To:

All Providers

HMOs and Other Managed Care Programs

Wisconsin Medicaid Now Supports the HIPAA-Compliant Batch X12 270/271 Health Care Inquiry/Response

Wisconsin Medicaid now supports the federal Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA)-compliant batch X12 270/271 transaction, in addition to supporting the interactive (also known as real-time) 270/271 transaction. The batch 270/271 will allow trading partners to inquire on multiple Medicaid recipients within a single transaction, versus the interactive limit of inquiring on only a single recipient.

Benefits of Using the Batch 270/271 Process

Wisconsin Medicaid now supports the federal Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA)-compliant batch X12 270/271 transaction, in addition to supporting the interactive (also known as real-time) X12 270/271 transaction. The batch 270/271 will allow trading partners to inquire on multiple Medicaid recipients within a single transaction, versus the interactive limit of inquiring on only a single recipient. Trading partners will also be able to exchange the batch 270/271 transactions directly with Wisconsin Medicaid.

Providers Using a Third Party to Exchange the Batch 270/271 on Their Behalf

Providers who use a third party (i.e., a clearinghouse) to exchange the batch 270/271

on their behalf are reminded that they are required to submit a completed Trading Partner Agreement (TPA) to Wisconsin Medicaid. The TPA must indicate the provider's approval for the third party to exchange the batch 270/271 transaction on behalf of the provider. Providers who have already submitted a TPA to Wisconsin Medicaid may contact the Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) Helpdesk to verify the current status of their TPA and determine if an updated TPA is required. A downloadable TPA form is available on the Wisconsin Medicaid Web site at *dhfs.wisconsin.gov/medicaid/*. Select "HIPAA" from the main menu and then go to "Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) Information."

Companion Documents/Implementation Guides

Trading partners that elect to exchange the batch 270/271 transaction directly with Wisconsin Medicaid should refer to the national X12 270/271 Health Care Eligibility/Benefit Inquiry and Information Response Implementation Guide and the Wisconsin Medicaid Companion Document for the 270/271 Eligibility, Coverage, or Benefit Inquiry and Response (Batch Process) for specific requirements and instructions prior to testing with Wisconsin Medicaid. Implementation

Guides define the electronic format and values for each data element within an electronic transaction. Companion documents provide Wisconsin Medicaid-specific information that should be used with the national HIPAA Implementation Guides. This companion document provides information on Wisconsin Medicaid's requirements for the 270 health care eligibility/benefit inquiry and for interpreting the 271 response received from Wisconsin Medicaid.

Companion documents are available on the Wisconsin Medicaid Web site at *dhfs.wisconsin.gov/medicaid/*. For paper copies of companion documents, call Provider Services at (800) 947-9627 or (608) 221-9883.

Implementation Guides may be downloaded from Washington Publishing Company at *www.wpc-edi.com/hipaa/HIPAA_40.asp*. To obtain the CD-ROM version, call Washington Publishing Company at (800) 972-4334.

Testing Is Required

Wisconsin Medicaid requires trading partners to receive approval of their test results prior to exchanging the batch 270/271 with Wisconsin Medicaid. Trading partners may contact the EDI Helpdesk by telephone at (608) 221-9036 or via e-mail at *wiedi@dhfs.state.wi.us* for more information on Wisconsin Medicaid testing requirements. The Helpdesk is available Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

For More Information

For more information regarding the batch 270/271, trading partners may contact the EDI Helpdesk at (608) 221-9036 or send an e-mail to *wiedi@dhfs.state.wi.us*. For registration information, trading partners may visit the Wisconsin Medicaid EDI Web site at *www.wisconsinedi.org/*.

The *Wisconsin Medicaid and BadgerCare Update* is the first source of program policy and billing information for providers.

Although the *Update* refers to Medicaid recipients, all information applies to BadgerCare recipients also.

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

For questions, call Provider Services at (800) 947-9627 or (608) 221-9883 or visit our Web site at *dhfs.wisconsin.gov/medicaid/*.

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