

**Western Highlands Network  
Communication Bulletin #76  
February 11, 2008**

**National Provider Identification (NPI) Implementation Transition Assistance**

Western Highlands (WH) will begin NPI claims adjudication edit feedback on March 1, 2008 to help providers resolve NPI mapping solutions, confirm NPI registration, and avoid payment disruptions before the May 23, 2008 implementation deadline.

Western Highlands will provide feedback on the WH Explanation of Benefits to help providers resolve non-compliant NPI billing issues. Western Highlands will NOT deny payment based on these NPI edit results until the May implementation deadline.

Western Highlands adheres to NPI business practices in accordance with the following guidelines.

**837**

Please follow billing requirements specified in the HIPAA Implementation Guide, at [www.wpc-edi.com](http://www.wpc-edi.com).

**DDE**

Western Highlands will revise the DDE screen to support NPI billing practices.

**CMS-1500**

Please follow NPI billing requirements specified in the DMA Special Bulletin, *New Claim Form Instructions Special Bulletin - Revised 6/20/07*, with updates posted in the DMA Bulletin, January 1, 2008. Western Highlands will no longer accept the CMS-1500 (12/90) version. Submit claims on the CMS-1500 (08/05) version.

**NPI Registration**

Please see Western Highlands Communication Bulletin #54, 2/19/2007, at [http://www.westernhighlands.org/pr\\_commbulletins.htm](http://www.westernhighlands.org/pr_commbulletins.htm).

**Technical Assistance**

For technical assistance please contact Western Highlands either by e-mail: [billingquestions@westernhighlands.org](mailto:billingquestions@westernhighlands.org), or phone: 828-225-2785 ext. 2191.