

16. Services provided primarily for the diagnosis and treatment of infertility, including sterilization reversals, and related office (medical or clinic), drugs, laboratory services, radiological and diagnostic services and surgical procedures.

Amended by R.1994 d.600, effective December 5, 1994.

See: 26 N.J.R. 3345(a), 26 N.J.R. 4762(a).

Amended by R.1997 d.354, effective September 2, 1997.

See: 29 N.J.R. 2512(a), 29 N.J.R. 3856(a).

Amended section name; substituted "beneficiaries" and "beneficiary's" for "recipients" or "recipient's" throughout; in (a)2, inserted "; these services" preceding "shall not be billed" and amended Department name; in (a)4, inserted references to Model Waiver III, ACCAP and ABC programs; in (a)13iv and (a)15, substituted reference to Medicaid Agent for reference to Division.

Recodified from N.J.A.C. 10:49-5.4 and amended R.1998 d.116, effective January 30, 1998 (operative February 1, 1998; to expire July 31, 1998).

See: 30 N.J.R. 713(a).

Cross References

Medical Day Center, verification of recipients eligibility as under this section, see N.J.A.C. 10:65-1.6.

Case Notes

Digital scale for applicant with morbid obesity was not an item for which Medicaid funds were available. *R.S. v. Division of Medical Assistance*, 95 N.J.A.R.2d (DMA) 65.

Extended care facility could not be reimbursed for care for Medicaid-ineligible patient. *V.F. v. Division of Medical Assistance and Health Services*, 92 N.J.A.R.2d (DMA) 29.

Hospital not entitled to hearing prior to decertification as medical provider. *Preakness Hospital v. Div. of Medical Assistance and Health Services*, 3 N.J.A.R. 351 (1982).

SUBCHAPTER 6. AUTHORIZATIONS REQUIRED BY MEDICAID PROGRAM

10:49-6.1 Prior and retroactive authorization (general)

(a) Under the program, payment for certain services shall require prior authorization except in an emergency. It is the responsibility of the provider to obtain prior authorization before furnishing or rendering a service. Specific instructions are detailed in the appropriate Provider Services chapter.

1. Prior authorization should not be construed as a guarantee that a person is eligible for the New Jersey Medicaid program. At the time the service is to be provided, it is the provider's responsibility to verify eligibility.

2. "Medical emergency" means a critical illness or injury status for which prompt medical care may be crucial to saving life and limb or sparing the beneficiary significant or intractable pain. Services provided for a medical emergency are exempt from prior authorization. Any service classified as a medical emergency that would have

been subject to prior authorization had it not been so classified, must be supported by a practitioner's statement which describes the nature of the emergency, including relevant clinical information, and must state why the emergency services rendered were considered to be immediately necessary. To simply state that an emergency did exist is not sufficient.

3. In addition to services that must be prior authorized under the previous subsections, a provider may be required to submit some or all services for prior authorization if in the judgment of the Medicaid Agent the provider has engaged in conduct which would constitute good cause for suspension, debarment or disqualification under N.J.A.C. 10:49-11.1(d). Prior authorization under this subsection may be imposed prior to a hearing under the same conditions applicable to suspensions under N.J.A.C. 10:49-11.1(j), except that the approval of the Attorney General shall not be necessary.

(b) Retroactive authorization may be granted under certain circumstances provided that the service is a part of continuing beneficiary care and, on the basis of medical judgment, would have been authorized at the time the service was rendered. Each case is considered on its own merit. Retroactive authorization is an exceptional measure granted only under the following unusual circumstances:

1. "Other coverage" (Medicare, Third-Party liability, other insurance, etc.) has denied or made only partial payment of a claim for services or items requiring prior authorization and it would have been unreasonable to expect the provider to have requested authorization prior to rendering the service;

2. Retroactive determination of eligibility;

3. An "administrative emergency" existed because communication between the provider and the staff of the New Jersey Medicaid program could not be established (for example, during a weekend, holiday or evening) and provision of the service should not have been delayed. This differs from a medical emergency in that the beneficiary's condition would not be impaired if the service was not provided (see example below). In such instances, the request for retroactive authorization, including an explanation of the circumstances as well as the medical documentation supporting the services, shall be submitted to the Medicaid District Office or Central Office, as appropriate, within five calendar days after the service was provided or initiated. If verbal authorization was obtained, confirming written documentation shall follow.

