the clinic may choose to submit a claim using a single procedure code for the service. The provider should indicate the group Medicaid billing number and identify the primary OB provider as the rendering provider in this situation.

### Reporting Global Obstetric Care Encounters on the Cost Report

To report encounters in the cost report when claims for OB services have been submitted using global OB codes, providers should use the following guidelines.

Report the actual number of antepartum and postpartum visits as encounters. Report the difference between the global OB procedure code reimbursement and the maximum fee for delivery as the amount reimbursed by Wisconsin Medicaid for the antepartum and postpartum care encounters. Providers should use the following table to determine which delivery code to use with the global OB codes.

When reporting encounters associated with a global OB code, use the date of delivery as the DOS.

Global OB Care CPT Codes and Corresponding Delivery CPT Codes			
Global OB CPT Codes		Corresponding Delivery CPT Codes	
59400	Routine obstetric care including antepartum care, vaginal delivery (with or without episiotomy, and/or forceps) and postpartum care	59409	Vaginal delivery only (with or without episiotomy and/or forceps)

59510	Routine obstetric care including antepartum care, cesarean delivery, and postpartum care	59514	Cesarean delivery only
59610	Routine obstetric care including antepartum care, vaginal delivery (with or without episiotomy, and/or forceps) and postpartum care, after previous cesarean delivery	59612	Vaginal delivery only, after previous cesarean delivery (with or without episiotomy, and/or forceps)
59618	Routine obstetric care, including antepartum care, cesarean delivery, and postpartum care, following attempted vaginal delivery after previous cesarean delivery	59620	Cesarean delivery only, following attempted vaginal delivery after previous cesarean delivery

Topic #1900

## Other Ambulatory Services

Other ambulatory services that are included in a written plan of treatment and meet state plan requirements for furnishing those services, such as outpatient mental health/substance abuse services, are covered as RHC (rural health clinic) services. Other ambulatory services furnished by an RHC are not subject to the physician supervision requirements under [DHS 105.35](#), Wis. Admin. Code.

Topic #1899

## Outpatient Mental Health/Substance Abuse Services

Wisconsin Medicaid covers outpatient mental health and outpatient substance abuse services as RHC (rural health clinic) services when all of the following are met:

- The services must be provided by a psychiatrist, Ph.D. psychologist, a certified outpatient mental health clinic, Wis. Admin. Code § [DHS 75.13](#) or [DHS 75.15](#), or a certified substance abuse clinic.
- Psychiatrists, Ph.D. psychologists, Master's-level therapists, and substance abuse counselors must be individually enrolled in Wisconsin Medicaid and be either an RHC employee or under contract with the RHC.
- The certified outpatient mental health clinic or substance abuse clinic must also be enrolled in Wisconsin Medicaid.
- Outpatient psychotherapy services are provided in accordance with Wis. Admin. Code §§ [DHS 75.13\(2\)](#) and [DHS 75.13\(3\)](#).
- Outpatient substance abuse services are provided in accordance with Wis. Admin. Code § [DHS 75.13](#) or [DHS 75.15](#).

## Covered Services

Allowable RHC services include mental health and substance abuse evaluations, psychotherapy, and substance abuse counseling. Covered services are those described in Wis. Admin. Code §§ [DHS 107.13\(2\)](#) and [DHS 107.13\(3\)](#). Refer to the [Outpatient Mental Health](#) and [Substance Abuse](#) service areas for complete information on covered outpatient mental health and outpatient substance abuse services.

## Limitations

Refer to the Outpatient Mental Health and Substance Abuse service areas for complete information on limitations to covered Medicaid outpatient mental health/substance abuse services.

Reimbursement is not available for [noncovered outpatient mental health and substance abuse services](#).

Topic #1898

## Physician Services

### Physician and Physician Assistant Services

Wisconsin Medicaid reimburses for professional services performed by Medicaid-enrolled physicians and physician assistants employed or under contract with an RHC (rural health clinic). However, cost-based RHC reimbursement is allowed only for RHC physician and physician assistant services. Physicians who perform outpatient mental health, outpatient substance abuse services, psychotherapy, vision services, or who dispense drugs should refer to the following service areas:

- Physician.
- Outpatient Mental Health.
- Outpatient Substance Abuse.
- Pharmacy (for physicians who dispense drugs).
- Vision.

The service areas for the above have information regarding covered services, PA (prior authorization) guidelines, and billing instructions.

Topic #1897

## Rural Health Clinic Services Defined

RHCs (rural health clinics) are primary care clinics that provide a range of services defined as RHC services.

Wisconsin Medicaid defines RHC services as the following services:

- Physician and physician assistant services.
- Services and supplies incidental to physician and physician assistant services.
- Nurse practitioner and nurse midwife services.
- Services and supplies incidental to the services of nurse practitioners and nurse midwives.
- Intermittent visiting nurse care and related medical supplies, other than drugs and biologicals, if:
  - The clinic is located in an area where there is a shortage of home health agencies.
  - The services are furnished by a RN (registered nurse) or LPN (licensed practical nurse) employed by, or under contract with, the RHC.
  - The services are furnished to a homebound member, as defined in [DHS 107.11\(2\)](#), Wis. Admin. Code.
- Other ambulatory services included in the written plan of treatment that meet specific Medicaid state plan requirements for furnishing those services. These services include outpatient mental health/substance abuse services, such as those provided by a clinical psychologist or clinical social worker.

Wisconsin Medicaid reimburses only for those services that are medically necessary, appropriate, and the most cost effective, to the extent that alternative services are available.

Providers should refer to their appropriate service-specific areas for complete information about enrollment requirements, covered services, reimbursement methods, and claims submission.

## Encounter Definition

An RHC-allowable encounter is defined as a face-to-face visit between a member and a Medicaid-enrolled provider to perform an RHC service. To be included as an encounter on the cost report, claims for the service provided must have been submitted and paid.

Topic #18177

## Sleep Medicine Testing

Sleep medicine testing involves six or more hours of continuous and simultaneous monitoring and recording of various physiological and pathophysiological parameters of sleep with physician review, interpretation, and reporting. Polysomnography is distinguished from facility-based sleep studies and home-based sleep studies by the inclusion of sleep staging. Type IV sleep testing devices are not covered by ForwardHealth.

## Coverage Requirements

### Facility-Based Sleep Studies and Polysomnography

ForwardHealth covers facility-based sleep studies and polysomnography when ordered by the member's physician and performed in a sleep laboratory, an outpatient hospital, or an independent diagnostic testing facility for sleep disorders. Physicians interpreting facility-based sleep studies and polysomnograms are required to have board certification in sleep medicine in order for the services to be reimbursed.

A list of allowable facility-based sleep study and polysomnography CPT (Current Procedural Terminology) procedure codes is [available](#). Facility-based sleep study and polysomnography procedures do not require PA (prior authorization).

### Home-Based Sleep Studies

ForwardHealth covers unattended home-based sleep studies when ordered by the member's physician. Physicians interpreting home-based sleep studies are required to have board certification in sleep medicine in order for the services to be reimbursed.

A list of allowable home-based sleep study HCPCS (Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System) procedure codes is [available](#). Home-based sleep studies do not require PA.

## Coverage Limitations for Sleep Medicine Testing

ForwardHealth does not cover the following:

- Unattended sleep studies for the diagnosis of obstructive sleep apnea in members with significant comorbid medical conditions that may affect the accuracy of the unattended sleep study, including, but not limited to, other sleep disorders.
- Attendance of a nurse, home health aid, or personal care worker during a home-based sleep study.
- Any parts of a home-based sleep study performed by a DME (durable medical equipment) provider including, but not limited to, the delivery and/or pick up of the device.
- Home-based sleep studies for children (ages 18 and younger).
- Abbreviated daytime sleep study (PAP-NAP) or daytime nap polysomnography.

Topic #510

## Telehealth

ForwardHealth allows [certain covered services](#) to be provided via telehealth (also known as "telemedicine"). Telehealth enables a provider who is located at a distant site to render the service remotely to a member located at an originating site using a combination of interactive video, audio, and externally acquired images through a networking environment.

### Allowable Providers

The following types of providers may be reimbursed for providing telehealth services at a distant site:

- Audiologists
- Nurse midwives
- Nurse practitioners
- Ph.D. psychologists
- Physician assistants
- Physicians
- Psychiatrists
- Professionals providing services in mental health or substance abuse programs certified by the DQA (Division of Quality Assurance)

### Allowable Originating Sites

The member must be at one of the following originating sites during the telehealth service:

- Hospitals, including emergency departments
- Office/clinic
- Skilled nursing facility

### Requirements and Restrictions

Services provided via telehealth must be of sufficient audio and visual fidelity and clarity as to be functionally equivalent to a face-to-face encounter where both the rendering provider and member are in the same physical location. Both the distant and originating sites must have the requisite equipment and staffing necessary to provide the telehealth service.

Coverage of a service provided via telehealth is subject to the same restrictions as when the service is provided face-to-face [e.g., allowable providers, multiple service limitations, PA (prior authorization)].

Providers are reminded that HIPAA (Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996) confidentiality requirements apply to telehealth services. When a covered entity or provider utilizes a telehealth service that involves PHI (protected health information), the entity or provider will need to conduct an accurate and thorough assessment of the potential risks and vulnerabilities to PHI confidentiality, integrity, and availability. Each entity or provider must assess what are reasonable and appropriate security measures for his or her situation.

*Note:* Providers may not require the use of telehealth as a condition of treating a member. Providers must develop and implement their own methods of informed consent to verify that a member agrees to receive services via telehealth. These methods must comply with all federal and state regulations and guidelines.

### Noncovered Services

The following are not covered as telehealth services:

- Telephone conversations
- Written electronic communications (e.g., email, texts)
- Store and forward services (defined as the asynchronous transmission of medical information to be reviewed at a later time by a provider at a distant site)
- Services that are not covered when delivered face-to-face

## Claims Submission and Reimbursement for Distant Site Providers

Claims for services provided via telehealth by distant site providers must be billed with the same procedure code as would be used for a face-to-face encounter along with HCPCS (Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System) modifier GT (via interactive audio and video telecommunication systems).

Claims must also include POS (place of service) code 02 (Telehealth: the location where health services and health-related services are provided or received through telehealth telecommunication technology). ForwardHealth reimburses the service rendered by distant site providers at the same rate as when the service is provided face-to-face.

### Ancillary Providers

Claims for services provided via telehealth by distant site ancillary providers should continue to be submitted under the supervising physician's NPI (National Provider Identifier) using the lowest appropriate level office or outpatient visit procedure code or other appropriate CPT (Current Procedural Terminology) code for the service performed. These services must be provided under the direct on-site supervision of a physician who is located at the same physical site as the ancillary provider and must be documented in the same manner as services that are provided face to face.

### Pediatric and Health Professional Shortage Area-Eligible Services

Claims for services provided via telehealth by distant site providers may additionally qualify for pediatric (services for members 18 years of age and under) or HPSA (Health Professional Shortage Area)-enhanced reimbursement. Pediatric and HPSA-eligible providers are required to indicate POS code 02, along with modifier GT and the applicable pediatric or HPSA modifier, when submitting claims that qualify for [enhanced reimbursement](#).

## Claims Submission and Reimbursement for Originating Site Facility Fee

In addition to reimbursement to the distant site provider, ForwardHealth reimburses an originating site facility fee for the staff and equipment at the originating site requisite to provide a service via telehealth. Providers who serve as the originating site should bill the facility fee with HCPCS procedure code Q3014 (Telehealth originating site facility fee). HCPCS modifier GT should not be included with procedure code Q3014.

Providers who bill on a professional claim form should bill Q3014 with a POS code that represents where the member is located during the service. The POS must be a ForwardHealth-allowable originating site for procedure code Q3014 in order to be reimbursed for the originating site fee. The originating site fee is reimbursed based on a [maximum allowable fee](#).

Providers who bill on an institutional claim form should bill Q3014 as a separate line item with the appropriate revenue code. ForwardHealth will reimburse these providers for the facility fee based on the provider's standard reimbursement methodology.

## Documentation Requirements

All services provided via telehealth must be thoroughly documented in the member's medical record in the same manner as services provided face-to-face. As a reminder, documentation for originating sites must support the member's presence in order to submit a claim for the originating site facility fee. In addition, if the originating site provides and bills for services in addition to the



originating site facility fee, documentation in the member's medical record should distinguish between the unique services provided.

## Additional Policy for Certain Types of Providers

### Out-of-State Providers

ForwardHealth policy for services provided via telehealth by [out-of-state providers](#) is the same as ForwardHealth policy for services provided face-to-face by out-of-state providers. Out-of-state providers who do not have border status enrollment with Wisconsin Medicaid are required to obtain PA before providing services via telehealth to BadgerCare Plus or Medicaid members.

*Note:* Wisconsin Medicaid is prohibited from paying providers located outside of the United States and its territories, including the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands, and American Samoa.

### Certified Mental Health and Substance Abuse Treatment Providers

Programs and services certified by the DQA in accordance with Wis. Admin. Code chs. DHS [34](#), [35](#), [36](#), [40](#), [61](#), [63](#), or [75](#) to provide mental health and substance abuse treatment programs or services are required to meet [telehealth certification requirements](#) if they plan to provide services via telehealth.

### Community Health Centers, Tribal Federally Qualified Health Centers, and Rural Health Clinics

CHCs (community health centers), tribal FQHCs (federally qualified health centers), and RHCs (rural health clinics) may serve as originating site and distant site providers for telehealth services.

#### Distant Site

Tribal FQHCs and RHCs may report services provided via telehealth on the cost settlement report when the FQHC or RHC served as the distant site and the member is an established patient of the tribal FQHC or RHC at the time of the telehealth service.

CHCs may not report services provided via telehealth as an encounter. Instead, CHCs should submit claims for distant site services on a professional claim form and will be reimbursed in accordance with the maximum allowable fee schedule.

#### Originating Site

The originating site facility fee is not a tribal FQHC or RHC reportable encounter on the cost report. Any reimbursement for the originating site facility fee must be reported as a deductive value on the cost report.

For CHCs, originating site services should be billed, but no reimbursement will be issued as all costs for providing originating site services have already been incorporated into the PPS (prospective payment system) rates for CHCs. Claims billed by CHCs for originating site services may be used for future rate setting purposes.

## Allowable Services

ForwardHealth only covers telehealth delivery of individual services. For those procedure codes that can be used for either individual or group services, providers may not submit claims for telehealth delivery of group services. Allowable providers may be reimbursed, as appropriate, for the following services (and applicable procedure codes) provided through telehealth.

*Note:* The use of E&M (evaluation and management) codes is subject to [E&M documentation guidelines](#).

Type of Service	Procedure Codes
Adult Mental Health Day Treatment Services	H2012 (for individual services only)

Audiology Services	92550, 92585, 92586, 92587, 92588
Child/Adolescent Day Treatment Services (HealthCheck "Other Services")	H2012 (for individual services only)
Community Support Program Services	H0039 (for individual services only)
Comprehensive Community Services	H2017 (for individual services only)
Crisis Intervention Services	S9484
End-Stage Renal Disease-Related Services	90951-90952, 90954-90958, 90960-90961, 90967-90970
Health and Behavior Assessment/Intervention	96150-96152, 96154-96155
Initial Inpatient Consultations	99251-99255
Office or Other Outpatient Services	99201-99205, 99211-99215*
Office or Other Outpatient Consultations	99241-99245*
Outpatient Mental Health Services (Evaluation, Psychotherapy)	90785, 90791-90792, 90832-90834, 90836-90840, 90845-90847, 90849, 90875, 90876, 90887
Outpatient Substance Abuse Services	H0022, H0047, T1006
Substance Abuse Day Treatment	H2012 (for individual services only)

\* Telehealth services that are medical in nature and would otherwise be coded as an office visit or consultation evaluation and management visit are covered for members residing in a skilled nursing facility that meets all originating site requirements. Nursing Facility Service Assessments are not covered as telehealth services (e.g. 99304-99318). Domiciliary, Rest Home, or Custodial Care Services and Oversight Services (codes 99324-99340) are not allowable as telehealth services.

# EHR Incentive Program

4

Archive Date:09/04/2018

## EHR Incentive Program:An Overview

---

Topic #16897

### Certified Electronic Health Record Technology

All Eligible Professionals are required to adopt CEHRT (Certified Electronic Health Record Technology) that meets the criteria outlined by the ONC (Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology), regardless of the stage of Meaningful Use they are demonstrating. Eligible Professionals are required to have the following:

- The base EHR (electronic health record) technology outlined by the ONC
- The EHR technology for the objectives and measures to which they are attesting for the applicable stage of Meaningful Use unless an exclusion applies

An Eligible Professional's CEHRT must be able to support his or her ability to demonstrate the applicable stage of Meaningful Use.

In Program Years 2016, 2017, and 2018, Eligible Professionals are required to use technology certified to the 2014 Edition, the 2015 Edition, or a combination of the two editions.

In Program Year 2019 and subsequent Program Years, all Eligible Professionals are required to use technology certified to the 2015 Edition.

*Note:* If choosing to attest to Stage 3 requirements, Eligible Professionals must use technology certified to the 2015 edition. An Eligible Professional who has technology certified to a combination of 2015 Edition and 2014 Edition may potentially attest to the Stage 3 requirements, if the mix of certified technologies would not prohibit them from meeting the Stage 3 measures. An Eligible Professional who has technology certified to the Edition only, may not attest to Stage 3.

### Documentation Requirements

The Wisconsin Medicaid EHR Incentive Program requires Eligible Professionals to submit documentation indicating the acquisition or use of EHR technology certified to the current federal standards during the Program Year in order to demonstrate a business relationship between an Eligible Professional's place of work and their EHR vendor. All Eligible Professionals, regardless of their year of participation, will be required to submit at least one of the following with their Wisconsin Medicaid EHR Incentive Program application to document their acquisition of 2014 Edition CEHRT, 2015 Edition CEHRT, or a combination of the two editions:

- Contract
- Lease
- Proof of purchase
- Receipt
- Signed and dated vendor letter

All of the following must be identified on the submitted documentation, regardless of format:

- Vendor
- Product
- Product version number

Eligible Professionals are required to retain supporting documentation for their Wisconsin Medicaid EHR Incentive Program application for six years post-attestation.

## Submission Requirements

Individual Eligible Professionals are required to upload to the Wisconsin Medicaid EHR Incentive Program application. Organizations attesting on behalf of **more than one** Eligible Professional may either upload the CEHRT documentation to each application or submit the documentation once, via secure email, with a list of all Eligible Professionals to whom the documentation applies.

## Uploading Documentation

Organizations that are uploading supporting documentation are required to upload it through the Application Submission (Part 1 of 2) page in the Submit section of the Wisconsin Medicaid EHR Incentive Program application. Organizations are strongly encouraged to upload their supporting documentation as a Microsoft® Excel spreadsheet, although Microsoft® Word, and PDF files can also be uploaded. All uploaded files must be two megabytes or less. For specific instructions on uploading supporting documentation, refer to the Wisconsin Medicaid Electronic Health Record Incentive Program User Guide for Eligible Professionals on the [Portal User Guides page](#).

## Emailing Documentation

If submitting supporting documentation via email, Eligible Professionals are required to do the following:

- To ensure documentation is applied to the appropriate application, identify the organization name to which the documentation is applicable within the body of the email.
- Encrypt all confidential information.
- Attach the CEHRT documentation to the email.
- Indicate the following as the subject line of the to the email: "Eligible Professional Application Supporting Documentation."
- Attach the rest of the required documentation to the email before sending it to the Wisconsin Medicaid EHR Incentive Program at [DHSEHRIncentiveProgram@dhs.wisconsin.gov](mailto:DHSEHRIncentiveProgram@dhs.wisconsin.gov).

Eligible Professionals are encouraged to send their CEHRT, [patient volume](#), and Meaningful Use measure documentation in a single email.

Topic #12037

# Overview of the EHR Incentive Program

The EHR (Electronic Health Record) Incentive Program was established under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, also known as the "Stimulus Bill," to encourage certain eligible health care professionals and hospitals to adopt and become meaningful users of CEHRT (Certified Electronic Health Record Technology).

Under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, Medicare and Medicaid have separate EHR incentive programs. All Eligible Professionals must be Wisconsin Medicaid-enrolled in order to participate in the Wisconsin Medicaid EHR Incentive Program in a given Program Year. Eligible Professionals may participate in only one state's Medicaid EHR Incentive Program. Eligible Professionals should apply for EHR payments from the state with which they do most of their business.

Eligible Professionals must first register through the CMS (Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services) R&A (Medicare and Medicaid Electronic Health Record Incentive Program Registration and Attestation System) system. Eligible Professionals may then apply with the Wisconsin Medicaid EHR Incentive Program. All Wisconsin Medicaid EHR Incentive Program applications will be submitted through the secure Provider area of the ForwardHealth Portal.

Payments to Eligible Professionals will be made within 45 calendar days of the approval of a completed and submitted application. Participating Eligible Professionals may receive an incentive payment once per calendar year.

The Wisconsin Medicaid EHR Incentive Program was first made available for Eligible Professionals in 2011 and will be available through 2021. The last date Eligible Professionals were allowed to initially register to begin receiving incentive payments for adopting, implementing, and upgrading EHR technology was December 31, 2016. Eligible Professionals may participate for a total of six years in the Wisconsin Medicaid EHR Incentive Program. Eligible Professionals are encouraged, but not required, to participate in all six allowed payment years.

The Wisconsin Medicaid EHR Incentive Program payment years are defined as calendar years and are composed in the following way:

- First payment year: Eligible Professionals can apply for incentive payments for adopting, implementing, upgrading, demonstrating Meaningful Use of CEHRT.
- Second payment year: Eligible Professionals are required to demonstrate Meaningful Use of CEHRT during any 90-day, continuous period during the payment year.
- Third–sixth payment year: Eligible Professionals are required to demonstrate Meaningful Use of CEHRT for either a 90-day period or the full calendar year depending on the stage of Meaningful use to which they attest and the [Program Year of that attestation](#).

Eligible Professionals are not required to participate in consecutive years of the Wisconsin Medicaid EHR Incentive Program. For example, an Eligible Professional may have registered and completed all requirements for their first year in 2011 and received a payment but then waited until 2013 to demonstrate Meaningful Use during a 90-day, continuous period for the second payment year.

All information submitted on the Wisconsin Medicaid EHR Incentive Program application is subject to audit at any time.

*Note:* Emails from the Wisconsin Medicaid EHR Incentive Program are sent to the contact person provided during the Medicare and Medicaid EHR Incentive Program Registration and Attestation System process. The name indicated in the "From" line for these emails is *DHSEHRIncentiveProgram@dhs.wisconsin.gov*.

## Appeals

---

Topic #12137

### Appeals Process

To file an appeal, the Eligible Professional or Hospital should log into the secure ForwardHealth Portal and select the new quick link called the "Wisconsin Medicaid EHR (Electronic Health Record) Incentive Program Appeal" on the secure Portal homepage.

Eligible Professionals and Hospitals (or an authorized preparer) filing a Wisconsin Medicaid EHR Incentive Program appeal should have the following information on hand when initiating an appeal:

- The NPI (National Provider Identifier) of the Eligible Hospital or Eligible Professional submitting the appeal.
- The payment year for which the appeal is being submitted.
- The name, telephone number, email address, and the preferred method of contact of the person submitting the appeal (i.e., the Eligible Hospital, Eligible Professional, or authorized preparer).

Once the Wisconsin Medicaid EHR Incentive Program has validated that the NPI matches a current application, the Eligible Professional or Hospital will then be able to select the reason to appeal from a drop-down list of reasons or will be able to provide a statement in a free-form comment box.

If the Wisconsin Medicaid EHR Incentive Program cannot match the NPI supplied with a current application, the Eligible Professional or Hospital will receive the following message: "A Wisconsin Medicaid EHR Incentive Program application that is denied or approved for payment is not found for the Eligible Hospital/Professional submitted. Please verify the information entered. If you believe this message was received in error, contact Provider Services." The Eligible Professional or Hospital should then contact Provider Services.

After selecting the reason for the appeal or providing a statement in the free-form comment box, the Eligible Professional or Hospital will then be able to upload any relevant supporting documentation in support of their appeal. This documentation may include any PDF (Portable Document Format) files up to 5 MBs each. Eligible Hospitals and Eligible Professionals should note that they must upload all relevant supporting documentation at the time of submission, as they will not be able to return to the appeal application to upload any documentation after submitting the appeal. Eligible Professionals and Eligible Hospitals will also have the option of creating a PDF of their appeal for their files.

After submission of the appeal, Eligible Professionals or Hospitals will receive a tracking number that is assigned to each appeal. Eligible Professionals and Hospitals should have this tracking number on hand to reference if they need to contact Provider Services regarding their appeal.

Once an appeal has been filed, the Eligible Professional or Hospital will receive an e-mail confirming the receipt of the appeal request and a second e-mail confirming that the appeal request has been adjudicated. The Wisconsin Medicaid EHR Incentive Program will communicate the appeal determination through a decision letter, sent to the address provided during Wisconsin Medicaid EHR Incentive Program application process, within 90 days of receipt of all information needed to make a determination. The decision letter will state whether the appeal has been denied or approved.

Topic #12477

### Valid Reasons to Appeal

Eligible Professionals and Hospitals may only appeal to the Wisconsin Medicaid EHR (Electronic Health Record) Incentive Program for the following reasons:

- To dispute the payment amount.
- To appeal a denied Wisconsin Medicaid EHR Incentive Program application.

## Appealing a Payment Amount

Eligible Professionals and Hospitals who wish to appeal a payment amount must do so within 45 calendar days of the RA (Remittance Advice) date of the Wisconsin Medicaid EHR Incentive Program payment.

