

**Affected Programs:** BadgerCare Plus, Medicaid, Wisconsin Chronic Disease Program, Wisconsin Well Woman Program  
**To:** Anesthesiologist Assistants, Audiologists, Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists, Chiropractors, Dentists, Hearing Instrument Specialists, Nurse Practitioners, Occupational Therapists, Optometrists, Physical Therapists, Physician Clinics, Podiatrists, Psychologists, Speech-Language Pathologists, Therapy Groups, HMOs and Other Managed Care Programs

## Policy for Provider Group Practice Certification

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

Providers may not have more than one group practice certified by Wisconsin Medicaid, Wisconsin Chronic Disease Program (WCDP), or the Wisconsin Well Woman Program (WWWP) with the same ZIP+4 code address, National Provider Identifier (NPI), and taxonomy code combination. Provider group practices located at the same ZIP+4 code address are now required to differentiate their certification using an NPI or taxonomy code that uniquely identifies each group practice. A separate *ForwardHealth Update* will outline changes to ForwardHealth's policy regarding the reporting of taxonomy codes.

ForwardHealth will be contacting providers having more than one Medicaid, WCDP, or WWWP group practice certification on file with the same ZIP+4 code address, NPI, and taxonomy code combination and will work to help them comply with the new policy. The policy applies to both multiple specialty and single specialty group practices.

Providers may be certified as a group practice as a billing convenience. While all rendering providers within the group

practice are required to be separately certified with Wisconsin Medicaid, WCDP, or WWWP, provider group practices do not need to certify every location from which they provide services. Only those locations responsible for billing are required to be certified.

For example, suppose a provider group practice with one main location and three satellite locations wishes to be certified with Wisconsin Medicaid. If the group's main location handles the billing for all four locations, the group practice may choose to apply for certification only for the main location. The group practice would then receive one Remittance Advice and one payment at the main location. Providers who wish to receive separate remittance information and payments may have group practice certifications at more than one location, as long as the ZIP+4 code address, NPI, and taxonomy code combination is not the same as any other group practice.

Providers are reminded that a group practice must include two or more providers.

On claims submitted to ForwardHealth, provider group practices are reminded that they are required to use the group practice's NPI as the billing provider and the individual provider's NPI as the rendering provider.

The policy outlined in this *Update* applies to group practices that include anesthesiologists, audiologists, chiropractors, dentists, hearing instrument specialists, nurse practitioners, occupational therapists, optometrists, physical therapists,

physician clinics, podiatrists, psychologists, speech-language pathologists, and therapy groups.

## **Information Regarding Managed Care Organizations**

This *Update* contains fee-for-service policy and applies to services members receive on a fee-for-service basis only. For managed care policy, contact the appropriate managed care organization. Managed care organizations are required to provide at least the same benefits as those provided under fee-for-service arrangements. Members enrolled only in WCDP are not enrolled in MCOs.

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

Wisconsin Medicaid, BadgerCare Plus, SeniorCare, and Wisconsin Chronic Disease Program are administered by the Division of Health Care Access and Accountability, Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS). The Wisconsin Well Woman Program is administered by the Division of Public Health, Wisconsin DHS.

For questions, call Provider Services at (800) 947-9627 or visit our Web site at [www.forwardhealth.wi.gov/](http://www.forwardhealth.wi.gov/).

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