

Wisconsin Medicaid update and BadgerCare

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Wisconsin Medicaid and BadgerCare Information for Providers

To:

Home Health
Providers

Personal Care
Providers

Home care coverage determination software revised

Software has been revised

Wisconsin Medicaid has revised its coverage determination software (CDS) for home health and personal care providers in response to suggestions from home care agencies. The software and instruction manual are enclosed. All home health and personal care providers are required to use the new CDS effective March 1, 2000. However, providers may begin using the new software immediately.

- If your agency submits claims to Medicaid for services that Medicare pays home health agencies to provide, Medicaid will audit and recoup Medicaid payments on a post-payment basis.
- Although the revised software does not ask questions about a recipient's other insurance coverage, providers are required to bill other payers, including commercial health insurance, before billing Medicaid.

Providers may begin using the new software immediately. However, all home health and personal care providers are required to use the new CDS effective March 1, 2000.

New coverage determination software asks fewer questions

The revised CDS is limited to questions about recipient eligibility for Medicaid and Medicare home health services only. The number of questions has been reduced from 46 to 10 and help screens have been added to assist users. Based on CDS pilot-testing, the new software should save both administrative time and paperwork.

Medicaid remains the last party payer

Medicaid is the payer of last resort for any service covered by Medicaid.

- Federal law requires that home health or personal care services that are covered by Medicare are not paid by Medicaid.
- The federal Health Care Financing Administration accepts the CDS printed results as documentation that the above federal requirement has been met.

Requirements for using coverage determination software

Home health and personal care agencies have been required to use the CDS since 1995 for recipients who are eligible for both Medicare and Medicaid. Requirements are reviewed below:

- Use the CDS before your agency provides Medicaid services.
- Use the CDS when a recipient's condition or status changes, potentially making the recipient eligible for Medicare coverage.
- Keep a printed copy of the results of the software's determination on file and on the agency's premises for audit purposes.

Review of policy for personal care-only agencies

Even though agencies certified to provide only personal care cannot bill Medicare, they must still use CDS. Wisconsin Medicaid will not

reimburse for personal care services which would be reimbursed by Medicare. Personal care-only agencies are not Medicare-enrolled providers. Therefore, they are required to notify all personal care recipients about Medicare coverage and:

- Provide the recipient with the “Notice to Wisconsin Medicaid Recipients Regarding This Personal Care Agency” form. Refer to Attachment 1 for the form.
- Have the recipient or legally responsible person review and sign this form.
- Give the recipient a copy and keep the original form in the recipient’s file.

If the recipient is eligible for Medicare home health services and your agency is not certified to provide home health services, you are required to either:

- Coordinate care with a Medicare-certified home health agency (HHA) so that your agency provides only those personal care hours that exceed Medicare’s home health coverage.
- Discharge the recipient from your care.

Sharing cases

It is important to use CDS when your agency is sharing a case with another agency. If skilled care is provided by another agency, the recipient may be eligible for Medicare home health care through that agency. In that situation, a Medicare-certified provider is required to bill Medicare for those services covered by Medicare.

Software enclosed

A software disk and manual on how to use the software have been enclosed with this Update. To use the software, you will need a 386 processor or faster PC with DOS or Windows 3.1 or higher operating system. If you are unable to access the CDS with your computer system or have computer problems, you can

use the worksheet from page 13 of the CDS Manual to reach the same results. Photocopy the final eligibility determination from Appendix B of the manual. Keep a copy of the completed worksheet and the final eligibility determination in your files.

Windows NT users

If you use a Windows NT operating system, you will *not* be able to use the CDS software print option. In this situation, you may complete the worksheet from the CDS Manual instead of using the software. A Windows-NT compatible version of the CDS software will be available to providers in the future.

It is important to use CDS when your agency is sharing a case with another agency.

Further Information



Technical questions about the software should be directed to:

United Wisconsin Proservices, Inc.
401 W. Michigan Street
Milwaukee, WI 53203

Telephone: (800) 822-8050
Fax: (414) 226-6033

Policy and billing questions should be directed to:

Medicaid Provider Services
(800) 947-9627 or (608) 221-9883.

The Wisconsin Medicaid Update is the first source for provider information including Medicaid policy and billing information.

Wisconsin Medicaid is administered by the Division of Health Care Financing, Wisconsin Department of Health and Family Services, P.O. Box 309, Madison, WI 53701-0309.

For provider questions, call Provider Services at (800) 947-9627 or (608) 221-9883 or visit our web site at www.dhfs.state.wi.us/medicaid.

Attachment 1

Notice to Wisconsin Medicaid Recipients Regarding This Personal Care Agency

Name of Personal Care Agency

is paid by Wisconsin Medicaid for personal care. This agency is not Medicare-certified and so Medicare does not pay this agency for personal care. Wisconsin Medicaid will not pay this agency for personal care for any patient who is eligible for these services under Medicare.

By signing below, I am saying I understand that:

- If I become eligible for personal care services under Medicare, Wisconsin Medicaid will not pay this agency for my personal care unless this agency shares my care with another agency that can be paid by Medicare.
- If this agency does not share my care with another agency that can be paid by Medicare, this agency will discharge me so that I can receive care from another agency that can be paid by Medicare.
- This agency cannot bill me personally for personal care or any other service covered under Medicare or Wisconsin Medicaid.
- If I have questions regarding this policy, I can call Wisconsin Medicaid Recipient Services at (800) 362-3002 or (608) 221-5720.

X

Wisconsin Medicaid Recipient Signature or
Person Legally Responsible for Recipient

Date

* * *

By signing below, the registered nurse (RN) who supervises this recipient's personal care worker verifies that if this recipient was unable to read the form, the RN read it to the recipient.

Registered Nurse Signature

Date