## Appealing a Denied Wisconsin Medicaid Electronic Health Record Incentive Program Application

Eligible Professionals and Hospitals who do not qualify for a Wisconsin Medicaid EHR Incentive Program payment will receive a denial letter in the mail, sent to the address provided during the Wisconsin Medicaid EHR Incentive Program application process. The letter will explain why their Wisconsin Medicaid EHR Incentive Program application was denied. Eligible Professionals and Hospitals who wish to appeal a denied Wisconsin Medicaid EHR Incentive Program application must do so within 45 calendar days from the date on the denial letter.

Eligible Professionals and Hospitals should refer to the tables below for the following information:

- A complete list of valid application denial appeal reasons.
- Additional supporting documentation that the Eligible Professional or Hospital may be required to upload based on the type of appeal, including instances when a statement is needed from the Eligible Professional or Hospital in the appeals application free-form comment box.
- Appealing the payment amount.

Denied Application Appeals	
Reason for Appeal	Documentation Needed
The patient volume required by the CMS (Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services) have not been met, see federal rule 42 CFR 495.304.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• For Eligible Hospitals, provide the out-of-state patient volume for the reported 90-day period on the Wisconsin Medicaid EHR Incentive Program application.</li> <li>• For Eligible Professionals, provide the patient volume for the reported 90-day period on the Wisconsin Medicaid EHR Incentive Program application.</li> </ul>
The Eligible Hospital has indicated it is not an acute care hospital with an average length of stay of 25 days or less or a children's hospital.	Acute care and children's hospitals are required to have an average length of stay for patients of 25 days or less to qualify for the Wisconsin Medicaid EHR Incentive Program. If the question was answered incorrectly when completing the original Wisconsin Medicaid EHR Incentive Program application, provide a clarifying statement indicating the reason why the Eligible Hospital meets the requirements for the program.
	Eligible Hospitals must agree to participate in only one state's



The Eligible Hospital did not confirm to only participate in the Wisconsin Medicaid EHR Incentive Program.	Medicaid EHR Incentive Program. If the question was answered incorrectly when completing the original Wisconsin Medicaid EHR Incentive Program application, provide a clarifying statement that the Eligible Hospital confirms to only participate in the Wisconsin Medicaid EHR Incentive Program.
The Eligible Professional has indicated that they have current or pending sanctions with Medicare or Medicaid and therefore does not qualify for the Wisconsin Medicaid EHR Incentive Program.	Upload documentation proving the Eligible Professional has been reinstated by the Office of Inspector General. If the question was answered incorrectly when completing the original Wisconsin Medicaid EHR Incentive Program application, provide a clarifying statement that the Eligible Professional has no current or pending sanctions with Medicare or Medicaid.
The Eligible Professional has indicated that he or she is hospital based.	Eligible Professionals are not eligible for the Wisconsin Medicaid EHR Incentive Program if they provide 90 percent or more of their services to eligible members in an inpatient hospital or emergency department. If the question was answered incorrectly when completing the original Wisconsin Medicaid EHR Incentive Program application, provide a clarifying statement that the Eligible Professional is not hospital based.
The Eligible Professional has indicated they are not waiving their right to a Medicare EHR Incentive Program payment for this payment year. Eligible Professionals must select to register with either Medicare or Medicaid EHR Incentive Program, but not both.	Eligible Professionals may participate in either Medicare or Medicaid EHR Incentive Programs, but not both. If the question was answered incorrectly when completing the original Wisconsin Medicaid EHR Incentive Program application, provide a clarifying statement that the Eligible Professional is waiving their right to a Medicare EHR Incentive Program payment for this year.

<b>Payment Amount Appeals</b>	
<b>Reason for Appeal</b>	<b>Documentation Needed</b>
Eligible Professional payment amount (pediatrician only)	Provide the patient volume numbers for the reported 90-day period that should have been reported on the original Wisconsin Medicaid EHR Incentive Program application.
Eligible Hospital payment amount	Upload the Eligible Hospital's Medicare and Medicaid Cost Reports for the last four years.

# Clinical Quality Measures

---

Topic #16879

## Clinical Quality Measures Overview

CQMs (clinical quality measures) are tools that help measure or quantify health care processes, outcomes, patient perceptions, organizational structures, and systems that are associated with the ability to provide high-quality health care. Although CQMs are reported separately from Meaningful Use measures, all Eligible Professionals are still required to report CQMs in order to demonstrate Meaningful Use successfully.

CMS (Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services) has defined CQMs that must be reported and has defined recommended core sets of CQMs, one for adults and one for children, based on the analysis of several factors, including the following:

- Conditions that contribute to the morbidity and mortality of the most Medicare and Medicaid beneficiaries
- Conditions that represent national public health priorities
- Conditions that are common to health disparities
- Conditions that disproportionately drive health care costs and could improve with better quality measurement
- Measures that would enable CMS, states, and the provider community to measure quality of care in new dimensions, with a stronger focus on parsimonious measurement
- Measures that include patient and/or caregiver engagement

Eligible Professionals are encouraged to report on the [recommended core set of CQMs](#) that apply to their scope of practice and patient population.

Additionally, CMS selected all CQMs to align with the HHS (Department of Health and Human Services)'s National Quality Strategy priorities for health care quality improvement. These priorities have been placed into the following six domains:

- Person and caregiver-centered experience and outcomes
- Patient safety
- Communication and care coordination
- Community/population health
- Efficiency and cost reduction
- Effective clinical care

Of the 53 approved CQMs, Eligible Professionals are required to report on six.

Zero is an acceptable value for the CQM denominator, numerator, and exclusion fields and will not prevent an Eligible Professional from demonstrating Meaningful Use or receiving an incentive payment. Eligible Professionals can meet the CQM requirements even if one or more CQM has "0" in the denominator, provided that this value was produced by CEHRT (certified electronic health record technology).

See the [CMS Clinical Quality Measure Basics page of the CMS website](#) to learn more about reporting CQMs. For a complete listing of CQMs, refer to the [eCQM Library page of the CMS website](#).

## Clinical Quality Measure Reporting Period

The following date ranges are the CQM reporting periods for the Meaningful User for Program Year 2018:

- The CQM reporting period for Eligible Professionals who are attesting to Meaningful Use criteria for the first time is any continuous 90-day period between January 1, 2018, and December 31, 2018.
- The CQM reporting period for Eligible Professionals who have successfully demonstrated any stage of Meaningful Use in a prior year is the full calendar year from January 1, 2018, through December 31, 2018.

Topic #16880

## Wisconsin Medicaid-Recommended Clinical Quality Measures

Eligible Professionals report CQMs (clinical quality measures) through attestation at an aggregate level. Wisconsin Medicaid recommends Eligible Professionals report on the following priority CQMs. Wisconsin Medicaid highly recommends that Eligible Professionals report measures marked with an "A" in the Wisconsin Medicaid Recommendations column because those measures closely align with Medicaid's initiatives and priorities. Additionally, Wisconsin Medicaid recommends that Eligible Professionals report measures marked with a "B" in the Wisconsin Medicaid Recommendations column because those measures have been identified as potential future areas of interest for Wisconsin Medicaid.

eMeasure ID	National Quality Forum #	Measure Title	CMS (Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services) Domain	Wisconsin Medicaid Recommendations	CMS Recommendations
CMS146v1	0002	Appropriate Testing for Children with Pharyngitis	Efficient Use of Healthcare Resources	B	Pediatric Recommended Core Measure
CMS137v1	0004	Initiation and Engagement of Alcohol and Other Drug Dependence Treatment	Clinical Process/Effectiveness	A	
CMS165v1	0018	Controlling High Blood Pressure	Clinical Process/Effectiveness	A	Adult Recommended Core Measure
CMS156v1	0022	Use of High-Risk Medications in the Elderly	Patient Safety	B	Adult Recommended Core Measure
CMS155v1	0024	Weight Assessment and Counseling for Nutrition and Physical Activity for Children and Adolescents	Population/Public Health	A	Pediatric Recommended Core Measure
		Preventive Care and			

CMS138v1	0028	Screening: Tobacco Use: Screening and Cessation Intervention	Population/Public Health	A	Adult Recommended Core Measure
CMS125v1	0031	Breast Cancer Screening	Clinical Process/Effectiveness	A	
CMS124v1	0032	Cervical Cancer Screening	Clinical Process/Effectiveness	A	
CMS153v1	0033	Chlamydia Screening for Women	Population/Public Health	A	Pediatric Recommended Core Measure
CMS126v1	0036	Use of Appropriate Medications for Asthma	Clinical Process/Effectiveness	A	Pediatric Recommended Core Measure
CMS117v1	0038	Childhood Immunization Status	Population/Public Health	A	Pediatric Recommended Core Measure
CMS166v2	0052	Use of Imaging Studies for Low Back Pain	Efficient Use of Healthcare Resources	B	Adult Recommended Core Measure
CMS122v1	0059	Diabetes: Hemoglobin A1c Poor Control	Clinical Process/Effectiveness	A	
CMS163v1	0064	Diabetes: LDL (Low Density Lipoprotein) Management	Clinical Process/Effectiveness	A	
CMS164v1	0068	IVD: Use of Aspirin or Another Antithrombotic	Clinical Process/Effectiveness	A	
CMS154v1	0069	Appropriate Treatment for Children with URI (Upper Respiratory Infection)	Efficient Use of Healthcare Resources	A	Pediatric Recommended Core Measure
CMS161v1	0104	MDD (Major Depressive Disorder): Suicide Risk Assessment	Clinical Process/Effectiveness	B	
CMS128v1	0105	Anti-depressant Medication Management	Clinical Process/Effectiveness	A	

CMS136v2	0108	ADHD (Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder): Follow-Up Care for Children Prescribed ADHD Medication	Clinical Process/Effectiveness	A	Pediatric Recommended Core Measure
CMS62v1	0403	HIV/AIDS: Medical Visit	Clinical Process/Effectiveness	A	
CMS52v1	0405	HIV/AIDS: PCP (Pneumocystis Jiroveci Pneumonia) Prophylaxis	Clinical Process/Effectiveness	A	
CMS77v1	TBD (proposed as 0407)	HIV/AIDS: RNA Control for Patients with HIV	Clinical Process/Effectiveness	A	
CMS2v2	0418	Preventive Care and Screening: Screening for Clinical Depression and Follow-Up Plan	Population/Public Health	A	Adult Recommended Core Measure Pediatric Recommended Core Measure
CMS68v2	0419	Documentation of Current Medications in the Medical Record	Patient Safety	A	Adult Recommended Core Measure
CMS69v1	0421	Preventive Care and Screening: BMI (Body Mass Index) Screening and Follow-Up	Population/Public Health	B	Adult Recommended Core Measure
CMS159v1	0710	Depression Remission at 12 Months	Clinical Process/Effectiveness	A	
CMS160v1	0712	Depression Utilization of the PHQ-9 Tool	Clinical Process/Effectiveness	A	
CMS75v1	TBD	Children Who Have Dental Decay or Cavities	Clinical Process/Effectiveness	A	Pediatric Recommended Core Measure
CMS65v2	TBD	Hypertension: Improvement in Blood Pressure	Clinical Process/Effectiveness	A	

CMS50v1	TBD	Closing the Referral Loop: Receipt of Specialist Report	Care Coordination	A	Adult Recommended Core Measure
CMS90v2	TBD	Functional Status Assessment for Complex Chronic Conditions	Patient and Family Engagement	B	Adult Recommended Core Measure

## Eligibility

---

Topic #12038

### Eligible Professionals for EHR Incentive Program

To be eligible to participate in the Wisconsin Medicaid EHR (Electronic Health Record) Incentive Program, an Eligible Professional must be enrolled in Wisconsin Medicaid as one of the following:

- Advanced practice nurse prescriber with psychiatric specialty.
- Dentist.
- Nurse midwife.
- Nurse practitioner.
- Physician.
- PAs (physician assistants). Only PAs practicing in an FQHC (federally qualified health center) or RHC (rural health clinic) are considered Eligible Professionals.

*Note:* Under the federal law, only PAs practicing in an FQHC or RHC that is so led by a PA are considered Eligible Professionals. "So led" is defined in the federal regulation as one of the following:

- When a PA is the primary provider in a clinic.
- When a PA is a clinical or medical director at a clinical site of practice.
- When a PA is an owner of an RHC.

Eligible Professionals who are able to demonstrate that they funded the acquisition of the CEHRT (Certified Electronic Health Record Technology) they are using without reimbursement from an Eligible Hospital and provide more than 90 percent of their services in POS (place of service) 21 (Inpatient Hospital) or 23 (Emergency Room — Hospital) are eligible to participate in the Wisconsin Medicaid EHR Incentive Program. Hospital-based Eligible Professionals are required to upload one of the following documents as part of the application process:

- Receipt or proof of purchase detailing the CEHRT, including the vendor, product, and version number.
- Contract or lease detailing the CEHRT, including the vendor, product, and version number.

## Financial Information

---

Topic #12120

### 835 Health Care Claim Payment/Advice Transaction

To assist trading partners in identifying Wisconsin Medicaid EHR (Electronic Health Record) Incentive Program payments received for an Eligible Professional or organizations on the 835 (835 Health Care Claim Payment/Advice) transaction, the NPI (National Provider Identifier) of the Eligible Professional approved to receive the Wisconsin Medicaid EHR Incentive Program payment will appear in segment PLB01 of the 2110 Loop. The PLB03-1 segment identifies the adjustment reason code. A code of LS will represent a positive incentive payment while a code of WO will represent a recovery of a previously paid incentive payment. The PLB04 segment will represent the monetary amount that is either paid or recouped based on the Adjustment Reason Code displayed in PLB03-1.

Topic #12118

### Electronic Funds Transfer

Eligible Professionals who assign payments to themselves as individuals may elect to receive paper checks but are encouraged to set up an EFT (electronic funds transfer). EFTs allow ForwardHealth to directly deposit payments into the group's or Eligible Professional's designated bank account for a more efficient delivery of payments. An EFT is secure, eliminates paper, and reduces the uncertainty of possible delays in mail delivery.

Eligible Professionals that assign payments to an organization or clinic must supply the organization's EFT number. Organizations receiving payment from an Eligible Professional may only receive incentive payments through their existing EFT account.

Refer to the Electronic Funds Transfer User Guide on the [Portal User Guides page](#) of the Portal for information on EFT enrollment.

Topic #12117

### Example of a Six-Year Payment Schedule for an Eligible Professional

Eligible Professionals who complete all the requirements for each applicable payment year will receive incentive payments in lump sums, as listed in the following table. Eligible Professionals may begin registering for the Wisconsin Medicaid EHR (Electronic Health Record) Incentive Program beginning in 2011 and up until 2016.

Calendar Year	Wisconsin Medicaid Eligible Professionals*					
	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
2011	\$21,250	—	—	—	—	—
2012	\$8,500	\$21,250	—	—	—	—
2013	\$8,500	\$8,500	\$21,250	—	—	—



2014	\$8,500	\$8,500	\$8,500	\$21,250	—	—
2015	\$8,500	\$8,500	\$8,500	\$8,500	\$21,250	—
2016	\$8,500	\$8,500	\$8,500	\$8,500	\$8,500	\$21,250
2017	—	\$8,500	\$8,500	\$8,500	\$8,500	\$8,500
2018	—	—	\$8,500	\$8,500	\$8,500	\$8,500
2019	—	—	—	\$8,500	\$8,500	\$8,500
2020	—	—	—	—	\$8,500	\$8,500
2021	—	—	—	—	—	\$8,500
Total	\$63,750	\$63,750	\$63,750	\$63,750	\$63,750	\$63,750

\*Pediatricians with a minimum of 20 percent eligible member patient volume, but less than 30 percent eligible member patient volume will receive two-thirds of the incentive payment amounts. Eligible pediatricians will receive \$14,167 in their first payment year, \$5,667 in their second payment year, and \$42,500 in their third through sixth payment years.

Topic #12105

## Incentive Payment Information

Eligible Professionals who meet all of the requirements will receive an incentive payment once per calendar year. Eligible Professionals must assign payment to either themselves or their organization's federal TIN (tax identification number).

Wisconsin Medicaid EHR (Electronic Health Record) Incentive Program payments for Eligible Professionals may only be assigned to either the Eligible Professional themselves or the group practice assigned for the pay-to address on the Wisconsin Medicaid provider file. Eligible Professionals should ensure that the most current group practice is assigned for the pay-to address. Eligible Professionals can check this information via their ForwardHealth Portal Account in the "Demographic" section.

Topic #12119

## Remittance Advice

### Financial Transactions Section

Eligible Professionals and Eligible Hospitals will see the following information under the "Non-Claim Specific Payouts to Payee" section within the financial transactions page of the TXT (text) version of the RA (Remittance Advice) as well as within Section 130 of the CSV (comma-separated value) downloadable file:

- All Wisconsin Medicaid EHR (Electronic Health Record) Incentive Program payments will appear under the "Non-Claim Specific Payouts to Payee" section of the RA.
- Amounts identified with the Reason Code 0247 will designate the amount as a Wisconsin Medicaid EHR Incentive Program payment.
- Amounts identified with the Reason Code 0248 will designate the amount as a Wisconsin Medicaid EHR Incentive Program positive adjustment.

- Payments reported in this section are processed and mean the same as any other ForwardHealth payment identified within this section.
- A new field has been added, called "Related Provider ID," to identify the NPI (National Provider Identifier) of the individual Eligible Professional approved to receive the Wisconsin Medicaid EHR Incentive Program payment.

Eligible Professionals and Eligible Hospitals will see the following information on the "Accounts Receivable" section within the Financial Transactions page of the TXT version of the RA as well as within Section 150 of the CSV downloadable file:

- If a negative adjusting entry is required to adjust the original Wisconsin Medicaid EHR Incentive Program incentive payment issued, an Accounts Receivable transaction will be generated to initiate the adjusting entry. All Wisconsin Medicaid EHR Incentive Program payment adjustments will be identified with the Reason Code 0265 (EHR Payment Adjustment). The Wisconsin Medicaid EHR Incentive Program payments are subject to recoupment as a result of any monies owed to ForwardHealth.
- The Wisconsin Medicaid EHR Incentive Program payment adjustments are processed and report on the RA as they do today under the Accounts Receivable section.

## Summary Section

The Earnings Data section on the Summary section of the TXT version of the RA and the Sections 160 (Summary Net Payments) and Section 180 (Summary Net Earnings) of the CSV downloadable file will include the Wisconsin Medicaid EHR Incentive Program payments and adjustments reported on the Financial Transactions section. The process for calculating and reporting the net payments and earnings for the Summary section has not changed.

## Meaningful Use of Certified EHR Technology

---

Topic #13357

### Definition of Meaningful Use

The Medicare and Medicaid EHR (Electronic Health Record) Incentive Programs provide a financial incentive for the Meaningful Use of certified technology to achieve health and efficiency goals. By implementing and using EHR systems, Eligible Professionals can also expect benefits beyond financial incentives, such as reduction of clerical errors, immediate availability of records and data, clinical decision support, and e-prescribing and refill automation.

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 specifies three main components of Meaningful Use:

- The use of a certified EHR in a meaningful manner, such as e-prescribing
- The use of CEHRT (Certified Electronic Health Record Technology) for electronic exchange of health information to improve quality of health care
- The use of CEHRT to submit clinical quality and other measures

In short, Meaningful Use means Eligible Professionals need to demonstrate that they are using EHR technology in ways that can be measured in quality and quantity.

Beginning in 2017, Eligible Professionals are required to attest to cooperation with the following policies:

- Demonstration of supporting information exchange and prevention of information blocking
- Demonstration of good faith with a request relating to the Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology direct review of CEHRT (Certified Electronic Health Record Technology)

Topic #13358

### Electronic Health Record Reporting Period for Meaningful Use

The EHR (Electronic Health Record) reporting period is defined as the timeframe when Eligible Professionals report Meaningful Use to the Wisconsin Medicaid EHR Incentive Program. Each Program Year of the EHR Incentive Program follows different rules for determining the EHR reporting period. These are defined as follows:

- In Program Year 2017, the EHR reporting period for Eligible Professionals is any continuous 90 days between January 1, 2017, and December 31, 2017.
- In Program Year 2018, the EHR reporting period for Eligible Professionals is any continuous 90 days between January 1, 2018, and December 31, 2018.
- In Program Year 2019 and subsequent Program Years, the EHR reporting period for all Eligible Professionals, except new meaningful users, will be the full calendar year from January 1, 2019, through December 31, 2019. New meaningful users will be allowed to select any continuous 90-day period as their EHR reporting period.

Topic #13377

### Meaningful Use Criteria Overview

CMS (Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services) has split the Meaningful Use criteria into separate stages that have been introduced over the course of the EHR (electronic health record) Incentive Program through the federal rulemaking process.

- Stage 1 sets the baseline for electronic data capture and information sharing.
- Stage 2 and Modified Stage 2 advance clinical practices and further promote information sharing.
  - The CMS established a modified set of criteria for attestation in Program Years 2015 through 2018, known as Modified Stage 2. Modified Stage 2 replaces the core and menu structure of Stages 1 and 2 with a single set of objectives and measures, and establishes several other changes to the EHR Incentive Program.
  - Eligible Professionals will no longer attest to Stage 1 and Stage 2 criteria. [Archived versions](#) of the Online Handbook containing previous attestation criteria are available for audit purposes.
- Stage 3 uses advanced clinical practices to improve outcomes.

## Meaningful Use Supporting Documentation

Eligible Professionals are required to submit Meaningful Use measure reports to support attestation. Required documentation includes:

- SRA (Security Risk Assessment) documentation. The SRA must be completed prior to December 31, 2018. For groups, practices may provide one SRA for all of their Eligible Professionals.
- Report(s) generated by certified EHR technology supporting all Meaningful Use percentage-based measures (with numerators and denominators) and/or any other source material used by the Eligible Professionals to enter the Meaningful Use measure numerators and denominators.

*Note:* Eligible Professionals are not required to submit documentation supporting their CQMs (Clinical Quality Measures).

Applicable percentage-based measures include:

Modified Stage 2	Stage 3
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Objective 3: Computerized Provider Order Entry</li> <li>• Objective 4: Electronic Prescribing, Measure 1</li> <li>• Objective 5: Health Information Exchange, Measure 1</li> <li>• Objective 6: Patient-Specific Education, Measure 1</li> <li>• Objective 7: Medication Reconciliation, Measure 1</li> <li>• Objective 8: Patient Electronic Access, Measures 1 and 2</li> <li>• Objective 9: Secure Electronic Messaging, Measure 1</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Objective 2: Electronic Prescribing, Measure 1</li> <li>• Objective 4: Computerized Provider Order Entry, Measures 1-3</li> <li>• Objective 5: Patient Electronic Access to Health Information, Measures 1 and 2</li> <li>• Objective 6: Coordination of Care through Patient Engagement, Measures 1-3</li> <li>• Objective 7: Health Information Exchange, Measures 1-3</li> </ul>

Eligible Professionals should use SRA documentation and Meaningful Use reports to demonstrate that requirements were met for

Meaningful Use measures during the EHR reporting period. For percentage-based measures, Eligible Professionals' EHR will electronically record the numerator and denominator and generate a report that includes the numerator, denominator, and percentage. If their Meaningful Use reports do not support the exact data entered in the Attestation section of the application, Eligible Professionals may also submit any other source material used to enter the Meaningful Use measure numerators and denominators.

Eligible Professionals are not required to submit documentation supporting their CQMs.

The following table further describes the acceptable types of documentation:

Documentation Type	Documentation Description	Submission Method	Required
Security Risk Analysis	<p>For Objective 1, Protect Patient Health Information, supply detail on security risk analysis including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Approach for assessment</li> <li>• Results of the assessment</li> <li>• Indication of who performed the assessment</li> </ul> <p>Detail on security update performed as a result of the security risk analysis including, but not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Update made</li> <li>• Date made</li> </ul> <p><i>Note:</i> No exclusion is available for this objective.</p>	Upload or email	Yes
Meaningful Use Reports	<p>This type of documentation can be used for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Percentage-based measures</li> <li>• Any claimed exclusions where the report displays a "0" for the or the report displays a denominator that is less than a threshold specified in the measure exclusion criteria. (For example, if the requirement states that an exclusion may be used by an Eligible Professional with "less than 100 orders" and the report supports that the Eligible Professional had less than 100 orders.)</li> <li>• If Eligible Professionals' Meaningful Use reports do not support the exact data entered in the Attestation section of the application, they may also submit any other source materials used to enter the Meaningful Use measure numerators and denominators.</li> </ul>	Upload or email	Yes

## Meaningful Use Audit Documentation

All information is subject to audit at any time and must be retained by Eligible Professionals for six years post-attestation. If selected for an audit, the applicant must be able to supply [supporting documentation](#).

Topic #19197

## Requirements for Modified Stage 2 Meaningful Use

The requirements for Modified Stage 2 contain 10 objectives for Eligible Professionals, including one consolidated public health reporting objective. Each objective has one or more measures to which Eligible Professionals are required to attest.

Information for Eligible Professionals regarding objectives and measure specifications is available in the [CMS \(Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services\) 2018 Specification Sheets](#).

## Responses for Meaningful Use Measures

Eligible Professionals will have three different types of responses to Meaningful Use measures:

- Yes or no
- Attest to exclusions (any measure not applicable to the Eligible Professional's practice)
- Numerators and denominators

## Exclusions

Some Meaningful Use objectives are not applicable to every Eligible Professional's clinical practice; therefore, no patients or actions would be eligible for the measure denominator. In these cases, the Eligible Professional would be excluded from having to meet that measure. For example, Objective 2 Measure 2 is to "Enable and implement the functionality for drug-drug and drug-allergy interaction checks for the entire EHR reporting period." An Eligible Professional who writes fewer than 100 medication orders during the EHR reporting period may select the exclusion to this measure.

