

Provider Insider

Alabama Medicaid Bulletin

September 2005

The checkwrite schedule is as follows:

9/02/05 9/09/05 10/07/05 1/021/05 11/04/05 11/18/05 12/09/05 12/16/05

As always, the release of direct deposits and checks depends on the availability of funds.

More Drugs Added to the Electronic Prior Authorization System

Effective August 15, 2005, the Alabama Medicaid Agency implemented another phase of drugs to the electronic prior authorization (PA) system. The drug classes included in this implementation phase are as follows:

- 1) Estrogens
- 2) Intranasal Corticosteroids

There is no change in the way a pharmacist submits a claim. Medicaid's system checks the claims history to determine if all PA medical requirements are met. If it is determined that all criteria are met and request is approved, the claim pays and no manual PA request will be required. If approval cannot be determined based on available claims history, a manual PA request is needed. Here is how it works:

Example A:

A pharmacist submits a claim for an Estrogen. The patient has tried and failed on two prior therapies that were billed and paid by Medicaid in the appropriate timeframe and has had a medical claim filed with an appropriate diagnosis.

The system will identify these claims and match them with the clinical criteria. If all criteria are met, as in this example, the claim will pay automatically and no manual PA will need to be obtained.



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Pass It On!

Everyone needs to know the latest about Medicaid.

Be sure to route this to:

- Office Manager
- Billing Dept.
- Medical/Clinical Professionals
- Other _____

Maternity Program Implemented

The 2005 Maternity Program implemented on August 1, 2005. A list of providers for all districts is listed below. Recipient Notices were mailed for all eligible Medicaid recipients in districts Three, Nine and Seven. The Primary Contractors have changed in these areas. Maternity services should not change for these recipients. If there are any problems encountered during the transition please refer the recipient to the 1-800 number for their district or to Gloria Luster, Associate Director, Medicaid Maternity Care Program 334-353-5539. Please refer to the Medicaid web site for additional information related to the Maternity Care Program.

