

To:

Blood Banks

Dispensing  
PhysiciansHMOs and Other  
Managed Care  
ProgramsPharmacies in  
Columbia, Dane,  
Dodge, Green,  
Iowa, Jefferson,  
Lafayette, Rock,  
Sauk, and  
Walworth  
Counties

## Pharmacy Point of Sale pilot scheduled

### Pharmacy Point of Sale pilot

The pilot program for the pharmacy Point of Sale (POS) electronic claims management system for Medicaid fee-for-service providers will begin July 7, 1999, in Columbia, Dane, Dodge, Green, Iowa, Jefferson, Lafayette, Rock, Sauk, and Walworth counties.

If you volunteered for the pilot earlier this year, you are already enrolled. If you are a pharmacy provider in one of the 10 pilot counties and wish to participate in the pilot but have not contacted the Medicaid fiscal agent, call (608) 221-4746, ext. 3037 or 3041.

### Point of Sale system testing

The fiscal agent will be performing extensive testing on all components of the POS system through the end of May. The Division of Health Care Financing (DHCF) will require the fiscal agent to demonstrate that all the functions of the POS system and existing policies pertaining to Wisconsin Medicaid work according to the DHCF's specifications. In June, the fiscal agent is to demonstrate to the DHCF that the POS system is ready for implementation.

The fiscal agent will conduct on-site demonstration tests of the POS system in the near future. DHCF representatives and fiscal agent staff will visit selected pharmacies within the pilot area to demonstrate the capabilities of the POS system. The fiscal agent will contact the pharmacies' software and switch vendors to establish dates for these demonstrations.

### Switch vendor testing

The fiscal agent will require that all switch vendors (ENVOY, QSI, National Data Corporation, and MEDEAmerica) test specific POS transactions. The fiscal agent and the DHCF will review the test results before the switch vendors will be permitted to submit actual POS claim transactions.

As part of existing procedures, each switch vendor tests and certifies any software vendor that processes claims for a pharmacy provider. If necessary, the fiscal agent may assist the software vendor to answer any questions about how POS functions, but the fiscal agent will not individually certify the software vendors.

### Provider software testing

To prepare for the pilot, providers should test their POS software with their software vendor before the pilot begins. Providers may begin testing their POS software in June. The fiscal agent has sent software test packets to providers who volunteered for the pilot. If you did not receive a test packet from the fiscal agent earlier this year, call (608) 221-4746, ext. 3037 or 3041 to request one or to receive more information about testing the POS system. Contact your software vendor to schedule a time for testing and to report any software problems you may encounter.

### Point of Sale pilot county training

The DHCF and the fiscal agent will conduct an Educational Teleconference Network (ETN)

session on June 15, 1999, from 6:30 p.m. to 8:50 p.m., to reinforce the training from March and to make providers aware of changes that have occurred since the last ETN session. An invitation to this training session with a list of participating ETN sites is enclosed with this update. This will include an opportunity for providers to raise questions about the POS system prior to the pilot.

Pharmacy providers will be notified of the specific EMC format changes and the statewide POS implementation date in a future publication. If you have questions regarding the POS pilot program, contact Provider Services at (800) 947-9627 or (608) 221-9883 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).