The Wisconsin Medicaid EHR (Electronic Health Record) Incentive Program recommends that Eligible Professionals review the exclusions on the CMS Specification Sheets to see if they appropriately satisfy the exclusion criteria.

*Note:* In the event of an audit, Eligible Professionals will need to support their attestation by providing documentation showing they satisfy the appropriate exclusion criteria. Refer to the Modified Stage 2 Meaningful Use Supporting Documentation Topic for examples of supporting documentation an Eligible Professional would be expected to provide if selected for an audit.

## Numerators and Denominators

When entering percentage-based measures, the calculation to determine the Meaningful Use numerator and denominator will vary by measure. Eligible Professionals should refer to the CMS Specification Sheets for a clear definition of a Meaningful Use numerator and denominator prior to completing the Wisconsin Medicaid EHR Incentive Program application.

*Note:* Meaningful Use numerators and denominators include the number of relevant patients as defined in the Specification Sheets, not just Medicare and Medicaid patients.

Topic #19217

## Consolidated Public Health Objective

For Modified Stage 2 Meaningful Use in Program Years 2015 through 2018, Eligible Professionals are required to attest to a consolidated public health objective, which has three measure options. The following is an overview of the public health reporting objective for Eligible Professionals with details on how to successfully demonstrate active engagement and obtain supporting documentation for public health reporting.

## Public Health Reporting Objective and Measures

The public health reporting objective requires Eligible Professionals to demonstrate active engagement with a public health agency to submit electronic public health data from CEHRT (certified electronic health record technology). The following table shows the three measure options that make up the public health reporting objective.

Measure Number and Name	Measure Specification	Maximum Times Measure Can Count	Exclusion Criteria
<b>Measure 1 — Immunization Registry Reporting</b>	The Eligible Professional is in active engagement with a public health agency to submit immunization data.	1	<p><b>At least one</b> of the following is true:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Does not administer any immunizations during the EHR reporting period.</li> <li>• Operates in a jurisdiction for which no immunization registry is capable of accepting the specific Meaningful Use standards at the start of the EHR reporting period.</li> <li>• Operates in a jurisdiction where no immunization registry has declared readiness at the start of the EHR reporting period.</li> </ul>
<b>Measure 2 — Syndromic Surveillance Reporting</b>	The Eligible Professional is in active engagement with a public health agency to submit syndromic surveillance data.	1	<p><b>At least one</b> of the following is true:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is not in a category of providers from which ambulatory syndromic surveillance data is collected by their jurisdiction.</li> <li>• Operates in a jurisdiction for which no public health agency is capable of receiving electronic syndromic surveillance data per specific Meaningful Use standards at the start of the EHR reporting period.</li> </ul>

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Operates in a jurisdiction where no public health agency has declared readiness to receive syndromic surveillance data at the beginning of the EHR reporting period.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Measure 3 — Specialized Registry Reporting*</b></p>	<p>The Eligible Professional is in active engagement with a public health agency to submit data to a specialized registry.</p>	<p>2</p>	<p><b>At least one</b> of the following is true:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Does not diagnose or treat any disease or condition associated with, or collect relevant data that is required by, a specialized registry in their jurisdiction during the EHR reporting period.</li> <li>Operates in a jurisdiction for which no specialized registry is capable of accepting electronic transaction in the specific Meaningful Use standards at the start of the EHR reporting period.</li> <li>Operates in a jurisdiction where no specialized registry for which the Eligible Professional is eligible has declared readiness to receive electronic registry transactions at the start of the EHR reporting period.</li> </ul>

\*Note: In determining whether an Eligible Professional meets the first exclusion, the registries in question are those sponsored by the public health agencies with jurisdiction over the area where the Eligible Professional practices and by national medical societies covering the Eligible Professional's scope of practice. Therefore, an Eligible Professional is required to complete a minimum of two actions in order to determine available registries or claim an exclusion: 1) determine if the jurisdiction (state, territory, etc.) endorses or sponsors a registry, and 2) determine if a National Specialty Society or other specialty society with which the provider is affiliated endorses or sponsors a registry. Specialized registries sponsored by Wisconsin can be found on the [Public Health Meaningful Use](#) website.

Eligible Professionals in Program Year 2018 are required to attest to any two of the three measures.

**Demonstrating Active Engagement for Public Health Reporting**

For the Modified Stage 2 public health reporting objective, Eligible Professionals are required to be in active engagement with a public health agency to submit electronic public health data from CEHRT. Active engagement means the Eligible Professional is progressing toward sending production data or is sending production data to a public health agency or clinical data registry. Submitting production data shows that an Eligible Professional regularly reports data generated through clinical processes involving patient care from CEHRT to a public health program using appropriate standards and specifications.



An Eligible Professional can meet a public health reporting measure by registering to submit data and demonstrating any of the following Modified Stage 2 active engagement options\*:

- Option 1 — Completed Registration to Submit Data: The Eligible Professional registered to submit data with the public health agency or, where applicable, with the clinical data registry to which the information is being submitted; registration was completed no later than 60 days after the start of his or her EHR reporting period; and the Eligible Professional is awaiting invitation to begin testing and validation. With this option:
  - Eligible Professionals are able to meet the measure even when the public health agency or clinical data registry has limited resources to initiate the testing and validation process.
  - Eligible Professionals are able to meet the measure by registering their intent to report with a registry if a registry declares readiness at any point in the calendar year after the initial 60 days. (However, if an Eligible Professional had already planned to exclude based on the registry not being ready to allow for registrations of intent within the first 60 days of the reporting period, he or she may still exclude for that calendar year.)
  - Eligible Professionals who have completed registration in previous years do not need to submit a new registration to meet this requirement for each EHR reporting period as long as the registration accurately reflects their intent to submit data. Eligible Professionals whose completed registrations do not accurately reflect their intent to submit data for a public health measure are required to update their registration no later than 60 days after the start of their EHR reporting period.

For example, if an Eligible Professional previously only registered intent to submit immunization data and has now decided to also attest to the specialized registry measure for cancer reporting, the Eligible Professional will have to update the existing registration.

- Option 2 — Testing and Validation: The Eligible Professional is in the process of testing and validation of the electronic submission of data.
- Option 3 — Production: The Eligible Professional has completed testing and validation of the electronic submission and is electronically submitting production data to the public health agency or clinical data registry.

*\*Note:* The active engagement options included in Modified Stage 2 replace the ongoing submission requirement in Stage 2; however, they should not be considered mutually exclusive. Eligible Professionals who have already planned for and/or acted toward meeting any of the previous Meaningful Use requirements (Stage 1 or Stage 2 public health reporting objectives) may use those actions to count toward meeting the active engagement options under Modified Stage 2. Multiple exclusions apply.

## Public Health Reporting Exclusions

There are multiple exclusions for each of the public health reporting measures. Claiming an exclusion for a measure does not count toward the total number of public health reporting measures an Eligible Professional is required to meet. Instead, to meet the public health objective, an Eligible Professional is required to do one of the following:

- Demonstrate active engagement with a public health agency for at least the minimum number of measures for his or her scheduled stage.
- Demonstrate active engagement with a public health agency for less than the minimum number of measures for his or her scheduled stage, and claim an applicable exclusion for all remaining measures.

Eligible Professionals who do not collect appropriate or relevant data to submit to a public health agency may be able to claim an exclusion or pick another public health reporting measure. If an Eligible Professional meets the exclusion criteria, he or she can claim the exclusion to the measure. If an Eligible Professional is part of a group that submits data to a registry, but the Eligible Professional does not contribute to that data (e.g., does not administer immunizations), the Eligible Professional should not attest to meeting the measure and should claim the exclusion.

Although exclusions are available for the public health reporting measures, the Wisconsin Medicaid EHR Incentive Program does not formally grant exclusions to Eligible Professionals or offer documentation for Eligible Professionals to use when claiming an

exclusion. Eligible Professionals are required to self-attest to exclusions in the attestation system based on CMS exclusion criteria. It is the Eligible Professional's responsibility to claim an exclusion and maintain the proper documentation to substantiate the attestation.

Topic #19218

## Registration for Public Health Program

All Eligible Professionals participating in Meaningful Use (regardless of scheduled stage) should register with DPH (Wisconsin Division of Public Health) for the public health program and/or registry (e.g., immunizations) to which they intend to electronically submit data. In January 2014, DPH launched PHREDS (Public Health Registration for Electronic Data Submission System), a Microsoft® SharePoint® site where Eligible Professionals register their intent to submit data from CEHRT to a public health program/registry. Eligible Professionals who would like to electronically submit data from CEHRT to a public health program are required to [register through PHREDS](#).

After a registration form is successfully submitted in PHREDS, Eligible Professionals receive a registration confirmation email and are put into a queue with the public health registries for which they have registered. Eligible Professionals in the queue will await an invitation from registry personnel to begin the onboarding process. Onboarding is the testing and validation process Eligible Professionals and public health programs engage in prior to the achievement of ongoing submission of production data. Each registry has a separate process for onboarding Eligible Professionals, but all use PHREDS to manage registrations and the onboarding queue.

In order to meet active engagement option one, all Eligible Professionals who collect the appropriate data should register their intent to submit data to the relevant public health registry no later than 60 days after the start of their EHR reporting period. Based on the registry's onboarding policies, Eligible Professionals may not be invited to further participate in the onboarding process before their EHR reporting period ends; however, they will have successfully demonstrated the public health reporting objective criteria for Active Engagement Option 1 — Completed Registration to Submit Data (and would not have to claim an exclusion).

### Meaningful Use Acknowledgements for Public Health Programs

Meaningful Use Acknowledgements are the mechanism DPH uses to acknowledge that Eligible Professionals have registered, completed a test, or reached ongoing submission of production data from CEHRT. The Wisconsin Medicaid EHR Incentive Program strongly encourages Eligible Professionals to retain these documents (i.e., registration confirmation email and Acknowledgements file) because they are the only forms of documentation produced by DPH for this purpose.

The Wisconsin Medicaid EHR Incentive Program also recommends that all Eligible Professionals save a copy of the Acknowledgements file (in Excel format) dated after the end of their EHR reporting period, even if they are still in the onboarding queue or have achieved ongoing submission of production data. In the event of an audit, Eligible Professionals will use the Acknowledgments file to substantiate their Meaningful Use attestation. The auditor will want to see an Acknowledgments file dated after the end of the EHR reporting period being audited, to confirm the organization's or site's active engagement status with the public health registry at that time. To facilitate the audit process, all Eligible Professionals are encouraged to save a printed or PDF copy of the PHREDS page explaining the contents of the Acknowledgements file.

### Specialized Registries

Modified Stage 2 allows for a wide range of reporting options now and in the future, explicitly stating that Eligible Professionals may choose to report to clinical data registries to satisfy the measure. This means the category of specialized registries used to satisfy the specialized registry measure is not limited to those sponsored by state or local public health agencies, and Eligible Professionals may work with specialized registries outside of DPH to satisfy the Specialized Registry Reporting measure. The registries outside of DPH might include applicable registries sponsored by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, national medical specialty organizations, patient safety organizations, and/or quality improvement organizations. This flexibility in use of specialized registries allows Eligible Professionals to continue in the direction they may have already planned for reporting to

specialized registries.

The DPH does not provide registration, administrative onboarding, compliance, or audit support to Eligible Professionals trying to meet the Specialized Registry Reporting measure if the an Eligible Professional has chosen to use a registry outside of those offered by DPH. Eligible Professionals are strongly encouraged to consider the availability of supporting documentation before attesting to the use of a specialized registry outside of those offered by DPH. In order to be considered a specialized registry by the Wisconsin Medicaid EHR Incentive Program, the agency/registry must:

- Publicly declare readiness to receive electronic data submissions.
- Publicly declare the ability to support the registration/onboarding and production processes.
- Provide proper documentation to providers to support active engagement.

Documentation maintained by an Eligible Professional to support electronic data submission to the specialized registry may also be used, in addition to any documentation provided by the agency/registry.

Eligible Professionals will be prompted to attest to the name of the specialized registry during the application process. The Wisconsin Medicaid EHR Incentive Program also encourages Eligible Professionals to upload documentation supporting their attestation. If an Eligible Professional is intending to attest to a specialized registry sponsored by DPH, appropriate documentation would be the Acknowledgements file provided on the PHREDS SharePoint site.

Topic #19219

## Modified Stage 2 Meaningful Use Audit Documentation

The following table contains examples of supporting documentation an Eligible Professional would be expected to provide if selected for an audit of an application submitted for the Wisconsin Medicaid EHR (Electronic Health Record) Incentive Program under Modified Stage 2 Meaningful Use.

Eligible Professionals should note that measures listed below with an asterisk (\*) have an alternate exclusion available for select Eligible Professionals in either 2015 or 2016. Alternate exclusions are based on an Eligible Professional's scheduled Stage of Meaningful Use and are available for [Program Year 2016 in some limited cases](#). According to the EHR Incentive Program — Stage 3 and Modifications to Meaningful Use in 2015 through 2017 Final Rule (80 FR 62788), CMS (Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services) will not require documentation to claim an alternate exclusion for a measure to which an Eligible Professional did not plan to attest.

Example #	Requirement	Measure	Examples of Supporting Documentation
1	Must report and meet the required threshold/answers for all General Requirements and measures for all objectives	General requirements 01-02 Measures for Objectives 03-09	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Meaningful Use reports/dashboard produced by CEHRT (certified electronic health record technology)</li> <li>• Documentation on how the attestations were created, specifically how the numerators/denominators were calculated, including rationale taken into account for inclusion/exclusion of data</li> <li>• Electronic medical record for a Medicaid member verifying required</li> </ul>

			measures have been captured electronically in the CEHRT
2	General Requirement 01: Percent of CEHRT Use	Must have 50 percent or more of their patient encounters during the EHR reporting period at a practice/location or practices/locations equipped with CEHRT.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>List of total encounters with detail including date, patient identifier, payer, and rendering provider</li> <li>List of encounter with CEHRT with detail on location and CEHRT used</li> </ul>
3	General Requirement 02: Unique Patients in CEHRT	Must have 80 percent or more of their unique patient data in the CEHRT during the EHR reporting period.	List of all unique patients with indication of whether they are in CEHRT (If practicing at multiple locations, indicate which patients were seen in what location.)
4	Objective 1: Protect Patient Health Information	Conduct or review a security risk analysis in accordance with the requirements in 45 CFR 164.308(a)(1), including addressing the security (to include encryption) of electronic protected health information (ePHI) created or maintained by CEHRT in accordance with requirements under 45 CFR 164.312(a)(2) (iv) and 45 CFR 164.306(d) (3), and implement security updates as necessary and correct identified security deficiencies as part of the Eligible Professional's risk management process.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Detail on security risk analysis including, but not limited to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Approach for assessment</li> <li>Results of the assessment</li> <li>Indication of who performed the assessment</li> </ol> </li> <li>Detail on security update performed as a result of the security risk analysis including, but not limited to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Update module</li> <li>Date made</li> </ol> </li> </ul>
		Implement five CDS interventions related to four or more CQMs (clinical quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Description of what CDS interventions have been implemented with explanation of how the CDS interventions are aligned with four or</li> </ul>

5	Objective 2: CDS (Clinical Decision Support) — Measure 1	measures) at a relevant point in patient care for the entire EHR reporting period. Absent four CQMs related to an Eligible Professional's scope of practice or patient population, the CDS interventions must be related to high priority health conditions.	<p>more CQMs (documentation should be uploaded pre-payment)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Audit log showing the enabling of the CDS functionality with the time/date stamp</li> <li>• Screenshots from CEHRT demonstrating implementation of the CDS rules</li> </ul>
6	Objective 2: CDS — Measure 2	The Eligible Professional has enabled and implemented the functionality for drug-drug and drug allergy interaction checks for the entire EHR reporting period.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Audit log showing the enabling of the drug-drug and drug-allergy interaction checks with a time/date stamp</li> <li>• Screenshots from the CEHRT demonstrating the drug/drug and drug/allergy interaction checks</li> <li>• Documentation on exclusion qualification — proof the Eligible Professional wrote fewer than 100 medication orders during the EHR reporting period</li> </ul>
7	Objective 3: CPOE (computerized provider order entry) — Measure 1 — Medication Orders	More than 60 percent of medication orders created by the Eligible Professional during the EHR reporting period are recorded using computerized provider order entry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Random sampling of patient records</li> <li>• Rationale for exclusion/inclusion of patient records</li> <li>• List of individuals who entered CPOE with their credentials</li> <li>• Policies and procedures on CPOE</li> <li>• Documentation on exclusion qualification — proof they wrote fewer than 100 medication orders</li> </ul>
		<p>For providers scheduled for Stage 1 in 2015:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• For Stage 1 providers in 2015, more than 30 percent of all unique patients with at least one medication in their</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Random sampling of patient records</li> </ul>

8	Objective 3: CPOE — Alternate Measure 1 — Medication Orders	<p>medication list seen by the Eligible Professional during the EHR reporting period have at least one medication order entered using CPOE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• More than 30 percent of medication orders created by the Eligible Professional during the EHR reporting period are recorded using CPOE</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rationale for exclusion/ inclusion of patient records</li> <li>• List of individuals who entered CPOE with their credentials</li> <li>• Policies and procedures on CPOE</li> <li>• Documentation on exclusion qualification — proof they wrote fewer than 100 medication orders</li> </ul>
9	Objective 3: CPOE — Measure 2 — Laboratory Orders	<p>More than 30 percent of laboratory orders created by the Eligible Professional during the EHR reporting period are recorded using computerized provider order entry.*</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Random sampling of patient records</li> <li>• Rationale for exclusion/ inclusion of patient records</li> <li>• List of individuals who entered CPOE with their credentials</li> <li>• Policies and procedures on CPOE</li> <li>• Documentation on exclusion qualification — proof they wrote fewer than 100 laboratory orders</li> </ul>
10	Objective 3: CPOE — Measure 3 — Radiology Orders	<p>More than 30 percent of radiology orders created by the Eligible Professional during the EHR reporting period are recorded using computerized provider order entry.*</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Random sampling of patient records</li> <li>• Rationale for exclusion/ inclusion of patient records</li> <li>• List of individuals who entered CPOE with their credentials</li> <li>• Policies and procedures on CPOE</li> <li>• Documentation on exclusion qualification — proof they wrote fewer than 100 radiology orders</li> </ul>
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Random sampling of patient records</li> <li>• Rationale for exclusion/ inclusion of patient records</li> <li>• Rationale for exclusion/ inclusion of</li> </ul>

11	Objective 4: eRx (Electronic Prescribing)	More than 50 percent of all permissible prescriptions written by the Eligible Professional are queried for a drug formulary and transmitted electronically using CEHRT.	<p>prescriptions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Certified electronic health record technology screenshots verifying formularies utilized</li> <li>• Documentation on exclusion 1 qualification — proof they wrote fewer than 100 permissible prescriptions</li> <li>• Documentation on exclusion 2 qualification — on lack of pharmacies that accept electronic prescriptions within 10 miles of the Eligible Professional's practice location at the start of their EHR reporting period.</li> </ul>
12	Objective 4: eRx — Alternate Measure	For providers scheduled for Stage 1 in 2015, more than 40 percent of all permissible prescriptions written by the Eligible Professional are transmitted electronically using CEHRT.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Random sampling of patient records</li> <li>• Rationale for exclusion/ inclusion of patient records</li> <li>• Rationale for exclusion/ inclusion of prescriptions</li> <li>• Documentation on exclusion 1 qualification — proof they wrote fewer than 100 permissible prescriptions</li> </ul>
13	Objective 5: Health Information Exchange	<p>The Eligible Professional that transitions or refers their patient to another setting of care or provider of care must:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Use CEHRT to create a summary of care record</li> <li>2. Electronically transmit such summary to a receiving provider for more than 10 percent of</li> </ol>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Random sampling of patient records</li> <li>• Sample of a summary of care record</li> <li>• Rationale for exclusion/ inclusion of patient records</li> <li>• Supporting documentation that the exchange mechanism complies with the privacy and security protocols for ePHI under the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996</li> <li>• Log of exchange that took place during the EHR reporting period</li> <li>• Documentation on exclusion</li> </ul>

		transitions of care and referrals*	qualification — proof the Eligible Professional transfers or refers a patient to another setting of care or provider less than 100 times during the EHR reporting period
14	Objective 6: Patient Specific Education	Patient-specific education resources identified by CEHRT are provided to patients for more than 10 percent of all unique patients with office visits seen by the Eligible Professional during the EHR reporting period.*	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Documentation to show use of patient education based on information in the system (e.g., screenshots or EHR generated reports)</li> <li>• Sample of patient record indicating resources provided and rationale for the education resource — the connection to their clinically relevant information</li> <li>• Documentation on exclusion qualification — proof the Eligible Professional had no office visits during the EHR reporting period</li> </ul>
15	Objective 7: Medication Reconciliation	The Eligible Professional performs medication reconciliation for more than 50 percent of transitions of care in which the patient is transitioned into the care of the Eligible Professional.*	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Random sampling of patient records</li> <li>• Rationale for inclusion/exclusion of patient records</li> <li>• Documentation on exclusion qualification — proof the Eligible Professional was not the recipient of any transitions of care during the EHR reporting period</li> </ul>
16	Objective 8: Patient Electronic Access — Measure 1	More than 50 percent of all unique patients seen by the Eligible Professional during the EHR reporting period are provided timely access to view online, download, and transmit to a third party their health information subject to the	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Eligible Professional Policy and Procedure documentation</li> <li>• Rationale for exclusion/inclusion of patient records</li> <li>• Documentation on how access was granted to patients within a set timeline</li> <li>• Electronic Health Record audit logs of patient access processing</li> <li>• Screenshots verifying existence of Patient Portal or ePHR solution</li> <li>• Random sampling of patient records</li> </ul>



		Eligible Professional's discretion to withhold certain information.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Documentation on exclusion 1 qualification — rationale on how the Eligible Professional neither orders nor creates information listed for inclusion in the measure</li> </ul>
17	Objective 8: Patient Electronic Access — Measure 2	<p>For an EHR reporting period in 2015 and 2016, at least one patient seen by the Eligible Professional during the EHR reporting period (or patient-authorized representative) views, downloads, or transmits his or her health information to a third party during the EHR reporting period.*</p> <p>For an EHR reporting period in 2017, more than five percent of unique patients seen by the Eligible Professional during the EHR reporting period (or his/her authorized representative) view, download, or transmit to a third party their health information during the EHR reporting period.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Eligible Professional Policy and Procedure documentation</li> <li>Rationale for exclusion/inclusion of patient records</li> <li>Documentation on how access was granted to patients within a set timeline</li> <li>Electronic Health Record audit logs of patient access processing</li> <li>Random sampling of patient records</li> <li>Documentation on exclusion 1 qualification — rationale on how the Eligible Professional neither orders nor creates information listed for inclusion in the measure</li> <li>Documentation on exclusion 2 qualification — proof that 50 percent or more of the Eligible Professional's patient encounters take place in a county that does not have 50 percent or more of its housing units with 4 Mbps broadband availability</li> </ul>
		<p>For an EHR reporting period in 2015, the capability for patients to send and receive a secure electronic message with the Eligible Professional was fully enabled during the EHR reporting period.*</p> <p>For an EHR reporting period in 2016, for at least one patient seen by the Eligible</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Random sampling of patient records</li> <li>Rationale for exclusion/ inclusion of patient records</li> <li>2015: Documentation that the functionality was fully enabled during the EHR reporting period</li> </ul>

<p>18</p>	<p>Objective 9: Secure Electronic Messaging</p>	<p>Professional during the EHR reporting period, a secure message was sent using the electronic messaging function of CEHRT to the patient (or representative), or in response to a secure message sent by the patient (or representative) during the EHR reporting period.</p> <p>For an EHR reporting period in 2017, for more than five percent of unique patients seen by the Eligible Professional during the EHR reporting period, a secure message was sent using the electronic messaging function of CEHRT to the patient (or representative), or in response to a secure message sent by the patient (or representative) during the EHR reporting period.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2016: Documentation that at least one patient was sent a secure messaging using the electronic messaging function of CEHRT, during the EHR reporting period</li> <li>• Documentation on exclusion 1 qualification — proof the Eligible Professional had no office visits during the EHR reporting period</li> <li>• Documentation on exclusion 2 qualification — proof the Eligible Professional conducts at least 50 percent of his/her patient encounters in a county that does not have at least 50 percent of its housing units with 4 Mbps broadband availability according to the latest information available from the Federal Communications Commission on the first day of the EHR reporting period</li> </ul>
<p>19</p>	<p>Objective 10: Public Health Reporting — Measure 1 — Immunization Registry Reporting</p>	<p>The Eligible Professional is in active engagement with a public health agency to submit immunization data.*</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Documentation of the Eligible Professional's registration, onboarding, and/or ongoing submission with the DPH (Wisconsin Division of Public Health)</li> <li>• Documentation on exclusion 1 qualification — proof the Eligible Professional does not administer any immunizations to any of the populations for which data is collected by the DPH during the EHR reporting period</li> </ul>
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Documentation of the Eligible</li> </ul>

<p>20</p>	<p>Objective 10: Public Health Reporting — Measure 2 — Syndromic Surveillance Reporting</p>	<p>The Eligible Professional is in active engagement with a public health agency to submit syndromic surveillance data.*</p>	<p>Professional's registration, onboarding, and/or ongoing submission with the DPH</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Documentation on the mechanism the Eligible Professional has chosen to report syndromic surveillance data</li> <li>• Documentation on exclusion 1 qualification — proof the Eligible Professional is not in a category of providers from which ambulatory syndromic surveillance data is collected by the DPH</li> </ul>
<p>21</p>	<p>Objective 10 — Public Health Reporting — Measure 3 — Specialized Registry Reporting</p>	<p>The Eligible Professional is in active engagement to submit data to a specialized registry.*</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Documentation of the Eligible Professional's registration, onboarding, and/or ongoing submission with the DPH or other specialized registry</li> <li>• Documentation on exclusion 1 qualification — proof that the Eligible Professional does not diagnose or treat any disease or condition associated with, or collect relevant data that is collected by, a specialized registry in their jurisdiction during the EHR reporting period (e.g., cancer registry) (Two actions must be documented to claim this exclusion: 1. determine if the jurisdiction [state, territory, etc.] endorses or sponsors a registry, and 2. determine if a National Specialty Society or other specialty society with which the provider is affiliated, endorses, or sponsors a registry.)</li> <li>• Documentation on exclusion 3 qualification — proof the Eligible Professional operates in a jurisdiction where no specialized registry for which</li> </ul>

			<p>the Eligible Professional is eligible has declared readiness to receive electronic registry transactions at the beginning of the EHR reporting period</p>
--	--	--	--

Topic #20277

## Requirements for Stage 3 Meaningful Use

The requirements for Stage 3 contain eight objectives with one or more measures to which Eligible Professionals are required to attest. Eligible Professionals will attest to all eight objectives by either meeting the measure or satisfying an exclusion, if applicable. Eligible Professionals may choose to satisfy an exclusion, rather than meet the measure, when the measure is not applicable to them and they meet the exclusion criteria.