District	Primary Contractor	Phone Numbers for Recipients	Program Director	Telephone and FAX Number for Providers
One	HealthGroup of Alabama, Best Start-Buster Petty, CEO, 6767 Old Madison Pike, Building 4, Suite 400, Huntsville, AL 35806 (256) 772-4155	(256) 532-2742 (888) 500-7343	Laura Thompson- HGA Best Start Program, 699 Gallatin Street, Suite B2 Huntsville, AL 35801	(256) 265-7458 Laura (256) 532-2748 Laura (256) 265-7477 FAX (256) 532-2737 FAX
Two	HealthGroup of Alabama, Best Start- Buster Petty, CEO, 6767 Old Madison Pike, Bldg 4, Suite 400, Huntsville, AL 35806 (256) 772-4155	(256) 265-7155 (888) 500-7343	Laura Thompson- HGA Best Start Program, 699 Gallatin Street, Suite B2 Huntsville, AL 35801	(256) 265-7458 Laura (256) 265-7477 FAX
Three	Viva Health Administration LLC, Alabama Baby Care-Brad Rollow, CEO, 1400 21 st Place South, Birmingham, AL 35233 (205) 558-7405	(205) 558-7405 (877) 997-8377	Nancy Reamsma, Viva Health Administration LLC – 1400 21 st Place South Birmingham, AL 35233	(205) 558-7439 Nancy (205) 558-7406 Libba (205) 933-1235 FAX
Four	Greater Alabama Health Network, First Steps, Becky Henderson, CEO, 921 Professional Plaza, Tuscaloosa, AL 35401 (205) 348-1247	(205) 345-1905 (877) 553-4485	Becky Henderson, Greater Alabama Health Network 921 Professional Plaza, Tuscaloosa, AL 35401	(205) 345-1905 (205) 345-2909 FAX
Five	Alabama Maternity, Inc, Steps Ahead. – Charlie Faulkner, M.D., 1400 21 st Place South, Birmingham, AL 35233 (205) 930-3600	(205) 558-7405 (877) 997-8377	Nancy Reamsma or Libba Yates - 1400 21 st Place So. Birmingham, AL 35205	(205) 558-7406 Libba (205) 558-7439 Nancy (205) 933-1235 FAX
Six	Gift of Life Foundation, Martha Jinright, Executive Director, 1348 Carmichael Way Montgomery, AL 36106	(334) 272-1820 (877) 826-2229	Rhonda Boswell Flanagan – 1348 Carmichael Way, Montgomery, AL 36106 Claims: P. O. Box 231479 Montgomery, AL 36123-1479	(334) 272-1820 (334) 272-4614 FAX
Seven	Tombigbee Healthcare Authority, Healthstart, Mike Marshall, Administrator, P.O. Box 890 Demopolis, AL 36732	(334) 287-2673 (888) 531-6262	Marcia Lankster, 105 Hwy. 80 East, Demopolis, AL 36732 Mail: P.O. Box 890 Demopolis, AL 36732	(334) 287-2673 Stacey (334) 287-2675 Christina (334) 287-2437 FAX
Eight	Tombigbee Healthcare Authority, Healthstart, Mike Marshall, Administrator, P.O. Box 890, Demopolis, AL 36732	(334) 287-2673 (888) 531-6262	Marcia Lankster, 105 Hwy. 80 East Demopolis, AL 36732 Mail: P.O. Box 890 Demopolis, AL 36732	(334) 287-2673 Stacey (334) 287-2675 Christina (334) 287-2437 FAX
Nine	Viva Health Administration LLC, Alabama Baby Care-Brad Rollow, CEO, 1400 21 st Place South, Birmingham, AL 35233 (205) 558-7405	(205) 558-7405 (877) 997-8377	Nancy Reamsma, Viva Health Administration LLC – 1400 21 st Place South Birmingham, AL 35233	(205) 558-7439 Nancy (205) 558-7406 Libba (205) 933-1325 FAX
Ten	Gift of Life Foundation, Diane Weil, 1348 Carmichael Way Montgomery, AL 36106	(334) 272-1820 (877) 826-2229	Martha Jinright – 1348 Carmichael Way Montgomery, AL 36106 Claims: P. O. Box 231479 Montgomery, AL 36123-1479	(334) 272-1820 (334) 272-4614 FAX
Eleven	Maternity Services of District 11, Small Wonders – Sam Price, 2000 Pepperell Parkway, Opelika, AL 36802 (334) 705-1313	(334) 291-0180 (877) 503-2259	Donna Guinn-Taylor, 2336 Lee Road 430 Smiths, AL 36877 Mail: P. O. Box 1087 Smith Station, AL 36803-0627	(334) 291-5324 Donna (334) 291-5300 Joy Brooks (334) 291-5310 FAX
Twelve	Southwest Alabama Maternity Care Administered by Gift of Life Foundation 1348 Carmichael Way Montgomery, AL 36106	(251) 575-7062 (877) 826-2229	Jeanette Gibson – 159 Whetsone Street Monroeville, AL 36461 Mail: PO BOX 231479 Montgomery, AL 36123-1479	(251) 575-7062 (334) 272-1820 (800) 239-2337 pin 8301 (251) 743-7410 FAX
Thirteen	Southeast Alabama Maternity Care Program, LLC, Ron Owen, P. O. Box 6987 Dothan, AL 36302 (334) 793-8701	(334) 712-3784 (800) 735-4998	Gary Bennett, 545 West Main Street, Suite 11 Dothan, AL 36302, FAX-(334) 793-8072 Mail: P.O. Box 6987 Dothan AL 36302	(334) 712-3784 (334) 712-3249 FAX
Fourteen	Stanley K. Hammack, CEO, University of South Alabama, Associate VP for Hospital Affairs 2451 Fillingim St. Mobile, AL 36688 (251) 471-7114	(251) 415-8585	Susan Eschete, MOM CARE, 1714 Center St Mobile AL 36604	(251) 415-8585 (251) 415-8589 FAX

More Drugs Added to the Electronic Prior Authorization System *(Continued from Page 1)*

Example B:

A pharmacist submits a claim for an Intranasal Corticosteroid. The patient has tried and failed on two prior therapies that were billed and paid by Medicaid but has quantity over the maximum unit allowed for the drug. The system will send an "On-Line PA Denied" message to the pharmacist. The pharmacy/physician must then initiate a manual PA request. An online PA denial does not mean that the service requested is considered a non-covered service; only non-covered services can be charged to the recipient. To determine if a service that has received an online PA denial is covered, a manual PA request must be completed. Only after the manual PA request is denied, can the pharmacist charge the recipient.

Some possible reasons for an electronic denial:

1. Patient does not meet clinical criteria based on available claims history
2. Units dispensed are over 100% of the maximum quantity limits
3. Previous PA issued and still in effect with a different NDC
4. Recipient is a new Medicaid eligible and no claims history exists

Please direct policy questions to the Medicaid office at (334) 242-5050. Questions concerning prior authorization denials/approvals should be directed to Health Information Designs, Inc. at (800) 748-0130.