Example: A physician orders a Medicaid beneficiary home from the hospital on a Friday evening. The beneficiary requires an electrical hospital bed, but the Medical Supplier is unable to contact the Medicaid District Office to obtain prior authorization. It is advantageous to the Medicaid program, the hospital and the patient to discharge the beneficiary and not wait until authorization for the bed is requested on Monday; or

4. In situations not covered by (b)1, 2, and 3 above, the New Jersey Medicaid program follows the doctrine of reasonableness which asks, "Is it reasonable to conclude that the situation presented warrants waiver of procedural rules?"

Amended by R.1997 d.354, effective September 2, 1997.
See: 29 N.J.R. 2512(a), 29 N.J.R. 3856(a).

Substituted "beneficiaries" and "beneficiary's" for "recipients" or "recipient's" throughout; in (a), substituted "Provider Services Chapter" for "Provider Services Manuals"; and in (a)3, substituted "Medicaid Agent" for "Director".

Case Notes

Unusual circumstances required retroactive authorization for payment of Medicaid services notwithstanding failure to obtain prior authorization. *Pendleton Bradley Hospital v. Division of Medical Assistance*, 95 N.J.A.R.2d (DMA) 23.

Adapted tricycle was medically required for treating chronic encephalopathy. *K.H. v. Division of Medical Assistance and Health Services*, 93 N.J.A.R.2d (DMA) 3.

10:49-6.2 Out-of-State medical care and services

(a) Any covered service that requires prior authorization as a prerequisite for reimbursement to New Jersey Medicaid providers shall also require prior authorization if it is to be provided in any other state.

1. Services which require prior authorization are described in the specific Medicaid Provider Services Manual.

Amended by R.1997 d.354, effective September 2, 1997.
See: 29 N.J.R. 2512(a), 29 N.J.R. 3856(a).

Deleted (a) and (c); and recodified former (b) as (a).

SUBCHAPTER 7. SUBMITTING CLAIMS FOR PAYMENT (POLICIES AND REGULATIONS)

10:49-7.1 General provisions

(a) The following information outlines the policies and regulations of the New Jersey Medicaid program that the provider shall adhere to when submitting a claim and requesting payment for services provided to a New Jersey Medicaid recipient. (To identify a Medicaid recipient, see N.J.A.C. 10:49-2.)

1. Each Provider Services Manual has information relevant to basis of payment for services and items of payment provided that is usually found in the second chapter of each manual.

2. For requirements of the Division of Medical Assistance and Health Services and the New Jersey State Department of Health and Senior Services when submitting a claim to be considered for the charity care component of the disproportionate share subsidies for hospital services and other rules regarding eligibility for these services, see N.J.A.C. 10:52-10 and 10A.

(b) In addition to information in this subchapter about submitting claims for payment, a Fiscal Agent Billing Supplement is included following each Provider Services Manual. Included in the Supplement are prior authorization forms and instructions; information for the proper completion and submission of claim forms; the procedure to follow when claims are rejected and returned to the provider by the Fiscal Agent during the adjudication process; third party liability verification, procedure for submitting cross-over claims, and examples of timely submission of claims; electronic media claims (EMC) submission; Remittance Advice Statements; procedures for Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT); adjustments for overpayment of claims, and adjustments by Medicare; procedure to follow when a claim is paid in error (voids); procedure for inquiries about claims; procedure for ordering forms; information about provider services; and item-by-item instructions for completing the claim form and other forms.

1. The Fiscal Agent Billing Supplement is not published in the New Jersey Administrative Code (N.J.A.C.) but is referenced as an appendix and is thus, not a legal description of the New Jersey Medicaid program's rules. Should there be any conflict between the Fiscal Agent Billing Supplement and the pertinent laws or rules governing the Medicaid program or the charity care program, the laws and rules of the Medicaid program and the charity care program, as appropriate, take precedence.

Amended by R.1997 d.354, effective September 2, 1997.
See: 29 N.J.R. 2512(a), 29 N.J.R. 3856(a).

In (a), substituted "beneficiary" for "recipient"; in (b), deleted "form" or "forms" following "claim" and "claims".

Amended by R.1997 d.520, effective January 5, 1998.
See: 29 N.J.R. 1006(a), 30 N.J.R. 232(a).

Inserted (a)2; in (b), clarified precedence of Medicaid rules over Fiscal Agent Billing Supplement, and added references to "charity care program."