Information for Eligible Professionals regarding objectives and measure specifications is available in the [CMS \(Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services\) Stage 3 Meaningful Use Specification Sheets](#).

Stage 3 includes flexibility within certain objectives to allow Eligible Professionals to choose the measures most relevant to their patient population or practice. The Stage 3 objectives with flexible measure options include:

- Coordination of Care through Patient Engagement — Eligible Professionals must attest to all three measures and must either meet the thresholds or satisfy an exclusion for at least two measures to meet the objective.
- Health Information Exchange — Eligible Professionals must attest to all three measures and must either meet the thresholds or satisfy an exclusion for at least two measures to meet the objective.
- Public Health Reporting — Eligible Professionals must either attest or satisfy an exclusion for two measures. More information is detailed in the section below.

### Stage 3 Public Health Reporting Objective

The public health reporting objective requires Eligible Professionals to demonstrate active engagement with a public health agency to submit electronic health data from CEHRT (Certified Electronic Health Records Technology). The public health reporting objective contains five measure options. Measure 3 — Electronic Case Reporting is available to Eligible Professionals in Program Year 2018, but it is not required. In Program Year 2018, all Eligible Professionals must do one of the following:

- Meet two or more of the five measure options
- Meet fewer than two measures and satisfy the exclusion criteria for all other measure options, not including Measure 3 — Electronic Case Reporting
- Satisfy the exclusion criteria for all four measure options, not including Measure 3 — Electronic Case Reporting

*Note:* If an Eligible Professional is in active engagement with two public health or clinical data registries, he or she may choose to report on these measures twice to meet the required number of measures for the public health reporting objective.

Topic #13397

## Stages of Meaningful Use of Certified EHR Technology

The table below demonstrates what stage of Meaningful Use must be reported based upon the first year an Eligible Professional began participating in the Wisconsin Medicaid EHR (Electronic Health Record) Incentive Program. It is assumed that an Eligible

Professional's first year of participation is the AIU (adopt, implement, upgrade) phase and his/her participation occurs in consecutive years; however, Eligible Professionals do not need to participate in consecutive Program Years and may attest to meaningful use the first year of participation.

First Year of Participation (AIU)	Stage of Meaningful Use	
	2017 and 2018*	2019+
2011	Modified Stage 2 or Stage 3	Stage 3
2012	Modified Stage 2 or Stage 3	Stage 3
2013	Modified Stage 2 or Stage 3	Stage 3
2014	Modified Stage 2 or Stage 3	Stage 3
2015	Modified Stage 2 or Stage 3	Stage 3
2016	Modified Stage 2 or Stage 3	Stage 3

\* In August 2017, a CMS (Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services) final rule changed federal requirements to allow Eligible Professionals the choice of attesting to Modified Stage 2 in Program Year 2018.

## Patient Volume

---

Topic #12078

### Patient Volume Requirements and Calculations

In addition to other EHR (Electronic Health Record) Incentive Program requirements, Eligible Professionals must meet patient volume thresholds over the course of a 90-day period.

Eligible Professionals are required to select one of the following patient volume reporting periods:

- Calendar year preceding payment year
- Twelve months preceding attestation date

*Note:* The attestation date is defined as the day when the application is electronically signed and submitted for the first time in the Program Year or the last day of the Program Year if applying during the grace period.

An Eligible Professional cannot calculate patient volume by including patient encounters that occur during the 90-day grace period following the Program Year. For example, an Eligible Professional who applies for Program Year 2013 participation cannot include patient encounters occurring after December 31, 2013.

An Eligible Professional cannot use the same or overlapping patient volume periods for future Program Year applications. For example, an Eligible Professional uses January 1, 2013, through March 31, 2013, for Program Year 2013. In Program Year 2014, the Eligible Professional cannot use January 1, 2013, through March 31, 2013, or any overlapping period (i.e., February 1, 2013, through April 30, 2013).

When reporting patient volume, Eligible Professionals will designate which practice locations are using CEHRT (Certified Electronic Health Record Technology) and enter the relevant patient encounter data needed to determine eligibility. Patient encounter data will be entered in three parts for each practice location:

- The total (in-state) eligible member-only patient encounter volume over the previously determined continuous 90-day reporting period
- The total (regardless of state) eligible member-only patient encounter volume over the previously determined continuous 90-day reporting period
- The total patient encounter volume (regardless of state or payer) over the previously determined continuous 90-day reporting period

When attesting to Wisconsin Medicaid EHR Incentive Program patient volume requirements, there are two methods by which an Eligible Professional may calculate patient volume:

- Eligible member patient volume
- Needy individual patient volume

Each patient volume method contains its own unique requirements; however, only Eligible Professionals practicing in an FQHC (federally qualified health center) or RHC (rural health clinic) may use the needy individual patient volume method.

Topic #18077

### Documentation Requirements

In its Final Rule (42 CFR Part 495), CMS (Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services) published guidance on collecting supporting documentation prior to an incentive payment being paid. This supporting documentation is used to validate information provided for the incentive payment and to ensure program integrity.

As a result of CMS's guidance, Eligible Professionals are required to submit a copy of the reports used to enter eligible member patient volume for their Wisconsin Medicaid EHR Incentive Program application in order to support their patient volume attestation. The report submission method varies depending on whether an Eligible Professional is reporting individual patient volume or group practice patient volume.

*Note:* The new documentation requirements do not affect how Eligible Professionals calculate individual or group practice patient volume.

### **Eligible Professionals Reporting Individual Patient Volume**

Eligible Professionals reporting individual patient volume are required to submit a copy of the detail report used to enter patient volume for their Wisconsin Medicaid EHR Incentive Program application for their selected 90-day volume reporting period. The detail report must include the following information:

- NPI (National Provider Identifier)
- The following details regarding each reported patient encounter (a patient encounter is defined as any services rendered on any one day):
  - DOS (date of service)
  - Unique patient identifier. The identifier must be either a Medicaid ID or patient name if the encounter is counted as a Medicaid encounter. Alternative patient identifiers may be used for all non-Medicaid encounters (e.g., Medical Record Number or Patient Control Number)
  - Financial payer (e.g., Medicaid fee-for-service, managed care, commercial health insurer, Medicare) or an indication that the encounter is considered a Medicaid encounter
  - Out-of-state Medicaid encounters (e.g., name of the State Medicaid Agency), if applicable
  - Indication that the encounter is considered an "other needy" encounter (e.g., provided at no cost or on a sliding fee scale), only applicable if needy individual patient volume is reported

*Note:* Patient encounter details should support both the patient volume numerator (before the standard deduction, if applicable) and denominator entered in the Wisconsin Medicaid EHR Incentive Program application.

### **Eligible Professionals Reporting Group Practice Patient Volume**

Eligible Professionals attesting to group practice patient volume are required to submit the following:

- Summary report of the provider information included in the group practice patient volume calculation
- Detail report (used to enter patient volume) that supports the information provided in the summary report

Organizations (at the group NPI level) using the group patient volume calculation for more than one Eligible Professional's Wisconsin Medicaid EHR Incentive Program application will be required to submit the same summary report and detail report for each application. This means summary and detail reports provided for each Eligible Professional application should not vary from one application to another for the same organization and will not require any additional data manipulation.

Eligible Professionals reporting group practice patient volume will be required to submit the group practice's summary report used to enter patient volume for their Wisconsin Medicaid EHR Incentive Program application for their selected 90-day volume reporting period. The summary report must include the following information for each provider included in the group practice patient volume calculation:

- Provider name

- NPI
- Individual Medicaid encounter volume (numerator) and total encounter volume (denominator) totals for each provider included in the group practice patient volume calculation

In addition, Eligible Professionals reporting group practice patient volume are required to submit a copy of the group practice's detail report used to enter patient volume for their Wisconsin Medicaid EHR Incentive Program application for their selected 90-day volume reporting period. The detail report must include the following information:

- Group and provider NPIs
- The following details regarding each reported patient encounter (a patient encounter is defined as any services rendered on any one day):
  - DOS
  - Unique patient identifier. The identifier must be either a Medicaid ID or patient name if the encounter is counted as a Medicaid encounter. Alternative patient identifiers may be used for all non-Medicaid encounters (e.g., Medical Record Number or Patient Control Number)
  - Financial payer (e.g., Medicaid fee-for-service, managed care, commercial health insurer, Medicare) or an indication that the encounter is considered a Medicaid encounter
  - Out-of-state Medicaid encounters (e.g., name of the State Medicaid Agency), if applicable
  - Indication that the encounter is considered an "other needy" encounter (e.g., provided at no cost or on a sliding fee scale), only applicable if needy individual patient volume is reported

*Note:* Patient encounter details should support both the patient volume numerator (before the standard deduction, if applicable) and the denominator entered in the Wisconsin Medicaid EHR Incentive Program application.

Alternative supporting documentation may be submitted for Eligible Professionals who do not have claims with their current group practice during the 90-day patient volume reporting period to support they are either new to practicing medicine (e.g., a recent graduate of an appropriate training program) or reporting at least one patient encounter from a previous practice.

## Submission Requirements

Eligible Professionals attesting on their own behalf using individual patient volume are required to upload their supporting documentation to the Wisconsin Medicaid EHR Incentive Program application. Organizations attesting on behalf of more than one Eligible Professional using individual patient volume may upload supporting documentation to each application or may submit the patient volume documentation for all Eligible Professionals via one secure email.

## Uploading Documentation

Eligible Professionals who are uploading supporting documentation are required to upload it through the Application Submission (Part 1 of 2) page in the Submit section of the Wisconsin Medicaid EHR Incentive Program application. Eligible Professionals are strongly encouraged to use a Microsoft<sup>®</sup> Excel spreadsheet(s) for their patient volume report(s). For specific instructions on uploading required supporting documentation, Eligible Professionals should refer to the Wisconsin Medicaid Electronic Health Record Incentive Program User Guide for Eligible Professionals on the [Portal User Guides page](#).

## Emailing Documentation

If submitting supporting documentation via email, Eligible Professionals are required to do the following:

- To ensure documentation is applied to the appropriate application, the individual patient volume detail report should be named, "Patient Volume\_.
- Encrypt all confidential information.
- Attach the detail report(s) to the email.
- Indicate the following as the subject line of the email: "Eligible Professional Application Supporting Documentation."



- Attach the rest of the required documentation to the email before sending it to the Wisconsin Medicaid EHR Incentive Program at [DHSEHRIncentiveProgram@dhs.wisconsin.gov](mailto:DHSEHRIncentiveProgram@dhs.wisconsin.gov).

Eligible Professionals are encouraged to send their CEHRT, (Certified Electronic Health Record Technology) [patient volume](#), and Meaningful Use measure documentation in a single email.

Topic #12098

## Eligible Member Patient Volume

Eligible Professionals using the eligible member patient volume method must meet a minimum patient encounter volume threshold of one of the following:

- At least 30 percent of their patient volume attributed to eligible members over a continuous 90-day period in the calendar year preceding the payment year or during the 12 months prior to the date of attestation.
- Pediatricians will be considered eligible if 20 percent of their patient encounter volume is attributable to eligible members but will receive two-thirds of the incentive amounts. If a pediatrician's patient encounter volume is 30 percent or higher, the incentive payments are the same as any other Eligible Professional.

*Note:* Eligible Professionals should note that the Wisconsin Medicaid EHR Incentive Program will not round up to meet the minimum patient volume threshold. All patient volumes reported that are below 30 percent (including those at or below 29.99 percent) will be deemed ineligible.

### Definition of Eligible Members

The federal law 42 CFR s. 495.306(c)(1) stipulates that only certain services rendered to certain members who are reimbursed with Medicaid (Title XIX) funds may be counted towards eligible member patient volume requirements. The Wisconsin Medicaid EHR Incentive Program defines eligible members as those members enrolled in the [programs](#).

### Definition of Patient Encounter

An eligible member patient encounter is defined as services rendered on any one day to an individual enrolled in a Medicaid program, regardless of the Medicaid reimbursement amount. Unpaid encounters for services rendered to an individual enrolled in a Medicaid program may be counted as eligible member patient encounters. Claims denied because the patient was not Medicaid eligible at the date of service cannot be counted as eligible member patient encounters.

Multiple Eligible Professionals may count an encounter for the same individual. For example, it may be common for a PA (physician assistant) or nurse practitioner and physician to provide services to a patient during an encounter on the same DOS (date of service). It is acceptable in these and similar circumstances to count the same encounter for multiple Eligible Professionals for purposes of calculating each Eligible Professional's patient volume. The encounters must take place within the scope of practice for each of the Eligible Professionals.

### Standard Deduction

The federal regulations governing the Medicaid EHR Incentive Program stipulate that an eligible member is an individual whose services are reimbursed through Medicaid (Title XIX). Since ForwardHealth is funded by both Medicaid (Title XIX) and the CHIP (Children's Health Insurance Program) (Title XXI), Eligible Professionals may be unable to distinguish encounters with eligible members from encounters with non-eligible members when determining their patient volume. To assist Eligible Professionals in determining their eligible patient encounters, the Wisconsin Medicaid EHR Incentive Program will calculate a standard deduction. The standard deduction for Program Year 2018 is 5.33 percent.

To calculate eligible patient encounters, Eligible Professionals should multiply the total number of eligible member encounters by a factor of  $(1 - 0.0533)$ , which is 0.9467, and then divide that number by the total number of patient encounters. The final number should be rounded to the nearest whole number (i.e., .01 through .49 should be rounded down to the nearest whole number, and .50 through .99 should be rounded up to the nearest whole number).

## Individual and Group Practice Methodologies

Eligible Professionals using the eligible member patient volume method may elect to calculate patient volume at the individual or group practice level. If an Eligible Professional calculates his or her patient encounter volume based on a group practice level, the entire group practice's patient encounter volume must be included. This includes the services rendered by all providers within the group practice, regardless of provider type or eligibility status for the Wisconsin Medicaid EHR Incentive Program. Additionally, all Eligible Professionals included in the group practice who register for the Wisconsin Medicaid EHR Incentive Program must also register using the group practice patient volume.

A group practice is defined by how a group practice enumerates its business using NPIs (National Provider Identifiers). When calculating a group practice patient volume, the group practice patient volume methodology can only be used if all of the following conditions are satisfied:

- The eligible members included in the group practice patient volume calculation were provided services during the group practice's 90-day period patient volume reporting period.
- There is an auditable data source to support a group practice's patient volume determination.
- All Eligible Professionals in the group practice use the same methodology for the payment year.
- The group practice uses the entire practice or clinic's patient volume and does not limit patient volume in any way.
- If an Eligible Professional works inside and outside the group practice, the patient volume calculation may only include those encounters associated with the group practice and not individual encounters outside the group practice.

*Note:* Eligible Professionals should note that whether they calculate their eligible member patient encounter volume as a group practice or as an individual will not affect how the incentive payments are distributed. For example, an Eligible Professional may calculate their eligible member patient volume at an individual level and assign payment to their group practice. Conversely, an Eligible Professional may calculate their eligible member patient volume at a group practice level and assign payment to themselves.

Eligible Professionals calculating group practice patient volume under the eligible member patient volume must meet a minimum of at least 30 percent of their patient volume attributed to eligible members. The standard deduction must be applied to the total (in-state) eligible member-only patient encounters of the group and rounded to the nearest whole number prior to entry in the Wisconsin EHR Incentive Program application.

Topic #12099

## Needy Individual Patient Volume

The federal law stipulates that only certain services rendered to certain individuals may be counted towards the needy individual patient volume requirements. The Wisconsin Medicaid EHR (Electronic Health Record) Incentive Program defines needy individuals as those listed [here](#) as well as those who are provided uncompensated care by the provider, or individuals provided services at either no cost or reduced cost based on a sliding scale determined by the individual's ability to pay.

Only Eligible Professionals, including pediatricians, practicing predominantly in an FQHC (Federally Qualified Health Center) or RHC (Rural Health Clinic) may use the Needy Individual Patient Volume method. An Eligible Professional is defined as practicing predominantly in a FQHC or RHC if more than 50 percent of the Eligible Professional's encounters occur in an FQHC or RHC during a six-month period in the most recent calendar year or in the most recent 12 months prior to attestation.

Eligible Professionals using the Needy Individual Patient Volume method must meet a minimum of 30 percent needy individual

patient volume threshold. Needy Individual Patient Volume encounters consist of the following:

- Services rendered on any one day to an individual where Medicaid or BadgerCare Plus paid all or part of the service including copayments or any other cost-sharing
- Services rendered on any one day to an individual where Children's Health Insurance Program under Title XXI paid for part or all of the service
- Services rendered on any one day to an individual furnished by the provider as uncompensated care
- Services rendered on any one day to an individual furnished at either no cost or reduced cost based on a sliding scale determined by the individual's ability to pay

Eligible Professionals using the Needy Individual Patient Volume method may elect to calculate patient volume at an individual or a group practice level. If an Eligible Professional calculates his or her patient encounter volume based on a group practice, the entire group practice's patient volume must be included. This includes the services rendered by all providers within the group practice, regardless of provider type or eligibility status for the Wisconsin Medicaid EHR Incentive Program. Additionally, all Eligible Professionals included in the group practice who register for the Wisconsin Medicaid EHR Incentive Program must also register using the group practice patient volume.

A group practice is defined by how a group practice enumerates its business using NPIs (National Provider Identifiers). When calculating a group practice patient volume, the group practice patient volume methodology can only be used if all of the following conditions are satisfied:

- The eligible members included in the group practice patient volume calculation were provided services during the 90-day period that the organization is attesting (for the first year).
- There is an auditable data source to support a group practice's patient volume determination.
- All Eligible Professionals in the group practice use the same methodology for the payment year.
- The group practice uses the entire group practice's patient volume and does not limit patient volume in any way.
- If an Eligible Professional works inside and outside the group practice, the patient volume calculation may only include those encounters associated with the group practice and not individual encounters outside the group practice.

*Note:* Eligible Professionals should note that whether they calculate their needy individual patient encounter volume as a group practice or as an individual will not affect how the incentive payments are distributed. For example, an Eligible Professional may calculate his or her needy individual patient volume at an individual level and assign payment to the group practice. Conversely, an Eligible Professional may calculate his or her needy individual patient volume at a group practice level and assign payment to him- or herself.

Eligible Professionals calculating group patient volume under the needy individual patient volume must meet a minimum of at least 30 percent of their patient volume attributed to needy individuals. The standard deduction must be applied to the total (in-state) eligible member-only patient encounters of the organization and rounded to the nearest whole number prior to entry in the Wisconsin EHR Incentive Program application.

Topic #12101

## Example of Calculating Group Practice Patient Volume

Eligible Professionals must have at least 30 percent of their patient volume encounters attributed to eligible members. When electing to use group practice patient volume, the entire practice's patient volume must be included. This includes the services rendered by all practitioners within the group practice, regardless of provider type or eligibility status for the Wisconsin Medicaid EHR (Electronic Health Record) Incentive Program. Groups are defined by how their businesses are enumerated under their NPI (National Provider Identifier).

The following is an example of calculating group practice volume for the purpose of establishing eligibility for the Wisconsin Medicaid EHR Incentive Program.

Eligible Based on Provider Type	Provider Type	Total Encounters (Eligible Members/Total)	Percentage of Eligible Member Encounters
Yes	Physician	80/200	40 percent
Yes	Nurse Practitioner	50/100	50 percent
Yes	Physician	0/100	0 percent
No	RN (Registered Nurse)	150/200	75 percent
No	Pharmacist	80/100	80 percent
Yes	Physician	30/300	10 percent
Yes	Dentist	5/100	5 percent
Yes	Dentist	60/200	30 percent

In this scenario, there are 1300 encounters in the selected 90-day period. Of the 1300 encounters, 455 are attributable to eligible members, or 35 percent. The next step is to apply the standard deduction ( $1 - 0.0533 = 0.9467$ ) to the number of eligible members.

$$455 * 0.9467 = 430.7485$$

That number is divided by the total number of encounters in the selected 90-day period, or 1300.

$$430.7485 / 1300 = 0.331345 \text{ or } 33.13 \text{ percent}$$

Therefore, the group practice patient volume is 33.13 percent, which is rounded to the nearest whole number of 33 percent, and is eligible for the Wisconsin Medicaid EHR Incentive Program.

Eligible Professionals should note that even though one dentist's eligible member encounter percentage was only 5 percent and one physician's eligible member encounter percentage was 10 percent, when included in the group practice patient volume, both are eligible for the program when registering with the group practice patient volume. The physician whose eligible member encounter percentage is zero is not eligible for the program because he or she did not render services to at least one eligible member during the 90-day period; however, if the physician is new to practicing medicine (e.g., a recent graduate of an appropriate training program), he or she would be eligible for the program because he or she does not need to provide proof of an encounter.

Topic #12100

## Example of Calculating Individual Patient Volume

Eligible Professionals must have at least 30 percent (except pediatricians, who must have at least 20 percent) of their patient volume attributed to eligible members. For example, if an Eligible Professional calculates his or her total eligible member patient encounter volume of 33 out of a total patient encounter volume of 75, the eligible member patient volume is 44 percent.

Eligible Professionals may be unable to distinguish between some eligible members and some non-eligible members when determining their patient volume. The Wisconsin Medicaid EHR (Electronic Health Record) Incentive Program only considers services provided to members who are eligible to be reimbursed with funding directly from Medicaid (Title XIX) to be a patient encounter. Eligible Professionals may be unable to determine where funding for eligible members comes from, so in order to assist Eligible Professionals in determining their eligible patient encounters, the Wisconsin Medicaid EHR Incentive Program will

calculate a standard deduction. The standard deduction for Program Year 2018 is 5.33 percent.

To figure out the eligible member patient encounters, Eligible Professionals must multiply their total eligible member encounter patient volume by a factor of  $(1 - 0.0533)$  or  $0.9467$  and then divide that number by their total eligible member patient encounter volume.

Individual Patient Volume Example With Standard Deduction		
$\frac{35 \times (1 - 0.0533)}{100}$		$\frac{33.1345}{100} \times 100 = 33.13$

So the final eligible member patient encounter volume is 33.1345 encounters out of 100 total, or 33.13 percent, rounded to the nearest whole number, 33 percent.

Therefore, 33 percent of the Eligible Professional's patient volume is eligible members and the Eligible Professional fulfills the patient volume requirement for the Wisconsin Medicaid EHR Incentive Program. Eligible Professionals should note that the Wisconsin Medicaid EHR Incentive Program will not round up to meet the minimum patient volume threshold. All patient volumes reported that are below 30 percent (including those at or below 29.99 percent) will be deemed ineligible.

Topic #12097

## Members Who May Be Counted When Determining Patient Volume

Most members enrolled in the programs listed below are considered eligible members and may be counted when determining patient encounters and patient volume:

- Wisconsin Medicaid.
- BadgerCare Plus.
- BadgerCare Plus Express Enrollment for Pregnant Women.
- Alien Emergency Service Only.
- TB-Only (Tuberculosis-Related Service Only) Benefit.
- Family Planning Only Services.

*Note:* There are certain members enrolled in these programs or certain services provided to eligible members that may be included in the patient volume, which is the reason for the standard deduction.

## Registration and Applying

---

Topic #12057

### Individuals Applying for the EHR Incentive Program

A secure Provider account on the ForwardHealth Portal is required to apply for the Wisconsin Medicaid EHR (Electronic Health Record) Incentive Program. All applications must be completed via a secure Provider Portal account.

An Eligible Professional applying as an individual needs to follow the process below when applying for the Wisconsin Medicaid EHR Incentive Program:

- The Eligible Professional needs to first log in to the Portal. If the Eligible Professional does not have a Portal account, he or she needs to obtain one. The Eligible Professional should refer to the Account User Guide on the [Portal User Guides page](#) of the Provider area of the Portal for more information on obtaining a Portal account.
- The Eligible Professional needs to click on the Wisconsin Medicaid EHR Incentive Program link in the Quick Link box.
- The Eligible Professional will have to designate payment to either him- or herself or to the organization.

Topic #12040

### Organizations Applying for the EHR Incentive Program on Behalf of Eligible Professionals

A secure Provider Portal account is required to apply for the Wisconsin Medicaid EHR (Electronic Health Record) Incentive Program. All applications must be completed via a secure Provider ForwardHealth Portal account.