Filing Claims For Designated Bilateral, Bilateral, And Unilateral Surgical Codes

The following explanations are given for filing claims regarding Designated Bilateral Surgical Procedures, Bilateral, and Unilateral for your convenience and reference. The Alabama Medicaid Agency recognizes the 2005 CPT definitions and guidelines concerning designated bilateral, bilateral and unilateral surgical procedures.

Designated Bilateral Procedures

Procedures that are designated as bilateral in the CPT 2005 do not require a modifier "50". The reimbursement amounts are based on the procedure being performed as a bilateral procedure. Bilateral procedures should be billed as one unit on the CMS 1500 claim form with a single line item. If multiple units of bilateral procedures are billed, the claim will be denied payment.

Bilateral Procedures

Procedure codes that are not designated bilateral but could be performed bilaterally should be billed using modifier 50 when performed bilaterally. The procedure should be billed as one unit as a single line item with modifier on the line item. Reimbursement for procedures performed bilaterally will be 150% of the Alabama Medicaid rate.

Unilateral Procedures

When Unilateral Surgical Procedures are performed, the procedure code should be identified with one unit on the CMS 1500 claim form on a single line item. No modifier should be used.

Bilateral Nerve Block Injections

When billing for bilateral nerve block injections, the procedure code should be billed on one line with modifier 50 and the appropriate number of units (1 unit per level).

Pharmacy Claims: Accurate Billing

Medicaid would like to clarify the importance of accuracy in specific elements of prescription billing. All aspects of billing, such as correct NDC, physician license number, directions for the patient, quantity, DAW, and days supply are part of accurate billing. Each specific component is an integral part of the formula that comprises legitimate pharmacy claims. Failure to bill accurately may result in retrospective pharmacy review.

Code For Pap Smear Collection

The procedure code Q0091 with Modifier 90 should be utilized when collecting the specimen for a Pap Smear. The Modifier 90 indicates the specimen was sent to another site for analysis.

The Pathologist/Specialist should bill the appropriate CPT Cytopathology procedure code that most closely describes the service performed.

Injectables List On Medicaid Website

A listing of CPT and HCPCS codes for injectable medications and some administration codes are posted on the Medicaid website. The listing includes the maximum number of billable units and if there is a Prior Authorization requirement.

Medication guidelines and policies may be found in the Medicaid Provider Manual in Appendix H as well as a listing of medications. If you have questions concerning coverage, please contact EDS's Provider Assistance Center at 1-800-688-7989.



www.medicaid.state.al.us

New ADA Dental Claim Form Now Accepted

Beginning in June, dental providers began using the ADA Version 2002, 2004 Dental Claim form. This claim form has been published by the American Dental Association as the standard claim form in the CDT-4 and CDT 2005. To be consistent with the ADA's publication, Medicaid will be transitioning to this claim form. Minor changes with this claim form include: Prior Authorization numbers will be entered into block 2, Oral Cavity Designation code block 25, other insurance paid in block 32, "TPL Denial Attached" should be entered in block 35, performing provider number once in block 49, group number in block 50 and TAX ID/SSN in block 51. The Dental Program will be providing additional education on this claim form. This article is to alert those dental providers who are familiar with this form it is now being accepted. If you have questions, please call Tina Edwards at 334-242-5472.

When is pulpal therapy indicated?

Pulpal therapy codes (D3230 & D3240) are only indicated for strategically important primary teeth when:

- The tooth is restorable
- The primary tooth radicular pulp is necrotic
- No internal or external root resorption is present
- A succedaneous tooth is present



These procedures require a preoperative periapical film and include a complete pulpectomy, instrumentation and filling of canals with a resorbable material. Successful filling without underfilling or gross overextension must be evident on a postoperative periapical film which must be maintained on file. Consult Chapter 13 pages 19 & 20 for more details and code requirements. Failure to meet these requirements may result in recoupment. The Dental Program will be performing chart reviews of these codes in the near future. If you have questions, you may call 334-242-5472.

Dental Claims for Overrides of Crowns

Claims submitted for overrides to AL Medicaid Agency for crowns in cases where the root canal therapy is not in Medicaid history must have a periapical film attached taken AFTER the crown was inserted. Providers continue to send in postoperative endodontic films which delays the process.

