
WISCONSIN MEDICAID UPDATE

JUNE 5, 1997

UPDATE 97-18

TO:
All Providers

Wisconsin Medicaid Restored for Recipients Who Lost SSI

Wisconsin Medicaid restored to recipients who lost SSI until a redetermination is made

The federal Health Care Financing Administration requires Wisconsin Medicaid to continue Medicaid benefits to individuals who lost Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefits that were provided in response to alcoholism and drug addiction. Wisconsin Medicaid is restoring Medicaid benefits for these recipients until an eligibility redetermination is made.

Wisconsin Medicaid is issuing Medicaid ID cards that will cover this time period for these recipients. Recipients will receive a letter informing them that they will receive Medicaid coverage until a redetermination has been made.

Wisconsin Medicaid must determine whether these recipients are eligible for Medicaid benefits under another eligibility group.

Wisconsin Medicaid will pay for Medicaid-covered services until a redetermination is made

Wisconsin Medicaid will pay for all Medicaid-covered services for these recipients from January 1, 1997, to the date that a Medicaid redetermination has been made. Whether or not recipients return to their health provider,

New federal law eliminated eligibility for SSI for certain groups of individuals...

Federal welfare reform legislation, The Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act (Public Law 104-193) and the Contract with America Advancement Act (Public Law 104-121), eliminated eligibility for Supplemental Security Income (SSI) for certain groups of individuals. In particular, the group affected now are those who received SSI based on alcoholism and drug addiction.

Under federal law, termination from SSI may also result in the loss of Medicaid eligibility because SSI recipients are categorically eligible to receive Medicaid. However, federal law requires states to redetermine whether an individual is eligible under another eligibility group before the individual is terminated from Medicaid.

Wisconsin Medicaid will pay claims for Medicaid-covered services provided to these recipients. Providers who believe they may have delivered services to one of these recipients may call the EDS Eligibility Hotline to see if the individual is Medicaid-eligible. The provider must give the person's name and social security number. The Eligibility Hotline phone number is (608) 221-9254.

Some recipients who received past services will return to their providers with a Medicaid card and/or the Medicaid letter they receive. In these situations, providers must submit claims to Wisconsin Medicaid. Upon receipt of Medicaid payment, the provider must reimburse the recipient (or other person who has made prior payment) at least the lesser of what the recipient (or other person) paid or the amount that Wisconsin Medicaid paid. POH 1562