Organizations applying on behalf of Eligible Professionals need to follow the process below when applying for the Wisconsin Medicaid EHR Incentive Program:

- The organization needs to first log in to the Portal. The organization only needs one Portal account to apply for all Eligible Professionals assigning payment to their organization and associated with the organization's federal TIN (tax identification number). If the organization does not have a Portal account, it needs to obtain one. Refer to the Account User Guide on the [Portal User Guides page](#) of the Provider area of the Portal for more information on obtaining a Portal account.
- Portal Administrators will automatically have access to the Wisconsin Medicaid EHR Incentive Program application. Organizations may assign the new "EHR Incentive" role to a clerk to conduct all Wisconsin Medicaid EHR Incentive Program business.
- The organization may access the EHR Incentive Program application by clicking on the Wisconsin Medicaid EHR Incentive Program link in the Quick Link box.
- The organization will see a list of all Eligible Professionals that are associated with the organization's TIN. The organization will have to submit a separate application for each Eligible Professional associated with their TIN. Organizations should note that once an application has begun for an Eligible Professional, only the Portal account used to begin the application can access that Eligible Professional's application.

Topic #12039

### Registration for the EHR Incentive Program with CMS

All Eligible Professionals are required to first register at the [R&A \(Medicare and Medicaid Electronic Health Record Incentive Program Registration and Attestation System\) Web site](#). A step-by-step walkthrough of the R&A registration process for Eligible Professionals is also available [online](#).

After an Eligible Professional successfully registers on the R&A, CMS (Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services) will process the registration and send the file to the Wisconsin Medicaid EHR (Electronic Health Record) Incentive Program. After receipt of the file, the Wisconsin Medicaid EHR Incentive Program will enter all relevant information into the ForwardHealth system. Eligible Professionals must wait two full business days before beginning the application for the Wisconsin Medicaid EHR Incentive Program to allow for this process.

Topic #12058

## Required Information When Starting the EHR Incentive Program Application

Eligible Professionals will be required to supply specific information when completing the EHR (Electronic Health Record) Incentive Program application. Eligible Professionals do not have to complete the entire application in one session. The application will allow users to save the information entered and return later to complete the application.

Eligible Professionals should have the following information available when beginning the application:

- Information submitted to the R&A (Medicare and Medicaid Electronic Health Record Incentive Program Registration and Attestation System). Eligible Professionals will need to confirm all of this information during the initial application phases.
- Contact name, telephone number, and e-mail address of the authorized preparer of the Eligible Professional's application, if not the Eligible Professional.
- Information regarding whether or not the Eligible Professional applying to the Wisconsin Medicaid EHR Incentive Program has any sanctions or pending sanctions with the Medicare or Medicaid programs and is licensed to practice in all states in which services are rendered.
- The CMS (Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services) EHR certification ID for the CEHRT (Certified Electronic Health Record Technology) the Eligible Professional already has or is contractually obligated to acquire. For more information on approved EHR technology, Eligible Professionals should refer to the ONC (Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology)-certified EHR [product list](#).
- Required Patient Volume Data:
  - The total in-state eligible member patient encounter volume over the previously determined continuous 90-day reporting period.
  - The total eligible member patient encounter volume over the previously determined continuous 90-day reporting period.
  - The total patient encounter volume over the previously determined continuous 90-day reporting period.

Topic #12077

## Reviewing, Confirming, and Submitting the EHR Incentive Program Application

After completing attestations for the EHR (Electronic Health Record) Incentive Program, the Eligible Professional will be asked to review all answers provided. An error-checking function will identify any errors found in the application.

Final submission will require an electronic signature by providing the preparer or the Eligible Professional's initials, the Eligible Professional's NPI (National Provider Identifier) and the Eligible Professional's personal TIN (tax identification number). If



completed through the use of an authorized preparer, that preparer will also need to include his or her name and relationship to the Eligible Professional and then electronically sign the application before submission. Once the Wisconsin Medicaid EHR Incentive Program application has been completed and submitted, an e-mail notification will be sent to confirm the application's submission. After an application is successfully submitted and approved, Eligible Professionals can expect payments within 45 days.

## Resources for EHR Incentive Program

---

Topic #12138

### Provider Services

Eligible Professionals and Eligible Hospitals should call [Provider Services](#) with all questions regarding the Wisconsin Medicaid EHR (Electronic Health Record) Incentive Program.

Topic #18097

### Technical Assistance Services

Technical assistance services are available to all Medicaid-enrolled providers (including specialists) who are eligible to participate in or who already participate in the Medicaid or Medicare EHR (Electronic Health Record) Incentive Program. These services are designed to help providers as they adopt, implement, upgrade, and meaningfully use CEHRT (Certified Electronic Health Record Technology); they include the following:

- EHR selection and implementation guidelines.
- Meaningful Use education and consulting, including readiness assessments and audit preparation.
- Public health objective onboarding and testing assistance.
- HIPAA (Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996) security risk assessments.
- Workflow optimization.

The technical assistance services are being offered by the [Health IT Extension Program](#), which is supported by [MetaStar, Inc.](#), an independent nonprofit quality improvement organization. For more information regarding the technical assistance services offered by the Health IT Extension Program, providers may email MetaStar, Inc., at [info@metastar.com](mailto:info@metastar.com).

Topic #12139

### User Guide

Wisconsin Medicaid EHR (Electronic Health Record) Incentive Program User Guides for Eligible Professionals and Eligible Hospitals are available on the [Portal User Guides page](#) of the Provider area of the ForwardHealth Portal.

Topic #12140

### Web Sites

The following Web sites provide additional information regarding the EHR (Electronic Health Record) Incentive Program.

Available Resources	Web Sites
Wisconsin Medicaid EHR Incentive Program Web Site	<a href="http://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/ehrincentive/index.htm">www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/ehrincentive/index.htm</a>

CMS (Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services) EHR Incentive Program	<a href="http://www.cms.gov/EHRIncentivePrograms/">www.cms.gov/EHRIncentivePrograms/</a>
Wisconsin Health Information Technology Extension Center Web Site	<a href="http://www.whitec.org/">www.whitec.org/</a>

# Managed Care

# 5

Archive Date:09/04/2018

## Managed Care: Covered and Noncovered Services

---

Topic #16197

### Care4Kids Program Benefit Package

#### Covered Services

Members enrolled in the [Care4Kids program](#) are eligible to receive all medically necessary services covered under Wisconsin Medicaid; however, Care4Kids will have the flexibility to provide services in a manner that best meets the unique needs of children in out-of-home care, including streamlining PA (prior authorization) requirements and offering select services in home settings. Members will also be allowed to go to any Medicaid-enrolled provider for emergency medical services or family planning services.

#### Noncovered Services

The following services are not provided as covered benefits through the Care4Kids program, but can be reimbursed for eligible Medicaid members on a fee-for-service basis:

- Behavioral treatment.
- Chiropractic services.
- CRS (Community Recovery Services).
- CSP (Community Support Programs).
- CCS (Comprehensive Community Services).
- Crisis intervention services.
- Directly observed therapy for individuals with tuberculosis.
- MTM (Medication therapy management).
- NEMT (Non-emergency medical transportation) services.
- Prescription and over-the-counter drugs and diabetic supplies dispensed by the pharmacy.
- [Provider-administered drugs](#) and their administration, and the administration of [Synagis](#).
- SBS (School-based services).
- Targeted case management.

Children's Hospital of Wisconsin will establish working relationships, defined in writing through a memorandum of understanding, with providers of the following services:

- CSP.
- CCS.
- Crisis intervention services.
- SBS.
- Targeted case management services.

Providers of these services must coordinate with Care4Kids to help assure continuity of care, eliminate duplication, and reduce fragmentation of services.

# Managed Care Information

---

Topic #16177

## Care4Kids Program Overview

Care4Kids is a health care program for children and youth in out-of-home care in Wisconsin. The Care4Kids program will offer comprehensive, coordinated services that are intended to improve the quality and timeliness of and access to health services for these children.

The Care4Kids program will serve children in out-of-home care placements (other than residential care centers) in Kenosha, Milwaukee, Ozaukee, Racine, Washington, and Waukesha counties. Member participation will be voluntary and enrollment will be allowed to continue for up to 12 months after the child leaves the out-of-home care system, as long as the child remains Medicaid-eligible and resides within one of the six counties.

Care4Kids is required to provide at least the same benefits as those provided under fee-for-service arrangements.

## Program Administration

Children's Hospital of Wisconsin is currently the only integrated health system certified by ForwardHealth to administer the Care4Kids program. Children's Hospital of Wisconsin will be responsible for providing or arranging for the provision of all services covered under Medicaid, with a small number of exceptions. The services not included in the Care4Kids program will be reimbursed as fee-for-service benefits. Children's Hospital of Wisconsin's integrated network of health care providers, which includes specialty and primary care physicians and clinics within the Children's Hospital System as well as providers who are participating in CCHP (Children's Community Health Plan), is intended to provide coordinated care and services to meet the individualized needs of each of the children enrolled across multiple disciplines, including physical, behavioral health, and dental care.

Care4Kids will be responsible for providing or arranging for the provision of all medically necessary [services covered](#) by Wisconsin Medicaid to enrollees. Providers are required to be part of the CCHP network to get reimbursed by Care4Kids. Providers interested in being a part of the network should contact CCHP. Out-of-network providers are required to call Care4Kids prior to providing services to a Care4Kids enrollee. In situations where emergency medical services are needed, out-of-network providers are required to contact Care4Kids within 24 hours of providing services.

## Member Enrollment Verification

Providers should [verify a member's enrollment](#) before providing services to determine if the member is enrolled in Care4Kids. Members enrolled in Care4Kids will present a ForwardHealth member identification card.

Providers verifying enrollment on the ForwardHealth Portal will see Care4Kids under the MC Program heading in the Managed Care Enrollment panel.

For 271 response transactions, Care4Kids enrollment will be identified in the EB segment of the 2110C loop. Identified by "MC" in the EB01, "HM" in the EB04, and "Care4Kids" in the EB05. The MC provider contact information will be reported in the NM1 (name info), N3 (address info), and PER (telephone numbers) segments within the 2120C loop.

The WiCall AVR (automated voice response) system will identify Care4Kids as the state-contracted managed care program in which the member is enrolled.

## Contact Information

Providers can contact CCHP at (800) 482-8010 for the following:

- To become part of the CCHP network.
- For coverage policy and procedure information, including PA (prior authorization) and claim submission guidelines, if they are already a Care4Kids network provider.

# Member Information

# 6



Archive Date:09/04/2018

## Member Information:Enrollment Categories

---

Topic #16677

### BadgerCare Plus Benefit Plan Changes

Effective April 1, 2014, all members eligible for BadgerCare Plus were enrolled in the BadgerCare Plus Standard Plan. As a result of this change, the following benefit plans were discontinued:

- BadgerCare Plus Benchmark Plan.
- BadgerCare Plus Core Plan.
- BadgerCare Plus Basic Plan.

Members who are enrolled in the Benchmark Plan or the Core Plan who met new income limits for BadgerCare Plus eligibility were automatically transitioned into the BadgerCare Plus Standard Plan on April 1, 2014. In addition, the last day of BadgerRx Gold program coverage for all existing members was March 31, 2014.

Providers should refer to the [March 2014 Online Handbook archive](#) of the appropriate service area for policy information pertaining to these discontinued benefit plans.

Topic #18777

### Real-Time Eligibility Determinations

ForwardHealth may complete real-time eligibility determinations for BadgerCare Plus and/or Family Planning Only Services applicants who meet pre-screening criteria and whose reported information can be verified in real time while applying in [ACCESS Apply for Benefits](#). Once an applicant is determined eligible through the real-time eligibility process, he or she is considered eligible for BadgerCare Plus and/or Family Planning Only Services and will be enrolled for 12 months, unless changes affecting eligibility occur before the 12-month period ends.


A member determined eligible through the real-time eligibility process will receive a [temporary ID \(identification\) card for BadgerCare Plus and/or Family Planning Only Services](#). Each member will get his or her own card, and each card will include the member's ForwardHealth ID number. The temporary ID card will be valid for the dates listed on the card and will allow the member to get immediate health care or pharmacy services.

### Eligibility Verification


When a member is determined eligible for BadgerCare Plus and/or Family Planning Only Services through the real-time eligibility process, providers are able to see the member's eligibility information in Wisconsin's EVS (Enrollment Verification System) in real time. Providers should always verify eligibility through EVS prior to providing services.

On rare occasions, it may take up to 48 hours for eligibility information to be available through interChange. In such instances, if a member presents a valid temporary ID card, [the provider is still required to provide services](#), even if eligibility cannot be verified through EVS.

# Sample Temporary Identification Card for Badger Care Plus

<p><b>To the Provider</b></p> <p>The individual listed on this card has been enrolled in BadgerCare Plus. This card entitles the listed individual to receive health care services, including pharmacy services, through BadgerCare Plus from any Medicaid-enrolled provider. For additional information, call Provider Services at 800-947-9627 or refer to the ForwardHealth Online Handbook at <a href="http://www.forwardhealth.wi.gov">www.forwardhealth.wi.gov</a>.</p> <p><b>NOTE:</b></p> <p>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 for this individual, including the prohibition against billing members. If "Pending Assignment" is indicated after the name on this card, the member identification (ID) number will be assigned within one business day; the card is still valid. Refer to the ForwardHealth Online Handbook for further information regarding this temporary ID card. Providers are encouraged to keep a photocopy of this card.</p>	<div style="text-align: center;"> <p>WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES</p> <p><b>TEMPORARY IDENTIFICATION CARD FOR BADGERCARE PLUS</b></p> </div> <div style="text-align: right;">  </div> <table style="width: 100%; margin-top: 10px;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: left;">Name:</th> <th style="text-align: left;">Program</th> <th style="text-align: left;">ID Number</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>IM A MEMBER</td> <td>BadgerCare Plus</td> <td>0987654321</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>DOB: 09/01/1984</p> <p>This card is valid from <b>October 01, 2016 to November 30, 2016.</b></p> <p>This individual's eligibility should be available through the ForwardHealth Portal. Eligibility should always be verified through the ForwardHealth Portal prior to services being provided.</p>	Name:	Program	ID Number	IM A MEMBER	BadgerCare Plus	0987654321
Name:	Program	ID Number					
IM A MEMBER	BadgerCare Plus	0987654321					

# Sample Temporary Identification Card for Family Planning Only Services

<p><b>To the Provider</b></p> <p>The individual listed on this card has been enrolled in Family Planning Only Services. This card entitles the listed individual to receive health care services, including pharmacy services, through Family Planning Only Services from any Medicaid-enrolled provider. For additional information, call Provider Services at 800-947-9627 or refer to the ForwardHealth Online Handbook at <a href="http://www.forwardhealth.wi.gov">www.forwardhealth.wi.gov</a>.</p> <p><b>NOTE:</b></p> <p>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 for this individual, including the prohibition against billing members. If "Pending Assignment" is indicated after the name on this card, the member identification (ID) number will be assigned within one business day; the card is still valid. Refer to the ForwardHealth Online Handbook for further information regarding this temporary ID card. Providers are encouraged to keep a photocopy of this card.</p>	<div style="text-align: center;"> <p>WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES</p> <p><b>TEMPORARY IDENTIFICATION CARD FOR FAMILY PLANNING ONLY SERVICES</b></p> </div> <div style="text-align: right;">  </div> <table style="width: 100%; margin-top: 10px;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: left;">Name:</th> <th style="text-align: left;">Program</th> <th style="text-align: left;">ID Number</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>IM A MEMBER DOB: 09/01/1984</td> <td>Family Planning Only Services</td> <td>0987654321</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p style="margin-top: 10px;">This card is valid from <b>October 01, 2016 to November 30, 2016.</b></p> <p style="margin-top: 10px;">This individual's eligibility should be available through the ForwardHealth Portal. Eligibility should always be verified through the ForwardHealth Portal prior to services being provided.</p>	Name:	Program	ID Number	IM A MEMBER DOB: 09/01/1984	Family Planning Only Services	0987654321
Name:	Program	ID Number					
IM A MEMBER DOB: 09/01/1984	Family Planning Only Services	0987654321					

# Prior Authorization

7

Archive Date:09/04/2018

## Prior Authorization:Advanced Imaging Services

---

Topic #15477

### Exemption from Prior Authorization

#### Providers Ordering Computed Tomography and Magnetic Resonance Imaging Services

Health systems, groups, and individual providers (requesting providers) that order CT (computed tomography) and MR (magnetic resonance) imaging services and have implemented advanced imaging decision support tools may request an exemption from PA (prior authorization) requirements for these services. Upon approval, ForwardHealth will recognize the requesting provider's advanced imaging decision support tool (e.g., ACR Select, Medicalis) as an alternative to current PA requirements for CT and MR imaging services. Requesting providers with an approved tool will not be required to obtain PA through eviCore healthcare for these services when ordered for Medicaid and BadgerCare Plus fee-for-service members.

*Note:* It is the ordering provider's responsibility to communicate PA status (whether the provider is exempt from PA requirements or PA has been obtained through eviCore healthcare) to the rendering provider at the time of the request for advanced imaging services.

#### Exemption from Prior Authorization Requirements Not Available for Positron Emission Tomography

Decision support for PET (positron emission tomography) is not available in all advanced imaging decision support tools. Therefore, PET will not be eligible to be exempted from PA requirements at this time. ForwardHealth may review its policies and requirements in response to any future developments in decision support tools, including the addition of PET decision support tools to the PA exemption.

### Process for Obtaining an Exemption from Prior Authorization Requirements

Requesting providers with advanced imaging decision support tools may request exemption from PA requirements for CT and MR imaging services using the following process:

1. Complete a [Prior Authorization Requirements Exemption Request for Computed Tomography \(CT\) and Magnetic Resonance \(MR\) Imaging Services \(F-00787 \(05/13\)\)](#) and agree to its terms.
2. Submit the completed Prior Authorization Requirements Exemption Request for CT and MR Imaging Services to the mailing or e-mail address listed on the form. Once received, ForwardHealth will review the exemption request materials, approve or deny the request, and send a decision letter to the requesting provider within 60 days after receipt of all necessary documentation. ForwardHealth will contact the requesting provider if any additional information is required for the application.
3. If the exemption request is approved, submit a list of all individual providers who order CT and MR scans using the requesting provider's decision support tool. Exemptions are verified using the NPI (National Provider Identifier) of the individual ordering provider; therefore, requesting providers should submit a complete list of all individual ordering providers within the requesting provider's group to ForwardHealth. Lists may be submitted via e-mail to [DHSPAExemption@wisconsin.gov](mailto:DHSPAExemption@wisconsin.gov).

### Process for Maintaining an Exemption from Prior Authorization

## Requirements

To maintain exemption from PA requirements for advanced imaging services, the requesting provider is required to report the following outcome measures to ForwardHealth for the previous full six-month interval (January 1 through June 30 and July 1 through December 31) by July 31 and January 31 of each year:

- Aggregate score for all ordering providers that measures consistency with system recommendations based on the reporting standards described in more detail in Section III of the Prior Authorization Requirements Exemption Request for CT and MR Imaging Services form.
- Subset scores, grouped by primary and specialty care.
- Aggregate outcome measures identified in the quality improvement plan.

ForwardHealth will work with requesting providers to determine the most appropriate quality metrics. All requesting providers will need to provide similar data based on their reporting capabilities. This information should be submitted by the July 31 and January 31 deadlines to [DHSPAExemption@wisconsin.gov](mailto:DHSPAExemption@wisconsin.gov).

Refer to the Prior Authorization Requirements Exemption Request for CT and MR Imaging Services form for more detailed information on quality improvement plans and maintaining exemption from PA requirements. Providers with questions regarding the requirements may e-mail them to [DHSPAExemption@wisconsin.gov](mailto:DHSPAExemption@wisconsin.gov). If a requesting provider's quality improvement plan changes over time, any additional information identified in the plan must also be reported to this e-mail address.

ForwardHealth may discontinue an exemption after initial approval if it determines the requesting provider either no longer meets the requirements outlined previously or does not demonstrate meaningful use of decision support to minimize inappropriate utilization of CT and MR imaging services.

### Updating the List of Eligible Providers

The requesting provider is required to maintain the list of individual ordering providers eligible for the exemption. The requesting provider will have two mechanisms for updating the list of individual ordering providers eligible for the exemption: individual entry of provider NPIs or uploading a larger, preformatted text file.

The requesting provider may enter individual NPIs using the Prior Authorization Exempted link under the Quick Links box in the secure Provider area of Portal.

For larger lists of providers eligible for exemption, requesting providers should upload a text file to the Portal that includes the individual provider NPIs, start dates for exemption, and end dates for exemption, if applicable. All submitted NPIs will be matched to the ForwardHealth provider file. ForwardHealth will notify the requesting provider monthly, using the e-mail contact indicated on the exemption application form, of any NPIs that cannot be matched.

ForwardHealth will enable the requesting provider's Portal administrator and delegated clerks to update the individual ordering providers for whom the exemption applies by July 1, 2013. Any changes that need to be made prior to that time for individual ordering providers eligible for the exemption should be sent to [DHSPAExemption@wisconsin.gov](mailto:DHSPAExemption@wisconsin.gov).

The individual providers listed may order CT and MR imaging services without requesting PA for any DOS on and after the date the requesting provider indicates those providers are eligible to use the decision support tool, regardless of the date an individual provider's information was submitted to ForwardHealth.

For example, ABC Health Clinic is approved for an exemption from PA requirements on June 1. Dr. Smith of ABC Health Clinic orders an MR imaging service on June 15. It is discovered on June 20 that Dr. Smith was mistakenly excluded from ABC Health Clinic's exemption list. Once Dr. Smith is added to the exemption list, she is covered under the exemption going back to the date ABC Health Clinic indicated she was eligible to use the clinic's decision support tool.

## Providers Rendering Advanced Imaging Services

Providers rendering advanced imaging services are encouraged to verify that either a PA request has been approved for the member (verified by contacting [eviCore healthcare](#) or the ordering provider), or the ordering provider is exempt from PA (verified by contacting the ordering provider) prior to rendering the service.

### Claim Submission

Providers rendering advanced imaging services for an ordering provider who is exempt from PA requirements should include modifier Q4 (Service for ordering/referring physician qualifies as a service exemption) on the claim detail for the CT or MR imaging service. This modifier, which may be used in addition to the TC (Technical component) or 26 (Professional component) modifiers on advanced imaging claims, indicates to ForwardHealth that the ordering provider is exempt from PA requirements for these services.

Providers are also reminded to include the NPI of the ordering provider on the claim if the ordering provider is different from the rendering provider. If a PA request was not approved for the member and an exempt ordering provider's NPI is not included on the claim, the claim will be denied.

Topic #10678

## Prior Authorization for Advanced Imaging Services

Most advanced imaging services, including CT (computed tomography), MR (magnetic resonance), and PET (positron emission tomography) imaging, require PA (prior authorization) when performed in either outpatient hospital settings or in non-hospital settings (e.g., radiology clinics). [eviCore healthcare](#), a private radiology benefits manager, is authorized to administer PA for advanced imaging services on behalf of ForwardHealth. Refer to the Prior Authorization section of the Radiology area of the Online Handbook for PA requirements and submission information for advanced imaging services.

Health systems, groups, and individual providers that order CT and MR imaging services and have implemented decision support tools may request an exemption from PA requirements for these services. Upon approval, ForwardHealth will recognize the requesting provider's advanced imaging decision support tool (e.g., ACR Select, Medicalis) as an alternative to current PA requirements for CT and MR imaging services.

# Provider Enrollment and Ongoing Responsibilities

8



Archive Date:09/04/2018

## Provider Enrollment and Ongoing Responsibilities: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 #1918

### Accounting Method

RHCs (rural health clinics) are required to:

- Maintain cost data on the accrual basis of accounting (i.e., revenue and expenses are identified with specific periods of time to which they apply regardless of when revenue is received or an expense is paid).
- Use generally accepted accounting principles.

Topic #1917

### Audits

An RHC (rural health clinic) shall permit access to medical or financial records by Wisconsin Medicaid for the purposes of inspection, review, audit, or reproduction in accordance with [DHS 106.02\(9\)\(e\)4.](#), Wis. Admin. Code.

### Medicare Audits

The Medicare intermediary may perform audits of the RHC. Medicare audit results may affect the results of the RHC's Medicaid annual settlement. Wisconsin Medicaid may reopen the settlement and determine an additional cash payout to the RHC or recoupment to Wisconsin Medicaid.

Topic #1640

### Availability of Records to Authorized Personnel

The DHS (Department of Health Services) has the right to inspect, review, audit, and reproduce provider records pursuant to [DHS 106.02\(9\)\(e\)](#), Wis. Admin. Code. The DHS 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 DHS staff member(s).

Wisconsin Medicaid reimburses providers \$0.06 per page for the cost of reproducing records requested by the DHS to conduct a compliance audit. A letter of request for records from the DHS 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 DHS and a provider, such as reproduction costs for submitting PA requests and claims.

Also, state-contracted MCOs (managed care organizations), including HMOs and SSI HMOs, are not reimbursed for the reproduction costs covered in their contract with the DHS.

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

Topic #200

## Confidentiality and Proper Disposal of Records

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. Use or disclosure of any information concerning an applicant or member (including an applicant or member's billing information or medical claim records) for any purpose not connected with program administration is prohibited unless authorized by the applicant or member (program administration includes contacts with third-party payers that are necessary for pursuing third-party payment and the release of information as ordered by the court).

Federal HIPAA (Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996) Privacy and Security regulations establish requirements regarding the confidentiality and proper disposal of health care and related records containing PHI (protected health information). These requirements apply to all providers (who are considered "covered entities") and their business associates who create, retain, and dispose of such records.

For providers and their business partners who are not subject to HIPAA, Wisconsin confidentiality laws have similar requirements pertaining to proper disposal of health care and related records.

