
"UniteOurVoices" Newsletter # 137
June 2, 2014



Dearest Advocates:

I know it's been a long time since I sent out a newsletter. Life is busy with personal and professional commitments but wanted to let you know about some great changes! First of all, I'm currently in the process of updating my website www.UniteOurVoices.com to reflect my commitment to advocating, educating and communicating issues associated with disabilities and pediatric cancer. Please check back regularly for additional content. Currently, I have all the newsletters there from the last couple of years for resource information to you.

In addition, I also have a FaceBook-group and Twitter account that you can join called "UniteOurVoices". Social media is becoming quicker and faster and is going to become my preferred communication media of choice. I will continue to write newsletters on an as needed basis and when important information and advocacy items need to be communicated.

Also.....

Important change coming 6/1/14 to all Medicaid waivers.....

Ordering, Prescribing, and Referring Denials Begin June 1, 2014 **(This impact all families that have any Rx's that are filled by a doctor and you want Medicaid to pay for them (i.e. medications, medical equipment, therapy, etc).**

As of June 1, 2014, physicians or other eligible practitioners who order, prescribe or refer items or services for Medicaid beneficiaries will be required to enroll in the Georgia Medicaid Program, even if they do not submit claims to Medicaid. These providers are known as "OPR providers."

Additionally these OPR providers' individual -- not the organizational -- NPI numbers must be included on claims filed by rendering providers and practitioners or these claims will be denied. This is a requirement of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act.

OPR Providers should access the Georgia Medicaid Management Information System (GAMMIS) website at www.mmis.georgia.gov to enroll. During the enrollment process, individual practitioner applicants have the option to list both their Individual and/or Organizational NPI numbers on the enrollment application; however, it is critical that the OPR provider's Individual NPI be entered when providers file claims.

For more information on this new requirement, please visit the OPR Provider

It is important to note that enrollment as an OPR Provider:
Does not obligate you to see Medicaid patients.
Does not mean you will be listed as a Medicaid provider for patient assignment and referral.

Does not require annual renewal.

Allows you to continue seeing Medicaid patients if you choose without billing Medicaid directly.

Helps ensure that your orders, prescriptions, and referrals are accepted and processed appropriately for Medicaid patients.

For further information, please read the Frequently Asked Questions on the DCH website. For questions, please contact Medicaid's fiscal agent Hewlett Packard Enterprise Services (HPES) at 800-766-4456, press option 0. For questions or additional information, email OPREnrollment@dch.ga.gov .

Note to Providers of Waiver Program Services from DCH:
Beginning June 1, 2014 in accordance with Affordable Care Act regulations, DCH will edit claims to confirm enrollment of an Ordering/Prescribing/Referring practitioner. Based on the way DCH established the claims edit for waivers, the edit will only apply IF an Ordering/Prescribing/Referring (OPR) provider number/NPI number is entered on the claim.

Thus, beginning June 1, 2014 if your claim includes the NPI or provider ID of a practitioner that has not enrolled with DCH as an Ordering, Prescribing, or Referring provider, the claim will deny. We are advising, pending more specific instruction from DCH related to each waiver program, that waiver providers leave the Referring Provider field on the claim blank for now unless you have confirmed during the "soft launch" period since 4/1/2014 that claims are not hitting the OPR edits when using an approved/enrolled NPI or Provider.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. Should you have further questions, please see the FAQs posted on the DCH website:
http://dch.georgia.gov/sites/dch.georgia.gov/files/FAQ-REV-march14-Overview%20OPR-FINAL3-25-14_0.pdf

Have a great summer!

"United - We Will Make A Difference"

Sincerely,

Heidi J. Moore

**(Proud Mother to Jacob - 14 yrs old with Down syndrome, Autism & Leukemia
Survivor and Jared - 12 yrs old with amazing spirit & love for his brother)**