

Mississippi Medicaid Bulletin

Program and Policy Information

Volume 3, Issue 9

March 1997



All claims submitted for payment to Medicaid <u>MUST</u> be identified with the <u>EXACT</u> NDC of the drug dispensed.

Suspension of Pharmacy Providers for Non-compliance with the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1990 (OBRA '90)

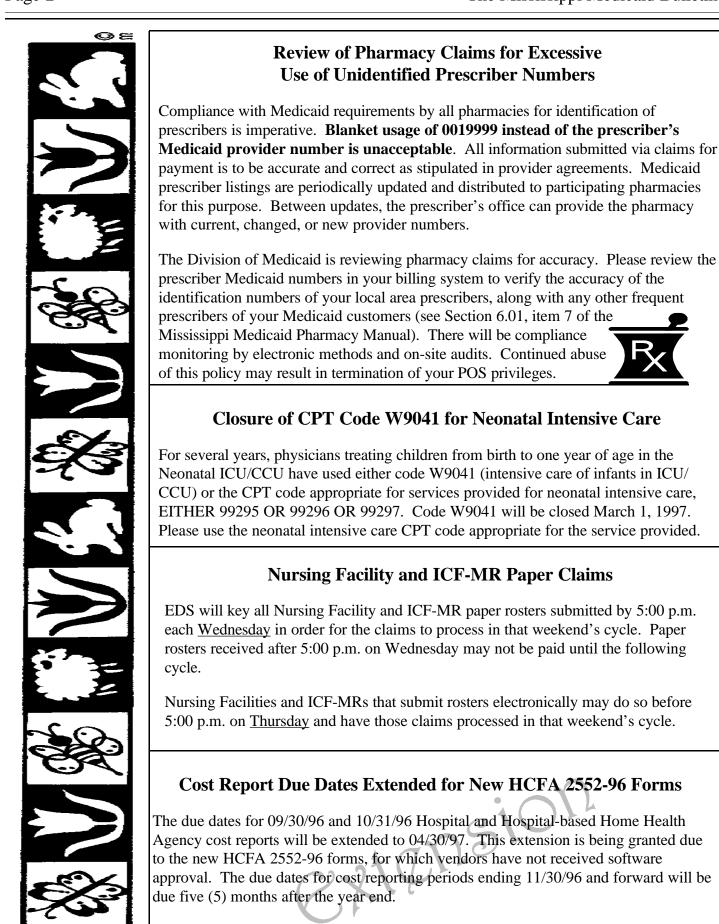
On June 11, 1996, all pharmacy providers were sent a letter by Certified Mail informing them that all claims submitted for payment to Medicaid <u>MUST</u> be identified with the <u>EXACT</u> NDC of the drug dispensed. This is a requirement for two reasons:

- 1. a difference in cost exists on many drugs among various bottle sizes and manufacturers, and
- 2. the rebate program is based on the exact NDC number, whether there is a cost difference or not among various bottle sizes.

Recent audits by Medicaid's Program Integrity Division have identified several pharmacy providers who are still in non-compliance with this requirement of federal law.

As of March 1, 1997, pharmacy providers may be suspended from the Mississippi Medicaid program when found to be in non-compliance with the OBRA '90 requirement that the **<u>EXACT</u>** NDC be used on all claims submitted for payment to Medicaid.

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HealthMACS Workshops

The Mississippi Division of Medicaid and EDS staff will be in your area to conduct workshops and recruit primary care providers (PCP) for the managed care program Health Through Medicaid Managed Access to Care and Services (HealthMACS). HealthMACS, a primary care case management program for AFDC/AFDC-related Medicaid eligibles, will be implemented in selected counties in your area on May 1, 1997. The selected counties are: **Coahoma, Leflore, Quitman, Tallahatchie, and Tunica.** HealthMACS links Medicaid eligibles with a PCP who is responsible for managing the health care needs of Medicaid eligibles assigned to him/her. HealthMACS offers better patient care by providing continuity of services and encouraging more appropriate use of the health care system.

The purpose of the workshops is to discuss the policies of the HealthMACS program, how it changes the way HealthMACS enrollees access care and services, and how medical care provided by health care specialists other than the PCP must be authorized by the PCP for Medicaid to reimburse for the services. Some Medicaid services are excluded from HealthMACS and do not require authorization by the PCP. These services include: podiatry, dental, psychiatry, ophthalmology, eyeglass, emergency services, nursing home, ICF/MR, and emergency/non-emergency transportation.

Medicaid providers who can be PCPs for HealthMACS are: family practitioners, general practitioners, pediatricians, obstetricians (OB), gynecologists (GYN), internists, and nurse practitioners (pediatric, adult, family, OB-GYN, and certified nurse midwives).

If you are one of the provider types listed above, and are interested in being a PCP for HealthMACS, you and/or your representative may want to attend one of the workshops scheduled below. Detailed information about the HealthMACS program will be given during the workshop. PCP requirements and responsibilities will also be addressed. PCP applications and provider agreements will be available. Managed care provider representatives from EDS will be at the workshop to schedule one-on-one provider meetings, if you want such a meeting scheduled.

March 25, 1997 - 9:00 a.m.

Greenwood Civic Center Highway 7 North Greenwood, Ms

March 26, 1997- 9:00 a.m.

Hampton Inn 710 South State Street Clarksdale, MS If you provide health care to AFDC/AFDC-related Medicaid eligibles in the counties listed above, you and/or representatives of your office/billing staff may benefit by attending one of the HealthMACS workshops scheduled below. If you are not sure you need to attend a workshop, please call the Managed Care Hotline, 1-800-627-8488, or the Division of Medicaid Managed Care staff, 1-800-421-2408, for additional information about the program and the workshops.

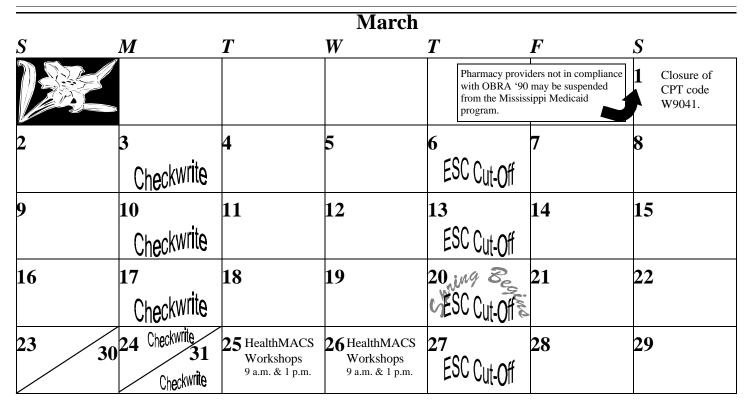
March 25, 1997 - 1:00 p.m.

Greenwood Civic Center Highway 7 North Greenwood, MS

March 26, 1997 - 1:00 p.m.

Hampton Inn 710 South State Street Clarksdale, MS

If any additional information is needed, please contact the Managed Care Hotline at 1-800-627-8488.



Checkwrites and Remittance Advices are dated every Monday. However, funds are not transferred until the following Thursday and Remittance Advices usually arrive the following Friday.

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