## HIPAA Privacy and Security Regulations

### Definition of Protected Health Information

As defined in the HIPAA privacy and security regulations, PHI is protected health information (including demographic information) that:

- Is created, received, maintained, or transmitted in any form or media.
- Relates to the past, present, or future physical or mental health or condition of an individual, the provision of health care to an individual, or the payment for the provision of health care to an individual.
- Identifies the individual or provides a reasonable basis to believe that it can be used to identify the individual.

A member's name combined with his or her member identification number or Social Security number is an example of PHI.

### Requirements Regarding "Unsecured" Protected Health Information

Title XIII of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (also known as the HITECH (Health Information Technology for Economic and Clinical Health) Act) included a provision that significantly expanded the scope, penalties, and compliance

challenges of HIPAA. This provision imposes new requirements on covered entities and their business associates to notify patients, the federal government, and the media of breaches of "unsecured" PHI (refer to 45 CFR Parts 160 and 164 and s. 13402 of the HITECH Act).

Unsecured PHI is PHI that has not been rendered unusable, unreadable, or indecipherable to unauthorized individuals through the use of physical destruction approved by the HHS (U.S. Department of Health and Human Services). According to the HHS, destruction is the only acceptable method for rendering PHI unusable, unreadable, or indecipherable.

As defined by federal law, unsecured PHI includes information in *any* medium, not just electronic data.

## **Actions Required for Proper Disposal of Records**

Under the HIPAA privacy and security regulations, health care and related records containing PHI must be disposed of in such a manner that they cannot be reconstructed. This includes ensuring that the PHI is secured (i.e., rendered unusable, unreadable, or indecipherable) prior to disposal of the records.

To secure PHI, providers and their business associates are required to use one of the following destruction methods approved by the HHS:

- Paper, film, labels, or other hard copy media should be shredded or destroyed such that the PHI cannot be read or otherwise reconstructed.
- Electronic media should be cleared, purged, or destroyed such that the PHI cannot be retrieved according to National Institute of Standards and Technology Special Publication 800-88, Guidelines for Media Sanitization, which can be found on the [NIST \(National Institute of Standards and Technology\) Web site](#).

For more information regarding securing PHI, providers may refer to [Health Information Privacy](#) on the HHS Web site.

## **Wisconsin Confidentiality Laws**

[Section 134.97](#), Wis. Stats., requires providers and their business partners who are not subject to HIPAA regulations to comply with Wisconsin confidentiality laws pertaining to the disposal of health care and related records containing PHI.

[Section 146.836](#), Wis. Stats., specifies that the requirements apply to "all patient health care records, including those on which written, drawn, printed, spoken, visual, electromagnetic or digital information is recorded or preserved, regardless of physical form or characteristics." Paper *and* electronic records are subject to Wisconsin confidentiality laws.

### **"Personally Identifiable Data" Protected**

According to [s.134.97\(1\)\(e\)](#), Wis. Stats., the types of records protected are those containing "personally identifiable data."

As defined by the law, personally identifiable data is information about an individual's medical condition that is not considered to be public knowledge. This may include account numbers, customer numbers, and account balances.

## **Actions Required for Proper Disposal of Records**

Health care and related records containing personally identifiable data must be disposed of in such a manner that no unauthorized person can access the personal information. For the period of time between a record's disposal and its destruction, providers and their business partners are required to take actions that they reasonably believe will ensure that no unauthorized person will have access to the personally identifiable data contained in the record.

## **Businesses Affected**

Sections [134.97](#) and [134.98](#), Wis. Stats., governing the proper disposal of health care and related records, apply to medical businesses as well as financial institutions and tax preparation businesses. For the purposes of these requirements, a medical business is any for-profit or nonprofit organization or enterprise that possesses information — other than personnel records — relating to a person's physical or mental health, medical history, or medical treatment. Medical businesses include sole proprietorships, partnerships, firms, business trusts, joint ventures, syndicates, corporations, limited liability companies, or associates.

## Continuing Responsibilities for All Providers After Ending Participation

Ending participation in a ForwardHealth program does not end a provider's responsibility to protect the confidentiality of health care and related records containing PHI.

Providers who no longer participate in a ForwardHealth program are responsible for ensuring that they and their business associates/partners continue to comply with all federal and state laws regarding protecting the confidentiality of members' PHI. Once record retention requirements expire, records must be disposed of in such a manner that they cannot be reconstructed — according to federal and state regulations — in order to avoid penalties.

All ForwardHealth providers and their business associates/partners who cease practice or go out of business should ensure that they have policies and procedures in place to protect all health care and related records from any unauthorized disclosure and use.

## Penalties for Violations

Any covered entity provider or provider's business associate who violates federal HIPAA regulations regarding the confidentiality and proper disposal of health care and related records may be subject to criminal and/or civil penalties, including any or all of the following:

- Fines up to \$1.5 million per calendar year.
- Jail time.
- Federal HHS Office of Civil Rights enforcement actions.

For entities not subject to HIPAA, [s.134.97\(4\)](#), Wis. Stats., imposes penalties for violations of confidentiality laws. Any provider or provider's business partner who violates Wisconsin confidentiality laws may be subject to fines up to \$1,000 per incident or occurrence.

For more specific information on the penalties for violations related to members' health care records, providers should refer to s. 13410(d) of the HITECH Act, which amends 42 USC s. 1320d-5, and [s. 134.97\(3\), \(4\)](#) and [146.84](#), Wis. Stats.

Topic #1916

## Financial Record Keeping

RHCs (rural health clinics) are required to maintain medical and financial records and documentation in accordance with [DHS 106.02\(9\)](#), Wis. Admin. Code. These regulations require the RHC to:

- Maintain adequate cost data based on financial and statistical records that can be verified by qualified auditors.
- Develop cost information that is current, accurate, and in sufficient detail to support payments made for services rendered to members. This includes all ledgers, records, and original evidences of cost (e.g., purchase requisitions, purchase orders, vouchers, payroll vouchers), which pertain to the determination of reasonable cost.
- Maintain financial and statistical records in a consistent manner from one period to another.

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 #202

## Medical Records

A dated clinician's signature must be included in all medical notes. According to Wis. Admin. Code § [DHS \(Department of Health Services\) 106.02\(9\)\(b\)](#), a provider is required to include certain written documentation in a member's medical record.

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.

The DHS (Department of Health Services) adjusts the [amounts](#) a provider may charge for providing copies of a member's health care records yearly per [s. 146.83\(3f\)\(c\)](#), Wis. Stats.

Topic #16157

## Policy Requirements for Use of Electronic Signatures on Electronic Health Records

For ForwardHealth policy areas where a signature is required, electronic signatures are acceptable as long as the signature meets the requirements. When ForwardHealth policy specifically states that a handwritten signature is required, an electronic signature will not be accepted. When ForwardHealth policy specifically states that a written signature is required, an electronic signature will be accepted.

Reimbursement for services paid to providers who do not meet all electronic signature requirements may be subject to recoupment.

## Electronic Signature Definition

An electronic signature, as stated in s. [137.11\(8\)](#), Wis. Stats., is "an electronic sound, symbol, or process attached to or logically associated with a record and executed or adopted by a person with the intent to sign the record."

Some examples include:

- Typed name (performer may type his or her complete name).
- Number (performer may type a number unique to him or her).
- Initials (performer may type initials unique to him or her).

All examples above must also meet all of the electronic signature requirements.

## Benefits of Using Electronic Signatures

The use of electronic signatures will allow providers to:

- Save time by streamlining the document signing process.
- Reduce the costs of postage and mailing materials.
- Maintain the integrity of the data submitted.
- Increase security to aid in non-repudiation.

## Electronic Signature Requirements

By following the general electronic signature requirements below, the use of electronic signatures provides a secure alternative to written signatures. These requirements align with HIPAA (Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996) Privacy Rule guidelines.

### General Requirements

When using an electronic signature, all of the following requirements must be met:

- The electronic signature must be under the sole control of the rendering provider. Only the rendering provider or designee has the authority to use the rendering provider's electronic signature. Providers are required to maintain documentation that shows the electronic signature that belongs to each rendering provider if a numbering or initial system is used (e.g., what number is assigned to a specific rendering provider). This documentation must be kept confidential.
- The provider is required to have current policies and procedures regarding the use of electronic signatures. The DHS (Department of Health Services) recommends the provider conduct an annual review of policies and procedures with those using electronic signatures to promote ongoing compliance and to address any changes in the policies and procedures.
- The provider is required to conduct or review a security risk analysis in accordance with the requirements under 45 CFR s. 164.308(a)(1).
- The provider is required to implement security updates as necessary and correct identified security deficiencies as part of its risk management process.
- The provider is required to establish administrative, technical, and physical safeguards in compliance with the HIPAA Security Rule.

### Electronic Health Record Signature Requirements

An EHR (electronic health record) that utilizes electronic signatures must meet the following requirements:

- The certification and standard criteria defined in the Health Information Technology Initial Set of Standards, Implementation Specifications, Certification Criteria for Electronic Health Record Technology Final Rule (45 CFR Part 170) and any revisions including, but not limited to, the following:
  - Assign a unique name and/or number for identifying, tracking user identity, and establishing controls that permit only authorized users to access electronic health information.
  - Record actions related to electronic health information according to the standard set forth in 45 CFR s. 170.210.
  - Enable a user to generate an audit log for a specific time period. The audit log must also have the ability to sort entries according to any of the elements specified in the standard 45 CFR s. 170.210.
  - Verify that a person or entity seeking access to electronic health information is the one claimed and is authorized to access such information.
  - Record the date, time, patient identification, and user identification when electronic health information is created, modified, accessed, or deleted. An indication of which action(s) occurred and by whom must also be recorded.
  - Use a hashing algorithm with a security strength equal to or greater than SHA-1 (Secure Hash Algorithm 1) as specified by the NIST (National Institute of Standards and Technology) in FIPS PUB 180-3 (October 2008) to verify that electronic health information has not been altered. (Providers unsure whether or not they meet this guideline should contact their IT (Information Technology) and/or security/privacy analyst.)
- Ensure the EHR provides:
  - Nonrepudiation — assurance that the signer cannot deny signing the document in the future.
  - User authentication — verification of the signer's identity at the time the signature was generated.
  - Integrity of electronically signed documents — retention of data so that each record can be authenticated and attributed to the signer.
  - Message integrity — certainty that the document has not been altered since it was signed.
  - Capability to convert electronic documents to paper copy — the paper copy must indicate the name of the individual who electronically signed the form as well as the date electronically signed.
- Ensure electronically signed records created by the EHR have the same back-up and record retention requirements as paper records.

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 #1915

## Record Retention

All providers (including RHCs (rural health clinics) and BadgerCare Plus HMOs) are required to maintain records that fully document the basis of charges upon which all claims for reimbursement are made, in accordance with [DHS 106.02\(9\)](#), Wis. Admin. Code. RHCs are required to retain records for a minimum of six years from the date of reimbursement.

*Note:* Most providers are required to retain records for a minimum of five years from the date of reimbursement.

Ending participation as a ForwardHealth program 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 Wisconsin Medicaid may come from a variety of individuals including attorneys, insurance adjusters, and members. Providers are required to notify ForwardHealth when releasing billing information or medical claim records relating to charges for covered services except in the following instances:

- 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 a member, the provider is required to do the following:

1. Send a copy of the requested billing information or medical claim records to the requestor.
2. Send a letter containing the following information to ForwardHealth:
  - Member's name.
  - Member's ForwardHealth identification number or SSN (Social Security number), if available.
  - Member's DOB (date of birth).
  - DOS (date of service).
  - Entity requesting the records, including name, address, and telephone number.

The letter must be sent to the following address:

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

### 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 is required to 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-enrolled 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.

Topic #1914

## Settlement Reclassifications

RHCs (rural health clinics) that maintain their records on a cash basis of accounting need to adjust items from the cash basis to accrual basis for the cost report. (RHCs using the cash basis of accounting record revenues and expenses when they are received and when they are paid, without regard to the period to which they apply.) These adjustments do not need to be recorded in the formal accounting records, but may be made in supplementary records. Adjustments are necessary, for example, if the RHC:

- Pays expenses applicable to future periods.
- Incurs expenses in one reporting period that are not paid until the next period.
- Purchases supplies to be used in subsequent periods.
- Records expenses for capital asset expenditures rather than the allowable depreciation on such assets.

## 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 #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-enrolled agencies for services. Providers are legally, programmatically, and fiscally responsible for the services provided by their contractors and their contractors' services.

When contracting services, providers are required to ensure contracted agencies are qualified to provide services, meet all ForwardHealth and program requirements, and maintain records in accordance with the requirements for the provision of services.

Medicaid requirements do not relieve contracted agencies of their own regulatory requirements. Contracted agencies are required to continue to meet their own regulatory requirements, in addition 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 #216

## Examples of Ongoing Responsibilities

Responsibilities for which providers are held accountable are described throughout the Online Handbook. Medicaid-enrolled 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 revalidation 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

### Changes That Require ForwardHealth Notification

Providers are required to notify ForwardHealth of any changes to their demographic information, including the following, as they occur:

- [Address\(es\)](#) — practice location and related information, mailing, PA (prior authorization), and/or financial.

*Note:* Health care providers who are federally required to have an NPI (National Provider Identifier) 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.

- Business name.
- Contact name.
- Federal Tax ID number (IRS (Internal Revenue Service) number).
- Group affiliation.
- Licensure.
- NPI.
- [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 or cancellation of provider file if 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.

## Notifying ForwardHealth of Changes

Providers can notify ForwardHealth of changes using the [demographic maintenance tool](#).

## Providers Enrolled in Multiple Programs

If demographic information changes, providers enrolled in multiple programs (e.g., Wisconsin Medicaid and WCDP (Wisconsin Chronic Disease Program)) will need to change the demographic information for each program. By toggling between accounts using the Switch Organization function of the Portal, providers who have a Portal account for each program can change their information for each program using the demographic maintenance tool. The [Account User Guide](#) provides specific information about switching organizations.

## Providers Licensed or Certified by the Division of Quality Assurance

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 emailing [Lisa.Imhof@dhs.wisconsin.gov](mailto:Lisa.Imhof@dhs.wisconsin.gov).

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 DMS (Division of Medicaid Services) is directly responsible for managing these programs.

Topic #1968

The RHC (rural health clinic) benefit is based on the RHC Services Act of 1977, Federal Public Law 95-210.

Topic #17097

## Licensure Information

Licensed providers are required to keep all licensure information, including license number, grant and expiration dates, and physical location as applicable (e.g., hospital providers), current with ForwardHealth.

If providers do not keep their licensure information, including their license number, current with ForwardHealth, any of the following may occur:

- Providers' enrollment may be deactivated. As a result, providers would not be able to submit claims or PA (prior authorization) requests or be able to function as [prescribing/referring/ordering providers](#), if applicable, until they update their licensure information.
- Providers may experience a lapse in enrollment. If a lapse occurs, providers may need to re-enroll, which may result in another application fee being assessed.

Providers may change the grant and expiration dates for their current license(s) and enter information for a new license(s), such as the license number, licensing state, and grant and expiration dates, using the [demographic maintenance tool](#). After entering information for their new license(s), some providers (e.g., out-of-state providers) will also be required to upload a copy of their license using the demographic maintenance tool. Provided licensure information must correspond with the information on file with the applicable licensing authority.

In some cases, ForwardHealth will need to verify licensure information with the applicable licensing authority, which may take up to 10 business days after submission. Providers updating their license information should plan accordingly so that they do not experience any of the indicated interruptions in enrollment. If provided licensure information (e.g., grant and expiration dates) does not correspond with the licensing authority's information, the licensing authority's information will be retained and will display in the demographic maintenance tool once verified by ForwardHealth.

Topic #15157

## Recovery Audit Contractor Audits

The ACA (Affordable Care Act) requires states to establish an RAC (Recovery Audit Contractor) program to enable the auditing of Medicaid claim payments to providers. In Wisconsin, the RAC will audit claim payments from Wisconsin Medicaid and BadgerCare Plus. The Wisconsin DHS (Department of Health Services) has awarded the contract to HMS (Health Management Systems, Inc.) as the RAC for the state of Wisconsin.

*Note:* The RAC will not audit claims submitted for Family Planning Only Services, SeniorCare, WCDP (Wisconsin Chronic Disease Program), the WWWP (Wisconsin Well Woman Program), and ADAP (Wisconsin AIDS Drug Assistance Program).

The overall goal of the RAC program is to identify and decrease improper payments. The audits will ensure that payments are for services covered under the programs in which the member was enrolled and that the services were actually provided and properly billed and documented. The audits are being conducted under Generally Accepted Government Auditing Standards.

Providers will be selected for audits based on data analysis by the RAC and referrals by state agencies. The RAC will ensure that its audits neither duplicate state audits of the same providers nor interfere with potential law enforcement investigations.

Providers who receive a notification regarding an audit should follow the instructions as outlined in the notification within the requested time frames.

## Affected Providers

Any provider may be audited, including, but not limited to, fee-for-service providers, institutional and non-institutional providers, as well as managed care entities.

## Additional Information

Any questions regarding the RAC program should be directed to HMS at (800) 310-0865. Refer to the [RAC Web site](#) for additional information regarding HMS RAC activities.

Topic #13277

## Reporting Suspected Waste, Fraud, and Abuse

The DHS (Department of Health Services) OIG (Office of Inspector General) investigates fraud and abuses including, but not limited to, the following:

- Billing Medicaid for services or equipment that were not provided.
- Submitting false applications for a DHS-funded assistance program such as Medicaid, BadgerCare Plus, WIC (Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children), or FoodShare.
- Trafficking FoodShare benefits.
- Crime, misconduct, and/or mismanagement by a DHS employee, official, or contractor.

Those who suspect fraudulent activity in Medicaid programs are required to notify the OIG if they have reason to believe that a person is misusing or abusing any DHS health care program 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 misusing or abusing their benefits. A provider may not confiscate a ForwardHealth card from a member in question.

## Reporting Suspected Fraud and Abuse

Those who suspect any form of fraud, waste, or abuse of a program by providers, trading partners, billing services, agencies, or recipients of any government assistance program are required to report it. Those reporting allegations of fraud and abuse may remain anonymous. However, not providing contact information may prevent OIG from fully investigating the complaint if questions arise during the review process.

If a provider suspects that someone is committing fraudulent activities or is misusing his or her ForwardHealth card, the provider is required to notify ForwardHealth by one of the following methods:

- Going to the OIG fraud and abuse reporting [Web site](#).
- Calling the DHS fraud and abuse hotline at (877) 865-3432.

The following information is helpful when reporting fraud and abuse:

- A description of the fraud, waste, and/or abuse, including the nature, scope, and timeframe of the activity in question. The description should include sufficient detail for the complaint to be evaluated.
- The names and dates of birth (or approximate ages) of the people involved, as well as the number of occurrences and length of the suspected activity.
- The names and date(s) of other people or agencies to which the activity may have been reported.



After the allegation is received, the DHS OIG will evaluate it and take appropriate action. If the name and contact information of the person reporting the allegation was provided, the OIG may be in contact to verify details or ask for additional information.

## Prescription

---

Topic #525

### General Requirements

It is vital that prescribers provide adequate supporting clinical documentation for a pharmacy or other dispensing providers to fill a prescription. Except as otherwise provided in federal or state law, a prescription must be in writing or given orally and later reduced to writing by the provider filling the prescription. The prescription must include the following information:

- The name, strength, and quantity of the drug or item prescribed.
- The service required, if applicable.
- The date of issue of the prescription.
- The prescriber's name and address.
- The member's name and address.
- The prescriber's signature (if the prescriber writes the prescription) and date signed.
- The directions for use of the prescribed drug, item, or service.

### Drug Enforcement Agency Number Audits

All prescriptions for controlled substances must indicate the DEA (Drug Enforcement Agency) number of the prescriber on all prescriptions. DEA numbers are not required on claims or PAs (prior authorizations).

### Members in Hospitals and Nursing Homes

For hospital and nursing home members, prescriptions must be entered into the medical and nursing charts and must include the previously listed information. Prescription orders are valid for no more than one year from the date of the prescription except for controlled substances and prescriber-limited refills that are valid for shorter periods of time.

Topic #523

### Prescriber Information for Drug Prescriptions

Most legend and certain OTC (over-the-counter) drugs are covered. (A legend drug is one whose outside package has the legend or phrase "Caution, federal law prohibits dispensing without a prescription" printed on it.)

Coverage for some drugs may be restricted by one of the following policies:

- PDL (Preferred Drug List)
- PA (prior authorization)
- BBG (brand before generic) drugs that require PA
- BMN (brand medically necessary) drugs that require PA
- Diagnosis-restricted drugs
- Age-restricted and gender-restricted drugs

Prescribers are encouraged to write prescriptions for drugs that do not have restrictions; however, processes are available to obtain reimbursement for medically necessary drugs that do have restrictions.

For the most current prescription drug information, refer to the [pharmacy data tables](#). Providers may also call [Provider Services](#) for more information.

## Preferred Drug List

Most preferred drugs on the [PDL](#) do not require PA, although these drugs may have other restrictions (e.g., age, diagnosis); non-preferred drugs do require PA. Prescribers are encouraged to write prescriptions for preferred drugs; however, a PA process is available for non-preferred drugs if the drugs are medically necessary. Prescribers are encouraged to try more than one preferred drug, if medically appropriate for the member, before prescribing a non-preferred drug.

### Prescriber Responsibilities for Non-preferred Drugs

Prescribers should determine the ForwardHealth benefit plan in which a member is enrolled before writing a prescription. If a member is enrolled in BadgerCare Plus, Medicaid, or SeniorCare, prescribers are encouraged to write prescriptions for preferred drugs. Prescribers are encouraged to prescribe more than one preferred drug before a non-preferred drug is prescribed.

If a non-preferred drug or a preferred drug that requires clinical PA is medically necessary for a member, the prescriber is required to complete a PA request for the drug. Prescribers are required to complete the appropriate [PA form](#) and submit it to the pharmacy provider where the prescription will be filled. When completing the PA form, prescribers are reminded to provide a handwritten signature and date on the form. PA request forms may be faxed or mailed to the pharmacy provider, or the member may carry the form with the prescription to the pharmacy provider. The pharmacy provider will use the completed form to submit a PA request to ForwardHealth. The prescriber is required to attest on the form that the member meets the clinical criteria for PA approval. Prescribers should not submit PA forms to ForwardHealth.

Prescribers and pharmacy providers are required to retain a completed copy of the PA form.

## Diagnosis-Restricted Drugs

Prescribers are required to include a diagnosis description on prescriptions for those [drugs that are diagnosis-restricted](#).

## Prescribing Drugs Manufactured by Companies Who Have Not Signed the Rebate Agreement

By federal law, pharmaceutical manufacturers who participate in state Medicaid programs must sign a rebate agreement with CMS (Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services). BadgerCare Plus, Medicaid, and SeniorCare will cover legend and specific categories of OTC products of manufacturers who have signed a rebate agreement.

*Note:* SeniorCare does not cover OTC drugs, except insulin.

ForwardHealth has identified [drug manufacturers who have signed the rebate agreement](#). By signing the rebate agreement, the manufacturer agrees to pay ForwardHealth a rebate equal to a percentage of its "sales" to ForwardHealth.

Drugs of companies choosing not to sign the rebate agreement, with few exceptions, are not covered. A Medicaid-enrolled pharmacy can confirm for prescribers whether or not a particular drug manufacturer has signed the agreement.

## Members Enrolled in BadgerCare Plus, Medicaid, or SeniorCare (Levels 1 and 2a)

BadgerCare Plus, Medicaid, and SeniorCare levels 1 and 2a may cover certain FDA (Food and Drug Administration)-approved legend drugs through the PA process even though the drug manufacturers did not sign rebate agreements.

Prescribers are required to complete the [appropriate section\(s\) of the PA/DGA \(Prior Authorization/Drug Attachment, F-11049 \(07/2016\)\)](#) as it pertains to the drug being requested.

Included with the PA, the prescriber is required to submit documentation of medical necessity and cost-effectiveness that the non-rebated drug is the only available and medically appropriate product for treating the member. The documentation must include the following:

- A copy of the medical record or documentation of the medical history detailing the member's medical condition and previous treatment results
- Documentation by the prescriber that shows why other drug products have been ruled out as ineffective or unsafe for the member's medical condition
- Documentation by the prescriber that shows why the non-rebated drug is the most appropriate and cost-effective drug to treat the member's medical condition

If a PA request for a drug without a signed manufacturer rebate is approved, claims for drugs without a signed rebate agreement must be submitted on paper. Providers should complete and submit the [Noncompound Drug Claim \(F-13072 \(04/17\)\)](#) form indicating the actual NDC of the drug with the [Pharmacy Special Handling Request \(F-13074 \(04/14\)\)](#) form.

If a PA request for a drug without a signed manufacturer rebate is denied, the service is considered noncovered.

## Members Enrolled in SeniorCare (Levels 2b and 3)

PA is not available for drugs from manufacturers without a separate, signed SeniorCare rebate agreement for members in levels 2b and 3. PA requests submitted for drugs without a separate, signed SeniorCare rebate agreement for members in levels 2b and 3 will be returned to the providers unprocessed and the service will be noncovered. Members do not have appeal rights regarding returned PA requests for noncovered drugs.

## Drug Utilization Review System

The federal OBRA (Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act) of 1990 (42 CFR Parts 456.703 and 456.705) called for a DUR (Drug Utilization Review) program for all Medicaid-covered drugs to improve the quality and cost-effectiveness of member care. ForwardHealth's prospective DUR system assists pharmacy providers in screening certain drug categories for clinically important potential drug therapy problems before the prescription is dispensed to the member. The DUR system checks the member's entire drug history regardless of where the drug was dispensed or by whom it was prescribed.

