

# Provider Insider

Alabama Medicaid Bulletin

July 2009

The checkwrite schedule is as follows:

07/10/09 07/24/09 08/07/09 08/21/09 09/04/09 09/11/09

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

## Recoupment of Medicare-Related Claims on July 10, 2009 Remittance Advice

Claims paid between March 2008 and April 2009 with zero in the Medicare paid amount field will be recouped and denied for error message 8134 on the July 10, 2009 remittance advice. If Medicare limits have been exhausted and there is no Medicare payment, then Medicaid has no liability on the claim either.

If your claim contains denial code 8134, and the claim is **WITHIN** the time filing limitation, you will need to resubmit these claims to EDS for payment with the correct MEDICARE information.

However, if your claim is **PAST** the time filing limitation you will need to:

- Complete a paper claim\*
- Indicate "Medicaid recouped 07/10/09" in the "Remarks" box,
- Attach a copy of the July 10, 2009, RA showing the denial,
- Send claim and attachment to:  
Alabama Medicaid Agency  
Attention: System Support/Administrative Review  
P.O. Box 5624  
Montgomery, AL 36103

Administrative Review material must be received on or before October 31, 2009.

### \*Note:

Professional claims should be submitted on the CMS-1500 Medicare/Medicaid Related claim form. Inpatient claims should be submitted on a UB-04 claim form with the appropriate value codes in form locators 39-41.



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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 \_\_\_\_\_

## **Obtaining Medicaid Recipient Identification Numbers**

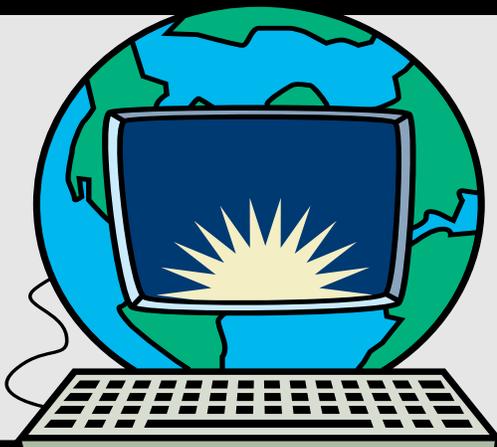
Providers can obtain a recipient's Medicaid Identification Number (RID) in one of two ways. All Medicaid providers have access to the Medicaid Provider Assistance Center at 1-800-688-7989 (out of state providers (334) 215-0111. The provider or the provider's representative can call the Medicaid Provider Assistance Center and with proper provider identification, the Provider Assistance Center can research the recipient's identification number and give it to the provider. The provider can also use the web portal to obtain the recipient's identification number.

Providers should not request that recipients contact the Recipient Call Center to obtain their RID. The Recipient Call Center personnel can not give out this information over the telephone.

## **Attention Eyecare Providers**

When requesting prior authorization for frames, lens exam and fit, the prior authorization type of AL (Vision Optometry) is required for both electronic and paper prior authorizations.

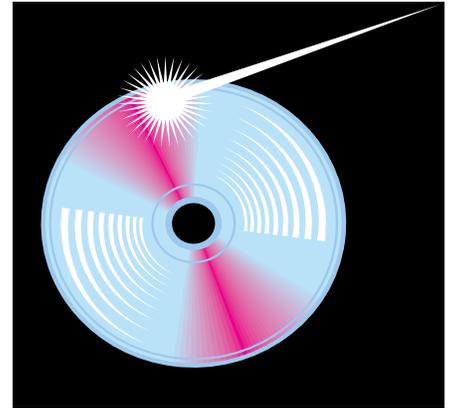
Visit Alabama Medicaid  
**ONLINE**



**[www.medicaid.alabama.gov](http://www.medicaid.alabama.gov)**

## **New Version of Provider Electronic Solutions Now Available**

Version 2.12 of the Provider Electronic Solutions software, upgrade and full install along with the billing manual, can be downloaded from the Medicaid website. The address for the website is [www.medicaid.alabama.gov](http://www.medicaid.alabama.gov). Click 'billing,' scroll down to the software download section, and download the software. When applying the upgrade, you must upgrade to 2.11 before attempting to upgrade to 2.12. For further assistance, or to request the software on CD, contact the EMC helpdesk at 1-800-456-1242 or e-mail address: [alabamasytemsemc@eds.com](mailto:alabamasytemsemc@eds.com).



The new version of the software contains the following changes:

- All Crossover Claim Forms - Added a self-edit to the software to prevent saving Medicare Cross-over claims with zero in the Medicare Paid Amount field AND Medicare Deductible Amount field (one or both fields has to have a value greater than zero)
- OP Institutional Form - Added the fields to allow users to submit OP surgery claims using ICD-9 procedure codes
- Eligibility Verification Response - Corrected the display of used dental benefits on Eligibility Verification responses
- Provider List Builder - Removed the Medicaid ID from the COPY feature on the Provider List Builder.
- Remember, users MUST be at version 2.11 before attempting to upgrade to 2.12.

