

## To:

Blood Banks

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Pharmacies

## Pharmacy Point of Sale Implementation Delayed

Implementation of the pharmacy Point of Sale (POS) electronic claims management system has been delayed. Providers will be informed of new pilot and statewide implementation dates in an upcoming publication.

Implementation of Wisconsin Medicaid's pharmacy Point of Sale (POS) electronic claims management system for Medicaid fee-for-service recipients has been delayed. POS in the pilot counties will not begin on March 24, 1999.

This delay is the result of problems discovered this week during testing of the POS system's interface with the Medicaid Management Information System. Additional time is required for the fiscal agent to correct these problems, to complete the remainder of system testing, and to finish testing with the switch vendors. This will assure accurate and prompt claims processing by the new POS system.

Implementation of the pilot program in Columbia, Dane, Dodge, Green, Iowa, Jefferson, Lafayette, Rock, Sauk, and Walworth counties will be rescheduled to begin in late June or July. Providers will be notified shortly of the new start date. Statewide implementation will be scheduled once the pilot program is successful.

The fiscal agent will notify pharmacy switch vendors and software vendors of the delay.

Pharmacies are also encouraged to inform their software vendors.

Until POS implementation, pharmacies need to continue submitting claims using current billing procedures. All current policies and procedures will remain in effect until further notification.

This includes:

- Submission of paper claims using current claim forms.
- Submission of Electronic Media Claims (EMC) using current formats.
- Obtaining prior authorization (PA) for drugs described in Appendix 30 of Part J, the pharmacy services handbook, using Specialized Transmission Approval Technology PA (STAT PA) or paper request forms.
- Billing compound drugs and Total Parenteral Nutrition (TPN) drugs using Wisconsin-specific procedure codes.
- Billing Pharmaceutical Care (PC) codes using Wisconsin-specific procedure codes as described in Appendix 35 of Part J, the pharmacy services handbook.
- Billing current Medicare and health insurance disclaimer codes.

### Impact of Point of Sale Delay on Plastic Card Implementation

The Department will delay implementation of the new plastic magnetic stripe identification card (Forward card) to coincide with the new

timeframe for the POS pilot. This will assure pharmacy access to verify eligibility information.

The Department and the fiscal agent remain committed to working closely with pharmacies to assure successful implementation of pharmacy POS, the Forward card, and the eligibility verification system.

If you have specific questions regarding the POS pilot program, contact Provider Services at (608) 221-9883 or (800) 947-9627, fax Provider Services at (608) 221-0885, or e-mail the POS team at [posteam@dhfs.state.wi.us](mailto:posteam@dhfs.state.wi.us).

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 the Medicaid fiscal agent at (800) 947-9627 or (608) 221-9883 or visit our web site at: [www.dhfs.state.wi.us/medicaid](http://www.dhfs.state.wi.us/medicaid).