10:49-7.2 Timeliness of claim submission and inquiry

(a) A claim is defined as a request for payment from the New Jersey Medicaid program for a Medicaid reimbursable service provided to a Medicaid recipient. For disproportionate share data collection purposes only, a claim is defined as a request for the New Jersey charity care program to price the services rendered and consider those services when determining the amount of subsidy to be afforded to New Jersey hospitals. The charity care claim properly identifies the hospital, the service(s) rendered, the recipient of the service(s), the date(s) of the service, and any other data required by the State.

1. For a Medicaid claim, the claim for payment from the Medicaid program may be submitted hard copy or by means of an approved method of automated data exchange. A claim for pricing of charity care hospital services is a request to the New Jersey charity care program, which shall be submitted by an approved method of automated data exchange within 180 days of the charity care determination. In order for a Medicaid claim to be considered, all appropriate documentation shall be included with the claim form.

2. It is the responsibility of the provider to ensure that each Medicaid claim submitted by that provider is received by the New Jersey Medicaid program's Fiscal Agent within the time periods indicated in this section.

i. The New Jersey Medicaid program shall not reimburse for a claim received outside the prescribed time periods. This policy also applies to inquiries concerning a claim or claim related information received outside the prescribed time periods.

ii. For retroactive eligibility cases, a claim associated with a retroactive eligibility application will be considered as received on the date of receipt of the application on behalf of the applicant. For information about retroactive eligibility, see 10:49-2.7.

(b) An institutional claim is a claim submitted by a hospital; home health agency; nursing facility; intermediate care facility/mental retardation (ICF/MR); residential treatment center; or governmental psychiatric hospital. The time requirements for submitting an institutional claim is as follows:

1. For claims submitted by home health agencies and hospitals (excluding governmental psychiatric hospitals), a claim for payment of a service provided to any Medicaid beneficiary shall be received by the New Jersey Medicaid Fiscal Agent within:

i. One year of the date of discharge on an inpatient hospital claim;

ii. One year of the date of service entered on an outpatient hospital claim or home health claim;

iii. One year of the earliest date of service entered on an outpatient hospital claim or home health claim, if the claim carries more than one date of service; or

iv. For early and Periodic Screening, Diagnosis and Treatment (EPSDT) including pediatric HealthStart services, claims must be submitted to the Fiscal Agent within 30 days of the provision of services.

2. For claims submitted by a nursing facility; an intermediate care facility for the mentally retarded; a residential treatment center; or a governmental psychiatric hospital, a claim for payment for services shall be received by the fiscal agent no later than one year after the "from date of service" as indicated on the claim.

(c) A non-institutional claim is a claim submitted by all providers except a hospital, home health agency, nursing facility, intermediate care facility/mental retardation (ICF/MR), residential treatment center, or governmental psychiatric hospital. The time requirements for submitting a non-institutional claim are as follows:

1. A claim for payment of a non-institutional service provided to any Medicaid beneficiary shall be received by the New Jersey Medicaid Fiscal Agent within:

i. One year of the date of service;

ii. One year of the earliest date of service entered on the claim if the claim carries more than one date of service;

iii. One year (365 days) of the dispensing date on a pharmacy claim; or

iv. For early and Periodic Screening, Diagnosis and Treatment (EPSDT) including pediatric HealthStart services, claims must be submitted to the Fiscal Agent within 30 days of the provision of services.

(d) The time requirements for submitting a combination Medicare/Medicaid or Medicare/NJ KidCare claim are as follows (Under Federal regulations this applies only to Medicare/Medicaid or Medicare/NJ Kid Care claims and does not extend to claims involving any other third party insurance.):

1. A combination Medicare/Medicaid claim is defined as a request for payment from the New Jersey Medicaid program for a medical service provided to any Medicare/Medicaid beneficiary.

i. The claim shall contain the Medicaid Eligibility Identification Number, the Medicare three digit carrier/payor code, and the Medicare HIC Number.