## **Congratulations to Providers with Exceptional Vaccination Coverage Rates**

During 2008, Alabama Department of Public Health (ADPH) staff performed VFC-AFIX quality improvement visits to VFC provider clinics. These visits allowed ADPH staff to determine if VFC providers are following VFC guidelines, to offer education and CEU credits for clinic staff, and to determine vaccine coverage levels of the clinic. As acknowledged for the first time in 2007, the results indicated 2008 VFC site visits for those clinics that achieved vaccine coverage levels of 100 percent, over 90 percent, and over 80 percent. The ADPH, Immunization Division, congratulates these VFC providers for an excellent accomplishment in 2008.

The Alabama VFC Program appreciates the knowledge and experience the providers exhibit in their daily preventive healthcare practice. Thank you for your outstanding performances!

## **Endovenous Laser Ablation of Varicose Veins and Endoluminal Radiofrequency Ablation of Saphenous Varicose Veins**

Effective July 1, 2009, the following procedure codes will require prior authorization in order to determine medical necessity and reimbursement consideration before services are rendered to the recipient:

1. Procedure codes 36478 (Endovenous ablation therapy of incompetent vein, extremity, inclusive of all imaging guidance and monitoring, percutaneous, laser; first vein treated, and add on code 36479 (second and subsequent veins treated in a single extremity, each through separate access sites) should only be billed along with the primary code (36478).
2. Procedure codes 36475 (Endovenous ablation therapy of incompetent vein, extremity, inclusive of all imaging guidance and monitoring, percutaneous, radiofrequency; first vein treated, and Add on code 36476 (second and subsequent veins treated in a single extremity, each through separate access sites) should only be billed along with the primary code (36475).

**These procedures are not covered by Medicaid for cosmetic purposes.**

## **Changing Procedure Codes on Radiology Prior Authorizations for CT Scans, MR Scans and PET Scans**

Effective June 22, 2009, providers will be allowed 30 days from the date of service to:

- change a code from “without contrast,” to a code in the same family “with contrast” or “with and without contrast” or
- change a code from “with contrast” or “with and without contrast,” to a code in the same family “without contrast” or
- add a study to radiology procedures when the Prior Authorization has already been obtained.

The ordering provider (physician’s office) or the performing provider (facility) must call Medsolutions at 1-888-693-3211 to request that a code be changed. For changing a code to a higher code (from without contrast, to with contrast, or to with and without contrast), or adding a study, Medsolutions will continue to review criteria for medical necessity before approval.

Providers with questions may contact Teresa Thomas, Program Manager, Lab/X-ray services by phone at (334) 242-5048 or by email at [teresa.thomas@medicaid.alabama.gov](mailto:teresa.thomas@medicaid.alabama.gov).

## **Financial Help for Spaying and Neutering Your Pets Available Statewide**

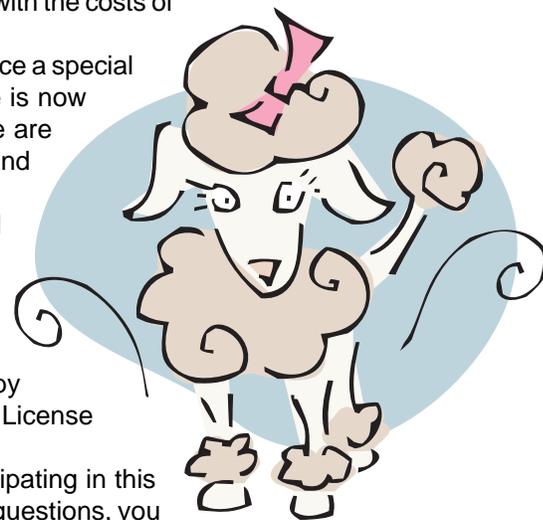
The Alabama Veterinary Medical Association (ALVMA) and The Alabama Veterinary Medical Foundation (ALVMF) are pleased to announce a new program available for Medicaid recipients to help with the costs of spaying and neutering their pets.

In November of 2007, the ALVMA and ALVMF began a campaign to produce a special car license plate encouraging the spaying and neutering of pets. The plate is now available to Alabama residents. Proceeds from the sale of the special plate are being used to help Medicaid pet owners underwrite the cost of these spay and neuter procedures for their cat or dog.

A co-pay of \$10 per cat or \$20 per dog must be paid by the Medicaid recipient but the remaining balance is paid through a grant from the Foundation. There is a limit of two (2) animals per household and proof of your Medicaid status and identification must be presented before any procedure is performed.

There is a map locator for participating veterinarians and it can be found by going to [www.alvma.com](http://www.alvma.com) and following the instructions under “Spay/Neuter License Plate Surgery Program.”

Currently there are nearly 100 veterinary clinics around the state participating in this program. Additional programs are available at [www.spayalabama.org](http://www.spayalabama.org) or for questions, you may call toll free 866-9SPAYAL (866-977-2925).



### State Fiscal Year 2009-2010 Checkwrite Schedule

10/03/08	01/02/09	04/03/09	07/10/09
10/17/08	01/16/09	04/17/09	07/24/09
11/07/08	02/06/09	05/01/09	08/07/09
11/21/08	02/20/09	05/15/09	08/21/09
12/05/08	03/06/09	06/05/09	09/04/09
12/12/08	03/20/09	06/19/09	09/11/09

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