

**Western Highlands Network
Communication Bulletin #57
National Provider Identifier (NPI) Clarification
March 28, 2007**

Notice: Not having a properly registered NPI with Medicaid and/or Western Highlands may result in non-payment for services.

NPI registration and billing requirements are upon us. This bulletin is intended to clarify NPI registration, billing deadlines and NPI determination. This communication supplements Communication Bulletin #54, released Feb 19, 2007.

NPI Registration/Billing Deadlines

Medicaid requires NPI registration by **March 31, 2007**. Providers must bill Medicaid and WH using the new revised CMS-1500 (08/05) effective **April 1, 2007**. Since DMA requires an NPI for all billing methods by **May 17, 2007** and Western Highlands needs time to process claims, Western Highlands requires 837 NPI claims submission on or after April 30, 2007. Failure to meet these requirements or deadlines will cause either delayed reimbursement or no payment.

March 31, 2007 – Deadline for Medicaid NPI registration

April 1, 2007 – Deadline for CMS-1500 (08/05) billing with NPI

April 30, 2007 – Deadline for providers to bill via 837 (electronic form) with NPI to Western Highlands

May 17, 2007 – Deadline for providers to bill via 837 with NPI to Medicaid/ EDS

June 1, 2007 – State (IPRS) funded claims timely filing deadline for dates of service July 1, 2006 through April 30, 2007

Medicaid NPI Determination

Medicaid requires NPI registration for each direct enrolled Medicaid number. Providers must register one unique NPI for each individual clinician's direct enrolled number. Submit your registration to Medicaid and send Western Highlands a copy. Include the NPPEES confirmation. Specific Medicaid NPI registration is at the DMA website: <http://www.dhhs.state.nc.us/dma/>.

State funded NPI Determination

In the absence of specific State guidance and to assist with determining appropriate NPI registration, Western Highlands offers the following guidance:

When determining what services you ought to register an NPI with Western Highlands, consider your organization's contractual services with Western Highlands. If the contractual services consist of healthcare services (typical), then all services within that contract must be registered and billed with an NPI.

A healthcare service is defined in 45 Code of Federal Regulation 160.103 and expressed in the HIPAA National Provider Identifier White Papers, Atypical

Service Providers, Workgroup for Electronic Data Interchange (WEDI), May 28, 2006. Within the WEDI report the terms typical and atypical are used to distinguish between a healthcare service (typical) and non-healthcare service (atypical). The WEDI report is available at <http://www.wedi.org/index.shtml>.

This is a common simplified contractual arrangement example illustrating a decision whether to obtain an NPI or not.

Example A: Provider A has a contract with Western Highlands for only Developmental Therapy/H2014. According to the WEDI white paper developmental therapy could be atypical. Since this is the only contractual service with Western Highlands and you determined it is atypical then an NPI isn't necessary. You may bill without an NPI.

Example B: Provider B has a contract with Western Highlands for Developmental Therapy/H2014 and Community Support Services/H0036. Since the services as a whole represent typical services, then all services (H2014 and H0036) must be registered with an NPI and billed with an NPI.

Registration

Now that we have established whether you're typical or atypical, let's review the registration methods.

Among the contracted services with Western Highlands there may be Medicaid direct enrolled and non-direct enrolled services as related in Example B.

Community Support is a Medicaid direct enrolled service in which you obtained a Community Intervention Number, 83XXXXXX. This number is appended with an alpha suffix and represents the attending provider on a billing transaction. This is called the Service Level Number, 83XXXXXA.

The Developmental Therapy service is a non-direct enrolled service and the WH agency number 36XXX (a number assigned by WH for each contract) represents the attending provider on a billing transaction.

Your NPI registration should include an NPI associated with the 83XXXXXA and 36XXX. You may assign one NPI to multiple numbers but you cannot assign multiple NPIs to one number. To avoid claims adjudication mapping solution complications, WH recommends a separate NPI for the 36XXX.

Here is how Provider B would register their NPI with Western Highlands. Consequently when billing these services the associated NPI is the attending provider number.

Western Highlands Network NPI Collection Form

Submitter's Name/Phone:
Provider B/225-2800

Provider Number	NPI	Taxonomy	Organization /Individual Name	Physical Address	City	State	Zip + 4
83XXXXXA	1144375678	251S00000X	Provider B	356 Biltmore Ave	Asheville	NC	28801-4516
36XXX	1144375679	251C00000X	Provider B	356 Biltmore Ave	Asheville	NC	28801-4516

For further assistance please contact WH at (828) 225-2800 ext. 2191, or e-mail at billingquestions@westernhighlands.org.