No Coverage for Dental Restorations that are All-Ceramic

The only permanent crown codes covered are porcelain fused to metal (D2750, D2751, D2752) and all metal (D2792). All-ceramic crowns or inlays/onlays whether made in a lab or made by milling in the office, are NOT COVERED and may not be substituted for covered crowns. If the provider or recipient desires and consents, an all ceramic crown or inlay/onlay, the recipient would be financially responsible for this procedure.

Updated Website Offers Providers Expanded Array of Online Resources

Responding to provider requests for more online resources and documents and an easy-to-navigate interface, the Alabama Medicaid Agency has updated its website to include an expanded array of interactive and online forms, searchable databases and downloadable documents. The updated site, which received more than 52,500 individual visits in July, may be accessed by going to www.medicaid.state.al.us OR www.medicaid.alabama.gov.

Organized by program/function, the site offers providers multiple features to help providers easily locate needed information. Some of these features include a search engine at the top right hand corner of every window, a Find-It-Fast shortcut menu for frequently requested items, and toolbar tabs at the top.

The site's billing tab includes provider enrollment information, EDS contact information, forms, benefit coordination/third party information, all manuals, HIPAA information, PES software, prior authorization information, secure site log on page and forms plus short cuts to provider holiday and checkwrite calendars, alerts and more.

Additionally, providers and recipients alike can go to the site's "Apply for Medicaid" section to get up-to-date information on qualifying and/or applying for Medicaid, including contact information for Medicaid District Offices.

The website is maintained by the Agency's Research and Development Unit. Providers with questions or comments may contact the website's content manager by email at webwork@medicaid.state.al.us or by telephone at 334-353-9363.

Physician Billing: Diagnosis Codes

Medicaid would like to clarify the importance of billing multiple diagnosis codes per each physician visit. Medicaid can accept up to eight diagnosis codes per physician visit; these diagnosis codes are used to determine a recipient's approval or denial in the event a prescription for that recipient requires Prior Authorization (PA). The Electronic PA process for prescriptions looks back one year in the recipient's medical claims history from the date of the request to ensure the patient has a diagnosis on file for the drug requested. If a physician has not billed that particular diagnosis code within the past year, the Electronic PA will be denied, and the physician and pharmacist must move forward with the manual PA process. All diagnoses must be supported by documentation in the patient record and may be subject to retrospective review. Ultimately, billing all appropriate diagnosis codes may result in less paperwork for all involved.

ALABAMA MEDICAID

In The Know

General Information Providers Need to Know When Billing to the Alabama Medicaid Agency

New CME Activity Focus of Medical Home-Health Literacy for Alabama Providers

The Alabama Medicaid Agency has launched a new initiative to improve health outcomes and to prevent or ameliorate negative aspects of chronic illnesses in the Medicaid population through the implementation of a focused educational program for physicians and other health care professionals.

The project, "Medical Home * Health Literacy," is the agency's second CD-based project in its "Bringing Health to Life" series. Based on established guidelines and "best practices" regarding medical homes and health literacy, the program is designed to strengthen the physician-patient relationship through the development of medical homes, the expanded use of health literacy programs and resources, and by increased understanding of the Medicaid program. The activity was authored by Alabama physicians and other professionals with expertise in the topics.

Physicians are eligible for up to 9.0 category 1 CME credits from the Medical Foundation of Alabama. Continuing education credits are also available to nurses, pharmacists and other health professionals at no charge through September 2007.

A companion audiotape, audio CD and study guide have been produced in addition to the CD presentation, all of which is now available to Alabama physicians and other health providers in conjunction with the Medical Alliance of the State of Alabama. An online version with updated Patient 1st information will be available soon.

The educational project is also an integral part of the Agency's updated Patient 1st program, supporting primary care physicians in their efforts to provide a medical home for each Medicaid patient. Enrolled primary medical providers (PMPs) who successfully complete the activity are eligible for an enhanced case management fee.

For more information or for a free copy of the CD, contact Robin Rawls, Associate Director, Research & Development, at 334-353-9363 or by email at cme@medicaid.state.al.us

Drug Administration Codes

In June 2005, an Alert was sent to inform providers of several changes made to drug administration codes effective July 1, 2005. The Alert and Administration Code Crosswalk is posted to Medicaid's website at www.medicaid.state.al.us. Administration Code guidelines and policies will be available in the October 2005 Medicaid Provider Manual in Appendix H. The Alabama Medicaid Provider Manual is updated on a quarterly basis for your referral.

Vision and Hearing Screenings

Procedure Code 92551 with EP modifier should be used for hearing screening of ages 5 and above in conjunction with EPSDT screening. Procedure Code 99173 with EP modifier should be used for vision screening of ages 3 and above.