Diagnoses from medical claims are used to build a medical profile for each member. The prospective DUR system uses this profile to determine whether or not a prescribed drug may be inappropriate or harmful to the member. It is very important that prescribers provide up-to-date medical diagnosis information about members on medical claims to ensure complete and accurate member profiles, particularly in cases of disease or pregnancy.

*Note:* The prospective DUR system does not dictate which drugs may be dispensed; prescribers and pharmacists must exercise professional judgment.

### Prospective Drug Utilization Review's Impact on Prescribers

If a pharmacist receives an alert, a response is required before the drug can be dispensed to the member. This may require the pharmacist to contact the prescriber for additional information to determine if the prescription should be filled as written, modified, or cancelled. Prescribers should respond to inquiries, such as telephone calls or faxes, related to prescribed drugs from pharmacy providers.

## Drugs with Three-Month Supply Requirement

ForwardHealth has identified a [list of three-month supply drugs](#):

- Certain drugs are required to be dispensed in a three-month supply.
- Additional drugs are allowed to be dispensed in a three-month supply.

## Member Benefits

When it is appropriate for the member's medical condition, a three-month supply of a drug benefits the member in the following ways:

- Aiding compliance in taking prescribed generic, maintenance medications
- Reducing the cost of member copayments
- Requiring fewer trips to the pharmacy
- Allowing the member to obtain a larger quantity of generic, maintenance drugs for chronic conditions (e.g., hypertension)

Prescribers are encouraged to write prescriptions for a three-month supply when appropriate for the member.

## Prescription Quantity

A prescriber is required to indicate the appropriate quantity on the prescription to allow the dispensing provider to dispense the maintenance drug in a three-month supply. For example, if the prescription is written for "Hydrochlorothiazide 25 mg, take one tablet daily," the prescriber is required to indicate a quantity of 90 or 100 tablets on the prescription so the pharmacy provider can dispense a three-month supply. In certain instances, brand name drugs (e.g., oral contraceptives) may be dispensed in a three-month supply.

Pharmacy providers are not required to contact prescribers to request a new prescription for a three-month supply if a prescription has been written as a one-month supply with multiple or as needed (i.e., PRN (pro re nata)) refills.

ForwardHealth will not audit or recoup three-month supply claims if a pharmacy provider changes a prescription written as a one-month supply with refills as long as the total quantity dispensed per prescription does not exceed the total quantity authorized by the prescriber.

## Prescription Mail Delivery

Current Wisconsin law permits Wisconsin Medicaid-enrolled retail pharmacies to deliver prescriptions to members via the mail. Wisconsin Medicaid-enrolled retail pharmacies may dispense and mail any prescription or OTC medication to a Medicaid fee-for-service member at no additional cost to the member or Wisconsin Medicaid.

Providers are encouraged to use the mail delivery option if requested by the member, particularly for prescriptions filled for a three-month supply.

## Noncovered Drugs

The following drugs are not covered:

- Drugs that are identified by the FDA as LTE (less-than-effective) or identical, related, or similar to LTE drugs
- Drugs identified on the Wisconsin Negative Formulary
- Drugs manufactured by companies who have not signed the rebate agreement
- Drugs to treat the condition of ED (erectile dysfunction). Examples of noncovered drugs for ED are Viagra<sup>®</sup> and Cialis<sup>®</sup>.

## SeniorCare

[SeniorCare](#) is a prescription drug assistance program for Wisconsin residents who are 65 years of age or older and meet eligibility criteria. SeniorCare is modeled after Wisconsin Medicaid in terms of drug coverage and reimbursement, although there are a few differences. Unlike Medicaid, SeniorCare does not cover OTC drugs other than insulin.

Topic #4346

## Tamper-Resistant Prescription Pad Requirement

Section 7002(b) of the U.S. Troop Readiness, Veterans' Care, Katrina Recovery, and Iraq Accountability Appropriations Act of 2007 imposed a requirement on prescriptions paid for by Medicaid, SeniorCare, or BadgerCare fee-for-service. The law requires that all written or computer-generated prescriptions that are given to a patient to take to a pharmacy must be written or printed on tamper-resistant prescription pads or tamper-resistant computer paper. This requirement applies to prescriptions for both controlled and noncontrolled substances.

All other Medicaid policies and procedures regarding prescriptions continue to apply.

### Required Features for Tamper-Resistant Prescription Pads or Computer Paper

To be considered tamper-resistant, federal law requires that prescription pads/paper contain all three of the following characteristics:

- One or more industry-recognized features designed to prevent unauthorized copying of a completed or blank prescription form.
- One or more industry-recognized features designed to prevent the erasure or modification of information written on the prescription by the prescriber.
- One or more industry-recognized features designed to prevent the use of counterfeit prescription forms.

### Exclusions to Tamper-Resistant Prescription Pad Requirement

The following are exclusions to the tamper-resistant prescription pad requirement:

- Prescriptions faxed directly from the prescriber to the pharmacy.
- Prescriptions electronically transmitted directly from the prescriber to the pharmacy.
- Prescriptions telephoned directly from the prescriber to the pharmacy.
- Prescriptions provided to members in nursing facilities, ICF/IIDs (Intermediate Care Facilities for Individuals with Intellectual Disabilities), and other specified institutional and clinical settings to the extent that drugs are part of their overall rate. However, written prescriptions filled by a pharmacy outside the walls of the facility are subject to the tamper-resistant requirement.

### 72-Hour Grace Period

Prescriptions presented by patients on non-tamper-resistant pads or paper may be dispensed and considered compliant if the pharmacy receives a compliant prescription order within 72 hours.

### Coordination of Benefits

The federal law imposing these new requirements applies even when ForwardHealth is the secondary payer.

## **Retroactive ForwardHealth Eligibility**

If a patient becomes retroactively eligible for ForwardHealth, the federal law presumes that prescriptions retroactively dispensed were compliant. However, prospective refills will require a tamper-resistant prescription.

## **Penalty for Noncompliance**

Payment made to the pharmacy for a claim corresponding to a noncompliant order may be recouped, in full, by Wisconsin Medicaid.

# Provider Enrollment

---

Topic #899

## CLIA Certification or Waiver

Congress implemented CLIA (Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendment) to improve the quality and safety of laboratory services. CLIA requires *all* laboratories and providers that perform tests (including waived tests) for health assessment or for the diagnosis, prevention, or treatment of disease or health impairment to comply with specific federal quality standards. This requirement applies even if only a single test is being performed.

### CLIA Enrollment

The federal CMS (Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services) sends CLIA enrollment information to ForwardHealth. The enrollment information includes CLIA identification numbers for all current laboratory sites. ForwardHealth verifies that laboratories are CLIA certified before Medicaid grants enrollment.

### CLIA Regulations

ForwardHealth complies with the following federal regulations as initially published and subsequently updated:

- Public Health Service Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments of 1988.
- Title 42 CFR Part 493, Laboratory Requirements.

### Scope of CLIA

CLIA governs all laboratory operations including the following:

- Accreditation.
- Certification.
- Fees.
- Patient test management.
- Personnel qualifications.
- Proficiency testing.
- Quality assurance.
- Quality control.
- Records and information systems.
- Sanctions.
- Test methods, equipment, instrumentation, reagents, materials, supplies.
- Tests performed.

CLIA regulations apply to *all* providers who perform CLIA-monitored laboratory services, including, but not limited to, the following:

- Clinics.
- HealthCheck providers.
- Independent clinical laboratories.
- Nurse midwives.



- Nurse practitioners.
- Osteopaths.
- Physician assistants.
- Physicians.
- Rural health clinics.

## CLIA Certification Types

The CMS regulations require providers to have a CLIA certificate that indicates the laboratory is qualified to perform a category of tests.

Clinics or groups with a single group billing certification, but multiple CLIA numbers for different laboratories, may wish to contact [Provider Services](#) to discuss various certification options. There are five types of CLIA certificates as defined by CMS:

1. *Certificate of Waiver*. This certificate is issued to a laboratory to perform only waived tests. The CMS Web site identifies the most current list of [waived procedures](#). BadgerCare Plus identifies allowable waived procedures in [maximum allowable fee schedules](#).
2. *Certificate for Provider-Performed Microscopy Procedures (PPMP)*. This certificate is issued to a laboratory in which a physician, mid-level practitioner, or dentist performs no tests other than the microscopy procedures. This certificate permits the laboratory to also perform waived tests. The CMS Web site identifies the most current list of [CLIA-allowable provider-performed microscopy procedures](#). BadgerCare Plus identifies allowable provider-performed microscopy procedures in fee schedules.
3. *Certificate of Registration*. This certificate is issued to a laboratory and enables the entity to conduct moderate- or high-complexity laboratory testing, or both, until the entity is determined by survey to be in compliance with CLIA regulations.
4. *Certificate of Compliance*. This certificate is issued to a laboratory after an inspection that finds the laboratory to be in compliance with all applicable CLIA requirements.
5. *Certificate of Accreditation*. This is a certificate that is issued to a laboratory on the basis of the laboratory's accreditation by an accreditation organization approved by CMS. The six major approved accreditation organizations are:
  - The Joint Commission.
  - CAP (College of American Pathologists).
  - COLA.
  - American Osteopathic Association.
  - American Association of Blood Banks.
  - ASHI (American Society of Histocompatibility and Immunogenetics).

## Applying for CLIA Certification

Use the CMS 116 CLIA application to apply for program certificates. Providers may obtain CMS 116 forms from the [CMS Web site](#) or from the following address:

Division of Quality Assurance  
 Clinical Laboratory Section  
 1 W Wilson St  
 PO Box 2969  
 Madison WI 53701-2969

## Providers Required to Report Changes

Providers are required to notify Provider Enrollment within 30 days of any change(s) in ownership, name, location, or director. Also, providers are required to notify Provider Enrollment of changes in CLIA certificate types immediately and within six months when a specialty/subspecialty is added or deleted.

Providers may notify Provider Enrollment of changes by uploading supporting documentation using the [demographic maintenance tool](#) or by mailing supporting documentation to the following address:

Wisconsin Medicaid  
 Provider Enrollment  
 313 Blettner Blvd  
 Madison WI 53784

If a provider has a new certificate type to add to its certification information on file with ForwardHealth, the provider should upload or mail a copy of the new certificate. When a provider sends ForwardHealth a copy of a new CLIA certificate, the effective date on the certificate will become the effective date for CLIA certification on file with ForwardHealth.

Topic #3969

## Categories of Enrollment

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

- Billing/rendering provider.
- Rendering-only provider.
- Billing-only provider (including group billing).

Providers should refer to the service-specific information in the Online Handbook or the Information for Specific Provider Types page on the [Provider Enrollment Information home page](#) to identify which category of enrollment is applicable.

### Billing/Rendering Provider

Enrollment as a 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-Only Provider

Enrollment as a rendering-only provider is given to those providers who practice under the professional supervision of another provider (e.g., physician assistants). Providers with a rendering provider enrollment cannot submit claims to ForwardHealth directly, but they 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.

### Billing-Only Provider (Including Group Billing)

Enrollment as a billing-only provider is given to certain provider types when a separate rendering provider is required on claims.

#### Group Billing

Groups of individual practitioners are enrolled as billing-only providers as an accounting convenience. This allows the group to receive one reimbursement, one RA (Remittance Advice), and the 835 (835 Health Care Claim Payment/Advice) transaction for covered services rendered by individual practitioners within the group.

Providers may not have more than one group practice enrolled in Wisconsin Medicaid with the same ZIP+4 code address, NPI (National Provider Identifier), and taxonomy code combination. Provider group practices located at the same ZIP+4 code address are required to differentiate their enrollment using an NPI or taxonomy code that uniquely identifies each group practice.

Individual practitioners within group practices are required to be Medicaid-enrolled 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.

Topic #1923

## Definitions

According to Wisconsin Medicaid and BadgerCare Plus, an RHC (rural health clinic):

- Is an outpatient health clinic located in a rural area designated by the U.S. HHS (Department of Health and Human Services) as a rural shortage area.
- Is not a rehabilitation agency or a facility primarily for the care and treatment of mental diseases.
- Complies with all other appropriate federal, state, and local laws.
- Meets all other requirements of RHC certification.

A *rural area* is an area that is not delineated as an urbanized area by the U.S. Bureau of Census.

A *rural shortage area* is a defined geographic area designated by the federal HHS under the Public Health Services Act as having either a shortage of personal health services or a shortage of primary medical care providers.

## Types of Rural Health Clinics

RHCs can be privately or publicly owned. The two types of RHCs, as designated by Medicare RHC regulations, are:

- Independent RHCs: These RHCs are freestanding and are not part of a hospital, SNF (skilled nursing facility), or home health agency.
- Provider-Based RHCs: These RHCs are part of a hospital, skilled nursing facility, or home health agency, and may be either located with the parent organization or satellite clinic.

Clinics are subject to different cost-based reimbursement methods depending on their type. Wisconsin Medicaid and BadgerCare Plus recognize the Medicare classification of RHCs.

Topic #14137

## Enrollment Requirements Due to the Affordable Care Act

In 2010, the federal government signed into law the ACA (Affordable Care Act), also known as federal health care reform, which affects several aspects of Wisconsin health care. ForwardHealth has been working toward ACA compliance by implementing some [new requirements for providers and provider screening processes](#). To meet federally mandated requirements, ForwardHealth is implementing changes in phases, the first of which began in 2012. A high-level list of the changes included under ACA is as follows:

- Providers are assigned a risk level of limited, moderate, or high. Most of the risk levels have been established by CMS (Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services) based on an assessment of potential fraud, waste, and abuse for each provider type.
- Providers are [screened according to their assigned risk level](#). Screenings are conducted during enrollment, reenrollment, and revalidation.

- Certain provider types are subject to an [application fee](#). This fee has been federally mandated and may be adjusted annually. The fee is used to offset the cost of conducting screening activities.
- Providers are required to undergo revalidation every three years.
- All [physicians and other professionals who prescribe, refer, or order services](#) are required to be enrolled as a participating Medicaid provider.
- Payment suspensions are imposed on providers based on a credible allegation of fraud.
- Providers are required to submit personal information about all persons with an [ownership or controlling interest, agents, and managing employees](#) at the time of enrollment, re-enrollment, and revalidation.

Topic #194

## In-State Emergency Providers and Out-of-State Providers

ForwardHealth requires all in-state emergency providers and out-of-state providers who render services to BadgerCare Plus, Medicaid, or SeniorCare members to be [enrolled](#) in Wisconsin Medicaid. Information is available regarding the enrollment options for [in-state emergency providers](#) and [out-of-state providers](#).

In-state emergency providers and out-of-state providers who dispense covered outpatient drugs will be assigned a [professional dispensing fee](#) reimbursement rate of \$10.51.

Topic #1922

## Individual Provider Enrollment

For the purpose of Wisconsin Medicaid, RHCs (rural health clinics) are enrolled as billing providers for fee-for-service reimbursement. Each RHC rendering provider must be individually enrolled.

The types of reimbursable RHC services that require individual rendering provider enrollment are:

- [Physician services](#).
- [Physician assistant services](#).
- [Nurse practitioner services](#).
- [Nurse midwife services](#).
- [Outpatient mental health and outpatient substance abuse services](#).
- Other services, as necessary.

Topic #193

## Materials for New Providers

On an ongoing basis, providers should refer to the Online Handbook for the most current BadgerCare Plus, Medicaid, and ADAP (Wisconsin AIDS Drug Assistance Program) information. Future changes to policies and procedures are published in *ForwardHealth Updates*. *Updates* are available for viewing and downloading on the [ForwardHealth Publications page](#).

Topic #1921

## Nurse Practitioners and Nurse Midwives

[Nurse practitioners](#) and [nurse midwives](#) who treat members are required to be enrolled in Wisconsin Medicaid. This applies to nurse practitioners whose services are reimbursed under a physician's or clinic's billing provider NPI (National Provider Identifier), as well as those who independently submit claims to ForwardHealth. This does not apply to ancillary providers who practice under the direct on-site supervision of a physician.

Topic #4457

## Provider Addresses

ForwardHealth has the capability to store the following types of addresses and contact information:

- *Practice location address and related information.* 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 the telephone number for members' use. With limited exceptions, the practice location and telephone number for members' 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 accurate address information to aid in proper mail delivery.
- *PA (prior authorization) address.* This address is where ForwardHealth will mail PA information.
- *Financial addresses.* Two separate financial addresses are stored for ForwardHealth. The checks address is where ForwardHealth will mail paper checks. The 1099 mailing address is where ForwardHealth will mail IRS Form 1099.

Providers may submit additional address information or modify their current information using the [demographic maintenance tool](#).

*Note:* Providers are cautioned that any changes to their practice location on file with Wisconsin Medicaid 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 website](#).

Topic #14157

## Provider Enrollment Information Home Page

ForwardHealth has consolidated all information providers will need for the enrollment process in one location on the ForwardHealth Portal. For information related to enrollment criteria and to complete online provider enrollment applications, providers should refer to the [Provider Enrollment Information home page](#).

The Provider Enrollment Information home page includes enrollment applications for each provider type and specialty eligible for enrollment with Wisconsin Medicaid. Prior to enrolling, providers may consult a provider enrollment criteria menu, which is a reference for each individual provider type detailing the information the provider may need to gather before beginning the enrollment process, including:

- Links to enrollment criteria for each provider type.
- Provider terms of reimbursement.
- Disclosure information.
- Category of enrollment.
- Additional documents needed (when applicable).

Providers will also have access to a list of links related to the enrollment process, including:

- General enrollment information.
- Regulations and forms.

- Provider type-specific enrollment information.
- In-state and out-of-state emergency enrollment information.
- Contact information.

Information regarding enrollment policy and billing instructions may still be found in the Online Handbook.

Topic #1931

## Provider Type and Specialty Changes

### Provider Type

Providers who want to add a provider type or change their current provider type are required to complete a new [enrollment application](#) for each provider type they want to add or change to because they need to meet the enrollment criteria for each provider type.

### Provider Specialty

Providers who have the option to add or change a provider specialty can do so using the [demographic maintenance tool](#). After adding or changing a specialty, providers may be required to submit documentation to ForwardHealth, either by uploading through the demographic maintenance tool or by mail, supporting the addition or change.

Providers should contact [Provider Services](#) with any questions about adding or changing a specialty.

Topic #14317

## Terminology to Know for Provider Enrollment

Due to the ACA (Affordable Care Act), ForwardHealth has adopted new terminology. The following table includes new terminology that will be useful to providers during the provider enrollment and revalidation processes. Providers may refer to the Medicaid rule 42 CFR s. 455.101 for more information.

New Terminology	Definition
Agent	Any person who has been delegated the authority to obligate or act on behalf of a provider.
Disclosing entity	A Medicaid provider (other than an individual practitioner or group of practitioners) or a fiscal agent.
Federal health care programs	Federal health care programs include Medicare, Medicaid, Title XX, and Title XXI.
Other disclosing agent	Any other Medicaid disclosing entity and any entity that does not participate in Medicaid but is required to disclose certain ownership and control information because of participation in any of the programs established under Title V, XVII, or XX of the Act. This includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Any hospital, skilled nursing facility, home health agency, independent clinical laboratory, renal disease facility, rural health clinic, or HMO that participates in Medicare (Title XVIII)</li> <li>• Any Medicare intermediary or carrier</li> <li>• Any entity (other than an individual practitioner or group of practitioners) that furnishes, or</li> </ul>

	arranges for the furnishing of, health-related services for which it claims payment under any plan or program established under Title V or XX of the Act
Indirect ownership	An ownership interest in an entity that has an ownership interest in the disclosing entity. This term includes an ownership interest in any entity that has an indirect ownership in the disclosing entity.
Managing employee	A general manager, business manager, administrator, director, or other individual who exercises operational or managerial control over, or who directly or indirectly conducts the day-to-day operation of an institution, organization, or agency.
Ownership interest	The possession of equity in the capital, the stock, or the profits of the disclosing entity.
Person with an ownership or control interest	A person or corporation for which one or more of the following applies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Has an ownership interest totaling five percent or more in a disclosing entity</li> <li>• Has an indirect ownership interest equal to five percent or more in a disclosing entity</li> <li>• Has a combination of direct and indirect ownership interest equal to five percent or more in a disclosing entity</li> <li>• Owns an interest of five percent or more in any mortgage, deed of trust, note, or other obligation secured by the disclosing entity if that interest equals at least five percent of the value of the property or asset of the disclosing entity</li> <li>• Is an officer or director of a disclosing entity that is organized as a corporation</li> <li>• Is a person in a disclosing entity that is organized as a partnership</li> </ul>
Subcontractor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An individual, agency, or organization to which a disclosing entity has contracted or delegated some of its management functions or responsibilities of providing medical care to its patients; or,</li> <li>• An individual, agency, or organization with which a fiscal agent has entered into a contract, agreement, purchase order, or lease (or leases of real property) to obtain space, supplies, equipment, or services provided under the Medicaid agreement.</li> </ul>
Re-enrollment	Re-enrollment of a provider whose Medicaid enrollment has ended for any reason other than sanctions or failure to revalidate may be re-enrolled as long as all licensure and enrollment requirements are met. Providers should note that when they re-enroll, application fees and screening activities may apply. Re-enrollment was formerly known as re-instate.
Revalidation	All enrolled providers are required to revalidate their enrollment information every three years to continue their participation with Wisconsin Medicaid. Revalidation was formerly known as recertification.

*Note:* Providers should note that the CMS (Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services) requires revalidation at least every five years. However, Wisconsin Medicaid will continue to revalidate providers every three years.

## Provider Numbers

---

Topic #1913

### Billing Rendering Provider

Physicians, nurse practitioners, nurse midwives, psychiatrists, and psychologists are issued an NPI (National Provider Identifier) that allows them to identify themselves on the 1500 Health Insurance Claim Form ((02/12)) as either the biller or the performer of services when a clinic or group is submitting claims for the services.

Topic #1912

### Group Billing National Provider Identifiers

RHCs (rural health clinics) are issued a group billing NPI (National Provider Identifier) and receive one reimbursement and one RA (Remittance Advice) for RHC services performed by individual providers within the RHC.

Claims submitted by the RHC under the group billing NPI must identify a Medicaid-enrolled *rendering* provider on the claim form. A claim submitted with only an RHC group billing NPI is denied reimbursement. An RHC may submit claims for most services (including physician, physician assistant, nurse practitioner, and nurse midwife services) using its group billing provider NPI and an appropriate rendering provider NPI. Claims for services that are not RHC services may be submitted under the individual rendering provider's NPI or under a separate physician/clinic group billing NPI issued to the facility.

Wisconsin Medicaid does not reimburse RHCs for providing outpatient mental health/substance abuse services performed by a Master's level therapist when using the RHC group billing NPI. Clinics must use the appropriate billing number(s) for these services (i.e., outpatient mental health/substance abuse clinic group billing NPI).

Claims for outpatient mental health/substance abuse services performed by a Master's-level provider must be submitted using the outpatient mental health/substance abuse clinic group billing NPI. Claims for home health services must be submitted using a home health agency group billing NPI.

Topic #3421

## Provider Identification

### Health Care Providers

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

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

Providers should ensure that they have obtained an appropriate NPI prior to beginning their enrollment application. 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 enrollments — one enrollment as an individual physical therapist and the other enrollment as the physical therapy group. A Type 1 NPI for the individual enrollment and a Type 2 NPI for the group enrollment 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 information on Type 1 and Type 2 NPIs.

Health care providers who are federally required to have an NPI are responsible for obtaining the appropriate certification for their NPI.

## Non-healthcare Providers

Non-healthcare providers, such as SMV (specialized medical vehicle) providers, personal care agencies, and blood banks, are exempt from federal NPI requirements. Providers exempt from federal NPI requirements are assigned a Medicaid provider number once their enrollment application is accepted; they are required to indicate this Medicaid provider number on electronic and paper transactions submitted to ForwardHealth.

Topic #5096

## Taxonomy Codes

Taxonomy codes are standard code sets used to provide information about provider type and specialty for the provider's enrollment. 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 enrollments 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 enrollment. 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; ForwardHealth will use this primary code for identification purposes.

Providers who wish to change their taxonomy code or add additional taxonomy codes may do so using the [demographic maintenance tool](#). Most taxonomy code changes entered through the demographic maintenance tool will take effect in real time; providers may use the new codes immediately 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 enrollment 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 enrollments

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 [U.S. Postal Service Web site](#).

## Provider Rights

---

Topic #208

### A Comprehensive Overview of Provider Rights

Medicaid-enrolled 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:

Wisconsin Medicaid  
 Provider Enrollment  
 313 Blettner Blvd  
 Madison WI 53784

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 DMS (Division of Medicaid Services)'s notice of intent to recover payment (e.g., to recoup for overpayments discovered in an audit by DMS) 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 #1217

## Annual Settlement Adjustments

An RHC (rural health clinic) has 60 days to request an adjustment after receiving notification of its settlement or recoupment amount from Medicaid. The adjustment request may include additional expenses and/or allowable encounters. To be included in an adjustment, an encounter must have been submitted to and paid by Wisconsin Medicaid within 365 days of the DOS (date of service), as required by state law, and the DOS (not the paid date) of the encounter must fall within the clinic's fiscal year for which the settlement report was submitted.

If the RHC does not ask for an adjustment within 60 days of notification of the original settlement payment or recoupment, Wisconsin Medicaid considers the settlement final. An RHC should verify that all expenses and encounters have been included in the settlement before the 60-day deadline. Wisconsin Medicaid may adjust the settlement based on Medicare's final audit of an RHC.

RHCs are responsible for verifying that all expenses and encounters are included in the cost report. A settlement cannot be reopened once it has been finalized (i.e., after the 60-day adjustment request period), except in cases where an audit requires Wisconsin Medicaid to revise the settlement.

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 DMS (Division of Medicaid Services) 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 DMS. 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 DMS may also require additional information from the provider or the member prior to acting on the request.