Procedure Code 92285 (External ocular photography with interpretation and report....) should not be billed for routine vision screenings. This code should be reserved for special ophthalmological services. Inappropriate billing of 92285 is subject to post payment review.

Visit Alabama Medicaid *ONLINE*



www.medicaid.state.al.us

Providers can :

- ◆ Print Forms and Enrollment Applications
- ◆ Download Helpful Software
- ◆ Obtain Current Medicaid Press Releases and Bulletins
- ◆ Obtain Billing and Provider Manuals and Other General Information about Medicaid

Billing Information for DME Providers

Effective immediately an EPSDT Screening is not required for Phototherapy. This policy change is retroactive for all Phototherapy claims with dates of service from March 1, 2004.

Claims for Phototherapy with dates of service retroactive to March 1, 2004 that are over one year old must be submitted hardcopy on the CMS 1500 claim form for payment to:



Alabama Medicaid Agency
Long Term Care Provider / Recipient Services
501 Dexter Avenue
Montgomery, Alabama 36130

Pulse Oximeter

Supplies for the Pulse Oximeter will only be paid for by Alabama Medicaid after completion of the ten month rental period

A4606 – Non-disposable probes are limited to one per year per recipient

A4606 – Disposable probes are limited to two per month per recipient

When requesting disposable probes medical documentation must be submitted justifying the need for disposable probes. The documentation must show why a non-disposable will not work. Valid medical necessity must be provided for the disposable probe.

If you have additional questions or need further clarification, please contact LTC Provider/Recipient Services at 1-800-362-1504.

Important Mailing Addresses

All Claim forms, Consent forms, and other mail

EDS
Post Office Box 244032
Montgomery AL 36124-4032

Inquiries, Provider Enrollment Information and Provider Relations

EDS
Post Office Box 241685
Montgomery AL 36124-1685

Adjustments

EDS
Post Office Box 241684
Montgomery AL 36124-1684

EDS Provider Representatives

G R O U P 1

North: Jenny Homler and Lisa Hodge

Bibb, Blount, Calhoun, Cherokee, Chilton, Clay, Cleburne, Colbert, Coosa, Cullman, DeKalb, Etowah, Fayette, Franklin, Greene, Hale, Jackson, Jefferson, Lamar, Lawrence, Lauderdale, Limestone, Madison, Marion, Marshall, Morgan, Pickens, Randolph, Shelby, St. Clair, Talladega, Tuscaloosa, Walker, Winston



lisa.hodge

@alix.slg.eds.com
334-215-4159



jenny.homler

@eds.com
334-215-4142

South: Denise Hooker-Shepherd

Autauga, Baldwin, Barbour, Bullock, Butler, Chambers, Choctaw, Clarke, Coffee, Conecuh, Covington, Crenshaw, Dale, Dallas, Elmore, Escambia, Geneva, Henry, Houston, Lee, Lowndes, Macon, Marengo, Mobile, Monroe, Montgomery, Perry, Pike, Russell, Sumter, Tallapoosa, Washington, Wilcox

Nurse Practitioners
Podiatrists
Chiropractors
Independent Labs
Free Standing Radiology



denise.hooker

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334-215-4132

CRNA
EPSDT (Physicians)
Dental
Physicians
Optometric
(Optometrists and Opticians)

G R O U P 2

Rehabilitation Services
Home Bound Waiver
Therapy Services
(OT, PT, ST)
Children's Specialty Clinics
Prenatal Clinics
Maternity Care
Hearing Services
Mental Health/Mental Retardation
MR/DD Waiver
Ambulance
FQHC



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Public Health
Elderly and Disabled Waiver
Home and Community
Based Services
EPSDT
Family Planning
Prenatal
Preventive Education
Rural Health Clinic
Commission on Aging
DME
Nurse Midwives

G R O U P 3

Ambulatory Surgical Centers
ESWL
Home Health
Hospice
Hospital
Nursing Home



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Personal Care Services
PEC
Private Duty Nursing
Renal Dialysis Facilities
Swing Bed

State Fiscal Year 2005-2006 Checkwrite Schedule

10/07/05	01/06/06	04/07/06	07/07/06
10/21/05	01/20/06	04/21/06	07/21/06
11/04/05	02/03/06	05/05/06	08/04/06
11/18/05	02/17/06	05/19/06	08/18/06
12/09/05	03/03/06	06/02/06	09/08/06
12/16/05	03/17/06	06/16/06	09/15/06

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