## Application

The DMS 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 Medicaid Services  
Waivers and Variances  
PO Box 309  
Madison WI 53701-0309

## 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 enrollment 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 enrollment 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 enrollment 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 enrollment. 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 [s. 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.

# Reimbursement

# 9



Archive Date:09/04/2018

## Reimbursement:Amounts

---

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 enrollment 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 #1894

## Managed Care Supplemental Payments

RHCs (rural health clinics) that provide services under a contract with a BadgerCare Plus HMO (health maintenance organization) receive state supplemental payment for the cost of providing these services. These supplemental payments are an estimate of the difference between the payment the RHC receives from the HMO(s) and the payments the RHC would have received under the alternative cost settlement method.

At the end of each RHC fiscal year, the total amount of supplemental and HMO payments received by an RHC is reviewed against the payment amount that the number of visits provided under the RHC's contract with the HMO would have yielded under the alternative method. The RHC is paid the difference between the amount calculated using the alternative cost settlement method and the actual number of visits and the total amount of supplemental and HMO payments received by the RHC, if the alternative amount exceeds the total amount of supplemental and HMO payments.

If the alternative amount is less than the total amount of supplemental and HMO payments, Wisconsin Medicaid will recoup the difference.

## Reimbursement Not Available

---

Topic #1890

### Outpatient Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services

Payment may be denied or recouped for covered services that fail to meet program requirements. Medicaid reimbursement is also not available for noncovered services.

The following are not reimbursable as outpatient mental health services:

- Collateral interviews with persons not stipulated in [DHS 107.13\(2\)\(c\)](#), Wis. Admin. Code, and consultations, except as provided in [DHS 107.06\(4\)\(c\)](#), Wis. Admin. Code.
- Court appearances, except when necessary to defend against commitment of the member.
- Outpatient mental health services for persons with the primary diagnosis of intellectual disability, except when they experience psychological problems that necessitate psychotherapeutic intervention.
- Outpatient mental health services provided in a person's home for members age 21 and over.
- Self-referrals, meaning that a provider refers a member to an agency in which the provider has a direct financial interest, or refers a member to himself or herself acting as a practitioner in private practice.

The following services are not covered outpatient substance abuse services:

- Collateral interviews and consultations, except as provided in [DHS 107.06\(4\)\(c\)](#), Wis. Admin. Code.
- Court appearances, except when necessary to defend against commitment of the member.
- Detoxification provided in a social setting, as described in [DHS 75.09](#), Wis. Admin. Code. For more information on noncovered services, see [DHS 107.03](#), Wis. Admin. Code.

# Resources

# 10

Archive Date:09/04/2018

## Resources:Contact Information

---

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 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.

<b>ForwardHealth Portal</b>	<a href="http://www.forwardhealth.wi.gov/">www.forwardhealth.wi.gov/</a>	<b>24 hours a day, seven days a week</b>
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.		
<b>WiCall Automated Voice Response System</b>	<b>(800) 947-3544</b>	<b>24 hours a day, seven days a week</b>
WiCall, the ForwardHealth Automated Voice Response system, provides responses to the following inquiries: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Checkwrite.</li> <li>• Claim status.</li> <li>• Prior authorization.</li> <li>• Member enrollment.</li> </ul>		
<b>ForwardHealth Provider Services Call Center</b>	<b>(800) 947-9627</b>	<b>Monday through Friday, 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. (Central Standard Time)*</b>
To assist providers in the following programs: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• BadgerCare Plus.</li> <li>• Medicaid.</li> <li>• SeniorCare.</li> <li>• Wisconsin Well Woman Medicaid.</li> <li>• Wisconsin Chronic Disease Program (WCDP).</li> <li>• Wisconsin Well Woman Program (WWWP).</li> <li>• Wisconsin Medicaid and BadgerCare Plus Managed Care Programs.</li> </ul>		
<b>ForwardHealth Portal Helpdesk</b>	<b>(866) 908-1363</b>	<b>Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. (Central Standard Time)*</b>
To assist providers and trading partners with technical questions regarding Portal functions and capabilities, including Portal accounts, registrations, passwords, and submissions through the Portal.		
<b>Electronic Data Interchange Helpdesk</b>	<b>(866) 416-4979</b>	<b>Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. (Central Standard Time)*</b>
For providers, trading partners, billing services, and clearinghouses with technical questions about the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Electronic transactions.</li> <li>• Companion documents.</li> <li>• Provider Electronic Solutions (PES) software.</li> </ul>		
<b>Managed Care Provider Appeals</b>	<b>(800) 760-0001, Option 1</b>	<b>Monday through Friday, 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. (Central Standard Time)*</b>
To assist BagderCare Plus and Medicaid Supplemental Security Income (SSI) managed care providers with questions regarding their appeal status and other general managed care provider appeal information.		
<b>Managed Care Ombudsman Program</b>	<b>(800) 760-0001</b>	<b>Monday through Friday, 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. (Central Standard Time)*</b>
To assist managed care enrollees with questions about enrollment, rights, responsibilities, and general managed care information.		
<b>Member Services</b>	<b>(800) 362-3002</b>	<b>Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. (Central Standard Time)*</b>
To assist ForwardHealth members or persons calling on behalf of members with program information and requirements, enrollment, finding certified providers, and resolving concerns.		
<b>Wisconsin AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP)</b>	<b>(800) 991-5532</b>	<b>Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. (Central Standard Time)*</b>

		<b>(Central Standard Time)</b>
To assist ADAP providers and members, or persons calling on behalf of members, with program information and requirements, enrollment, finding enrolled providers, and resolving concerns.		

\*With the exception of state-observed holidays.

## Electronic Data Interchange

---

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](#).



## Enrollment Verification

---

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 #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.

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 inquiries, 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 #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 BadgerCare Plus 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.)

## Portal

---

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 Revalidation Via the ForwardHealth Portal

Providers can conduct [revalidation](#) online via a secure revalidation 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 ForwardHealth 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 (National Provider Identifier) 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 #16737

## Demographic Maintenance Tool

The demographic maintenance tool allows providers to update information online that they are required to keep [current](#) with ForwardHealth. To access the demographic maintenance tool, providers need a ForwardHealth Portal account. After logging into their Portal account, providers should select the Demographic Maintenance link located in the Home Page box on the right side of the secure Provider home page.

*Note:* The Demographic Maintenance link will only display for administrative accounts or for clerk accounts that have been assigned the Demographic Maintenance role. The [Account User Guide](#) provides specific information about assigning roles.

The demographic maintenance tool contains general panels which are available to all or most providers as well as specific panels which are only available to certain provider types and specialties. The [Demographic Maintenance Tool User Guide](#) provides further information about general and provider-specific panels.

### Uploading Supporting Documentation

Providers can upload enrollment-related supporting documentation (e.g., licenses, certifications) using the demographic maintenance tool. Documents in the following formats can be uploaded:

- JPEG (Joint Photographic Experts Group) (.jpg or .jpeg).
- PDF (Portable Document Format) (.pdf).

To avoid delays in processing, ForwardHealth strongly encourages providers to upload their documents.

### Submitting Information

After making *all* their changes, providers are required to submit their information in order to save it. After submitting information, providers will receive one of the following messages:

- "Your information was *updated* successfully." This message indicates that providers' files were immediately updated with the changed information.
- "Your information was *uploaded* successfully." This message indicates that ForwardHealth needs to verify the information before providers' files can be updated. Additionally, an Application Submitted panel will display and indicate next steps.

### Verification

ForwardHealth will verify changes within 10 business days of submission. If the changes can be verified, ForwardHealth will update providers' files. In some cases, providers may receive a Change Notification letter indicating what information ForwardHealth updated. Providers should carefully review the Provider File Information Change Summary included with the letter to verify the accuracy of the changes. If any of the changes are inaccurate, providers can correct the information using the demographic maintenance tool. Providers may contact [Provider Services](#) if they have questions regarding the letter.

Regardless of whether or not providers are notified that their provider files were updated, changed information is not considered approved until 10 business days after the information was changed. If the changes cannot be verified within 10 business days, ForwardHealth will notify providers by mail that their provider files were not updated, and providers will need to make corrections using the demographic maintenance tool.

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 \(07/12\)\)](#) 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 that may be sensitive.

The following information is available through the Portal:

- Listing of all Medicaid-enrolled 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 codes and managed care and Medicare information
- Provider search function for retrieving provider information such as the 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 revalidation. Providers will receive a separate PIN for revalidation.

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 enrollment. A separate PIN will be needed for each provider enrollment. 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 enrollments. Select the correct enrollment for the account. The taxonomy code, ZIP+4 code, and financial payer for that enrollment 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 #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 and 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 ForwardHealth 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 ForwardHealth Portal account. Clerks may be assigned one or many roles (i.e., claims, PA (prior authorization), member 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 enrollments). 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 member 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 Enrollment

Providers can speed up the enrollment process for Medicaid by completing a [provider enrollment 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 PA requests via the Portal. Providers can do the following:

- Correct errors on PA or amendment requests via the Portal, regardless of how the PA request was originally submitted.
- View all recently submitted and finalized PA and amendment requests.
- Save a partially completed PA request and finish completing it at a later time. (*Note:* Providers are required to submit or re-save a PA request within 30 calendar days of the date the PA request was last saved.)
- View all saved PA requests and select any to continue completing or delete.
- 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) transaction.
- 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 #4401

## System and Browser Requirements

The following table lists the recommended system and browser requirements for using the ForwardHealth 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
<b>Windows-Based Systems</b>	
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
Windows XP or higher operating system	Firefox v. 1.5 or higher
<b>Apple-Based Systems</b>	
Computer running a PowerPC G4 or Intel processor, 512 MB of RAM, and 150MB of free disk space	Safari, or
Mac OS X 10.2.x or higher operating system	Firefox v. 1.5 or higher

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 [HPE® MyRoom](#). MyRoom 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.

## WiCall

---

Topic #6257

### Entering Letters into WiCall

For some WiCall inquiries, 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 (International Classification of Diseases) procedure 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.

# Settlement

11

Archive Date:09/04/2018

## Settlement:Cost Reporting

Topic #1896

# Cost Report

## Annual Settlements

To receive an annual settlement, RHCs (rural health clinics) are required to submit the following documents to ForwardHealth:

- A copy of the RHC's trial balance and filed Medicare RHC cost report. Provider-based RHCs with more than 50 beds should no longer file trial balance costs. Instead, provider-based RHCs with more than 50 beds should follow the filing instructions for the Cost Report for Independent and Provider-Based (Affiliated Hospital Having More Than 50 Beds) Rural Health Clinics form. In accordance with Medicare Cost Reporting requirements (Medi-506-98) and Wisconsin Medicaid cost settlement purposes, provider-based RHCs with more than 50 beds have been capped at the Medicare upper payment limit.
- A completed copy of the annual cost report.
- Additional documentation, as requested.

A summary of types of Wisconsin Medicaid cost report forms that are specific for the different types of RHCs is included in the following table.

Type of Rural Health Clinic	Forms to Be Submitted to Division of Medicaid Services Auditor After Calendar/Fiscal Year for Settlement Calculation to Be Scheduled	Documents Required to Be Available for Review by the Division of Medicaid Services, if not Submitted to the Division
Rural Health Clinics Affiliated with Hospitals That Have 50 or Fewer Beds	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Rural Health Clinic Statistical Data (F-11022 (07/12))</a> form.</li> <li>• <a href="#">Rural Health Clinic Provider Staff Encounters (F-11081 (10/16))</a> form.</li> <li>• <a href="#">Cost Report for Provider-Based Rural Health Clinics (Affiliated Hospital Having 50 or Fewer Beds) (F-11080 (04/09))</a> form.</li> <li>• <a href="#">Rural Health Clinic Reclassification and Adjustment of Trial Balance Expenses (F-11023 (04/09))</a> form.</li> <li>• Clinic trial balance.</li> <li>• Supporting bridge worksheets for reclassifications and adjustments.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Medicare Cost Report.</li> <li>• Member encounter logs/reports for HMO activity, commercial insurance and Medicaid activity, and commercial insurance and Medicare/Medicaid activity.</li> </ul>

Rural Health Clinics Affiliated with Hospitals That Have More Than 50 Beds	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rural Health Statistical Data form.</li> <li>• <a href="#">Cost Report for Independent and Provider-Based (Affiliated Hospital Having More Than 50 Beds) Rural Health Clinics (F-11079 (04/09))</a> form.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Medicare Cost Report.</li> <li>• Member encounter Medicaid activity and commercial insurance and Medicare/Medicaid activity.</li> </ul>
Independent Rural Health Clinics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rural Health Statistical Data form.</li> <li>• Cost Report for Independent and Provider-Based (Affiliated Hospital Having More Than 50 Beds) Rural Health Clinics form.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Medicare Cost Report.</li> <li>• Member encounter logs/reports for HMO activity, commercial insurance and Medicaid activity, commercial insurance and Medicare/Medicaid activity.</li> </ul>

\* Optional forms that are available include the [Rural Health Clinic Commercial Insurance-Primary/Medicaid-Secondary Encounters Submitted to Medicaid HMOs \(F-11025 \(04/09\)\)](#) form and the [Rural Health Clinic Medicaid-Primary Encounters Submitted to Medicaid HMOs \(F-11026 \(04/09\)\)](#) form.

The total Medicaid annual cost settlement amount is determined by multiplying the Medicaid encounter rate by the number of Medicaid encounters for the reporting period. This total is reduced by the following payments that have already been made to the RHC:

- Medicaid payments on crossover claims.
- Medicaid fee-for-service payments.
- Member copayments received and copayments due, but not received.
- Medicaid HMO payments.
- Medicaid quarterly payments.
- Commercial insurance payments.

When determining an annual settlement, if the total reimbursement due to the RHC for allowable costs exceeds the total payments received by an RHC, the amount is a balance due to the RHC from Wisconsin Medicaid. If the total allowable costs are less than the total payments received by the RHC, the amount is a balance due to Wisconsin Medicaid by the RHC. Wisconsin Medicaid is authorized to recover overpayments, in accordance with s. [49.45\(2\)\(a\)10.](#), Wis. Stats., and [DHS 108.02\(9\)](#), Wis. Admin. Code.

## Quarterly Payments

When a clinic has provided services as an RHC for 12 continuous months, it has the option of receiving quarterly payments by submitting a quarterly [Medicaid Rural Health Clinic Quarterly Cost Report \(F-11027 \(04/09\)\)](#) (referred to as "quarterly cost reports") in addition to the annual cost report. Wisconsin Medicaid's quarterly payments enable RHCs to increase cash flow throughout the year.

## Report Submission

The Medicaid annual cost report and supplemental documents are due 30 days after the Medicare cost report due date, as determined in the Medicare Rural Health Clinic and Federally Qualified Health Center Manual. A 30-day extension of the Wisconsin Medicaid due date may be granted if Wisconsin Medicaid receives a written request before the original due date expires. If an extension is requested, Wisconsin Medicaid provides a written response to the request.

Failure to submit the annual cost report and supplemental documents within the specified timeframe will result in suspension of all

cost settlement payments.

Quarterly cost reports must be submitted within three months of the quarter's end.

Submit annual and quarterly cost reports and requests for extensions to:

Rural Health Clinic Auditor  
Office of the Inspector General  
Division of Medicaid Services  
PO Box 309  
Madison WI 53701-0309

## **Fiscal Period and Clinic Sites**

The annual cost report should cover the same fiscal period and sites as the Medicare RHC cost report.

Quarterly cost reports should cover the quarters in the RHC fiscal year.

## **Signature**

The annual and quarterly cost reports and related Medicaid supplemental documents must be signed by the authorized individual who signs the Medicare RHC cost reports.

Topic #1892

## **Non-Consolidated Cost Reports**

As part of the PPS (prospective payment system) rate determination, affiliated clinics or clinics under common ownership are required to submit cost reports that clearly identify the costs associated with each individual clinic. The PPS requires that rates for each individual clinic be determined using its own cost data, except for the initial PPS rate for a clinic established after clinic fiscal year 2000.

Topic #1893

## **Medicaid Cost Report Components**

A clinic's annual settlement payment is a function of the clinic's allowable costs, which are used to generate an encounter payment rate and eligible encounters.

### **Medicaid-Allowable Costs**

Medicaid-allowable costs are essentially those costs incurred by an RHC (rural health clinic) in the provision of RHC services. Wisconsin Medicaid determines if costs are allowable by applying Medicare cost reimbursement principles. Allowable costs are defined by federal regulations in 42 CFR Part 413 and the Medicare Provider Reimbursement Manual.

These general Medicare principles define allowable costs of hospitals and other facilities paid on a reasonable-cost or cost-related basis.

### **Nonallowable Costs**

The following costs are not allowed in the annual or quarterly cost reports:

- Costs of services provided to members for which the RHC has not submitted a claim and has not been reimbursed by Medicaid fee-for-service or by a Medicaid HMO.
- Direct or indirect costs of providing services to any ineligible patients at the time the services were provided.
- Group or mass information programs, health education classes, or group education activities, including media productions and publications.
- Operational costs not allowed by federal and/or state regulations.

## Encounters

An RHC encounter is a face-to-face visit between a member and a Medicaid-enrolled provider to perform a covered RHC service. To be included as an encounter on the cost report, claims for the service provided must have been submitted and paid.

Visits with more than one health professional, or multiple visits with the same health professional on the same day at one location for a single diagnosis or treatment regimen comprise a single encounter. If, after the initial encounter, the member suffers an illness or injury requiring additional diagnosis or treatment, the visit is recorded as a separate, additional encounter.

## Encounter Criteria

The following criteria may define an allowable encounter:

- The service may be provided at the RHC or at any location where health center activities occur. Examples include mobile vans and private residences.
- The service provided must be a covered RHC service.

The encounter criteria are not met in the following circumstances:

- A provider participates in a community meeting or group session that is not designed to provide health services.
- The only service provided is part of a large-scale effort, such as a mass immunization program, screening program, or community-wide service program.
- A service is provided to a member who is a hospital inpatient or an emergency room patient.
- Services such as drawing blood, collecting urine specimens, performing laboratory tests, taking X-rays, or filling/dispensing prescriptions are not considered encounters.

Encounters are based on claims submitted and paid. Given that clinics have 365 days from the DOS (date of service) to submit a claim (including all corrected claims and adjustments to claims), the RHC audit will generally take place after 365 days from the end of the clinic's fiscal year. Since clinics submit their annual cost report before the 365 days have passed, there may be an adjustment to the number of encounters at the time of audit compared to the number submitted in the cost report.

Topic #1910

## Overhead Expenses

Provider-based RHCs (rural health clinics) affiliated with hospitals that have 50 or fewer beds are limited to overhead expenses up to 30 percent of RHC direct costs in their cost settlement calculation of encounter rates.

Overhead expenses include, but are not limited to, office billing operations, management oversight, educational expenses, and utilities.

## Adjustment Examples

The following example illustrates how the 30 percent limitation would be noted on a provider's cost report:



*Example 1*

Direct RHC Expenses:	\$100,000
Overhead Expenses:	<u>+ \$90,000</u>
Total Expenses (before the 30 percent adjustment):	\$190,000
Allowable Overhead Expense on Cost Report:	\$30,000 (30 percent of \$100,000 direct RHC expenses)
Total Expense for Encounter Rate Calculation:	\$130,000 (\$100,000 direct RHC expenses plus \$30,000 adjusted overhead expenses)

In the encounter rate calculation, the provider would not be eligible for the remaining \$60,000 of overhead expenses actually incurred since it exceeds the 30 percent limit. The \$30,000 of allowable overhead expenses should be submitted on Line 7 ("Overhead applicable to RHC services") of the [Cost Report for Provider-Based Rural Health Clinics \(Affiliated Hospital Having 50 or Fewer Beds\) \(F-11080 \(04/09\)\)](#) form.

If the RHC has not applied the limit to the filed cost report, the Medicaid auditor will adjust the overhead expense as stated on Line 7 to reflect the 30-percent limit on the audited version of the cost report.

An adjustment is not required for the following example:

*Example 2*

Direct RHC Expenses:	\$250,000
Overhead Expenses:	<u>+ \$75,000</u>
Total Expenses:	\$325,000
Allowable Overhead Expense on Cost Report:	\$75,000 (30 percent of \$250,000 direct RHC expenses)
Total Expense for Encounter Rate Calculation:	\$325,000 (\$250,000 direct RHC expenses plus \$75,000 adjusted overhead expenses)

In this example, there are \$75,000 of allowable RHC overhead expenses. The provider is eligible for the entire \$75,000 of overhead expenses actually incurred, since it meets the 30-percent limit. The \$75,000 of allowable overhead expenses should be on Line 7 of the Cost Report for Provider-Based Rural Health Clinics (Affiliated Hospital Having 50 or Fewer Beds) form.

**Laboratory Costs**

RHCs that are affiliated with hospitals that have 50 or fewer beds are reminded that laboratory services expenses incurred are not RHC costs and should be recorded in Section V of the [Rural Health Clinic Reclassification and Adjustment of Trial Balance Expenses \(F-11023 \(04/09\)\)](#) form for overhead calculations.

Topic #3826

**Medicare Part C/Medicare Advantage for Cost Settlement**

Beginning with submission of 2006 cost settlement reports, RHC (Rural Health Clinics)s are required to provide claim information for claims submitted for BadgerCare Plus fee-for-service or BadgerCare Plus or Medicaid managed care programs for dual eligibles enrolled in Medicare Part C/Medicare Advantage.

If an RHC is not able to provide Medicare Part C/Medicare Advantage claim information to ForwardHealth, then cost settlements will be calculated using the weighted averaging methodology and counted as part of Medicare crossover activity.

Claim information for cost reporting purposes is defined as the following:

- Member's full name.
- Member identification number.
- DOS (date of service).
- HCPCS (Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System) or CPT (Current Procedural Terminology) procedure code.
- Amount billed.
- Reimbursement received.

Claim information submitted will be classified as Medicaid/commercial health insurance on RHC cost reports and will be subject to the same constraints as commercial health insurance.

Topic #4173

## Site of Service Codes as Allowable Encounters

Site of service revenue codes received by ForwardHealth on Medicare crossover claims may be considered an allowable encounter on RHC (rural health clinic) cost reports.

*Note:* Site of service revenue code 0527 is not applicable for cost reporting purposes as there are currently no home health shortage areas in Wisconsin.

Revenue Code	Definition
0521	Clinic visit by member* to RHC/FQHC (federally qualified health center)
0522	Home visit by RHC/FQHC practitioner (for home address visits to the FQHC/RHC member)
0524	Visit by RHC/FQHC practitioner to a member in a covered Part A stay at the SNF (skilled nursing facility)
0525	Visit by RHC/FQHC practitioner to a member in an SNF (not in a covered Part A stay) or NF or ICF MR or other residential facility
0528	Visit by RHC/FQHC practitioner to other non-RHC/FQHC site (e.g., scene of accident)

\* A "member" is defined as someone who has a history of receiving medical care and whose medical record is located at a specific RHC/FQHC.

## Cost Settlement Method

---

Topic #1895

### Cost Settlement Method

The federal Medicare, Medicaid, and SCHIP (State Children's Health Insurance Program) Benefits Improvement and Protection Act of 2000 repealed the reasonable cost-based reimbursement provisions of the Social Security Act and replaced them with a PPS (prospective payment system) for RHCs (rural health clinics). Under the Act, states may reimburse clinics using an alternative method if the alternative method does not reimburse less than the amount that would have been paid to the RHC under the PPS.

### Approved Alternative Method

In accordance with the Act, Wisconsin Medicaid's cost settlement method is Wisconsin's approved alternative method. To ensure that the cost settlement method does not pay less than the PPS, a baseline PPS rate has been constructed for each clinic using clinic fiscal year 1999 and 2000 audited cost report data.

### Rates

At the end of each clinic fiscal year, the PPS rate for a clinic's upcoming fiscal year is determined by adjusting the current PPS rate for each clinic by the following:

- The MEI (Medicare Economic Index) in effect at the end of the clinic fiscal year.
- Changes in the scope of services provided to members at the clinic based on the audited annual cost report.

Wisconsin Medicaid will notify the clinic each year of its PPS rate for the upcoming year.

### Changes in Scope of Services

Staffing and service provision changes should be reported on the clinic's annual cost report as changes to FTEs (full-time employees) employed by, or contracting with, the clinic to provide RHC services and their costs. Report additions or deletions of staff providing RHC services under Section IV (Medicaid-Certified Providers Employed or Contracted by the Clinic) of the [Rural Health Clinic Statistical Data \(F-11022 \(07/12\)\)](#) form. Costs associated with these providers (i.e., salary and benefits), should be reported as part of the Facility Health Care Staff Costs on the [Rural Health Clinic Reclassification and Adjustment of Trial Balance Expenses \(F-11023 \(04/09\)\)](#) form.

### Depreciation

RHCs that are affiliated with hospitals that have 50 or fewer beds report capital expenditures related to the provision of RHC services on Element 9 "Medical Equipment Depreciation" and Element 21 "Non-medical Depreciation" of the Rural Health Clinic Reclassification and Adjustment of Trial Balance Expenses. For independent RHCs, this information is gathered from the clinic's annual Medicare cost report.

The adjusted PPS rate is compared to the settlement rate for that clinic fiscal year, and Wisconsin Medicaid pays the clinic the greater of the two. For clinics for which the PPS rate is the higher of the two, Wisconsin Medicaid uses the PPS rate as the encounter rate when determining a clinic's interim and annual settlement payments using the cost settlement method.

### New Clinics

For clinics that qualified for RHC status after clinic fiscal year 2000, Wisconsin Medicaid uses the PPS rate from a clinic in the same or adjacent area with a similar caseload. This rate is compared to the rate paid by the cost settlement method, and Wisconsin Medicaid pays the higher of the two rates.