2. A combination Medicare/Medicaid claim shall be received by the Medicare Intermediary/Carrier within the applicable Medicaid timely submission period (see (b) and (c) above) to be considered for further payment by the New Jersey Medicaid program.

i. The provider shall continue to have one year from the date of service for a claim to be received by the Medicaid Fiscal Agent. A claim received by the Medicaid Fiscal Agent after Medicare adjudication and within one year from the date of service shall be considered timely submitted.

ii. For combination Medicare/Medicaid claims received by the Medicare Intermediary/Carrier within the applicable Medicaid timely submission period and where Medicare adjudication occurs beyond the one year of the date of service, the provider shall submit a claim to be received by the Medicaid Fiscal Agent within 90 days of the date of the Medicare adjudication.

iii. For Medicare/Medicaid claims where the Medicare adjudication occurs within one year from the date of service, but less than 90 days remain within the timely filing period, the provider shall submit the claim to be received by Medicaid within the one year timely filing period or 90 days, whichever is later.

iv. A combination Medicare/Medicaid claim received outside the applicable Medicaid timely submission period shall not be reimbursed by the New Jersey Medicaid program.

3. In most cases, when a beneficiary is eligible for both Medicare and Medicaid, or Medicare and NJ KidCare, a Medicare/Medicaid approved claim will crossover from the Medicare Carrier/Intermediary to the Program's Fiscal Agent. The provider is requested to allow 45 days from Medicare adjudication for the Medicaid or NJ KidCare program to receive and process crossover claims. Failure to allow the 45 days for the transition from Medicare to Medicaid or NJ KidCare may result in payment delays due to duplicate claim errors. There are instances, however, where claims will not cross over from Medicare. In those instances, or when a Medicare/Medicaid or Medicare/NJ KidCare crossover is not reflected on the provider's Medicaid Remittance Advise within 45 days of the Medicare Explanation of Benefits (EOB), the provider shall follow the billing instructions in the Fiscal Agent Billing Supplement following the second chapter of the Provider Services Manual.

(e) If additional information is required in order to process a claim, the provider shall supply the information as soon as possible, but not more than 90 days after the end of the applicable timely submission period.

(f) Regarding an adjudicated claim inquiry, a provider may inquire about a claim that has been paid or denied but shall make the inquiry within 90 days of the date of adjudication as indicated on the Remittance Advice Statement.

(g) Regarding a non-adjudicated claim inquiry, a provider may inquire about the status of a claim for which neither payment nor denial has been received. The inquiry may be made at any time after the claim is received, but not more than 90 days after the end of the applicable timely submission period.

(h) Claims may be paid beyond 12 months of the date of receipt with Federal financial participation (FFP) in the following situations:

1. When the claim invoice or retroactive adjustment is paid to a provider reimbursed under a retrospective payment system;
2. For a Medicare/Medicaid claim, timely filed, Medicaid payment may be made for services within six months after the program or provider receives notice of the Medicare claim disposition for a timely filed Medicare/Medicaid claim;
3. For claims from providers under investigation for fraud or abuse; or
4. For claims associated with administrative or legal actions pursuant to a hearing action or agency corrective action mandate, whether for an eligible individual or for all those eligibles affected in a similar manner.

Amended by R.1997 d.354, effective September 2, 1997.
See: 29 N.J.R. 2512(a), 29 N.J.R. 3856(a).

Substituted "beneficiary" for "recipient" and deleted "form" following "claim" throughout; and in (b)2, substituted "Medicaid Eligibility Identification Number" for "HSP (Medicaid) Case Number" and inserted reference to three digit carrier/payer.

Amended by R.1997 d.520, effective January 5, 1998.

See: 29 N.J.R. 1006(a), 30 N.J.R. 232(a).

Rewrote (a), inserted new (a)1 and recodified existing (a)1 as (a)2.

Amended by R.1998 d.116, effective January 30, 1998 (operative February 1, 1998; to expire July 31, 1998).

See: 30 N.J.R. 713(a).

In (d), inserted references to Medicare/NJ KidCare and to NJ KidCare, and made corresponding language changes, throughout, and inserted a reference to Medicare and NJ KidCare in the first sentence of 3.

Case Notes

Evidence of provider's custom or practice of mailing reimbursement claims against New Jersey Medicaid Program fund, together with other evidence, was sufficient, under preponderance of evidence standard, to create presumption that disputed claims were mailed and received. SSI Medical Services, Inc. v. State Dept. of Human Services, Div. of Medical Assistance and Health Services, 146 N.J. 614, 685 A.2d 1 (1996).

Evidence supported finding that medical service provider timely submitted its Medicaid claims to fiscal agent for Division of Medical Assistance and Health Services: fiscal agent probably lost them. SSI Medical Services, Inc. v. State, Dept. of Human Services, Div. of Medical Assistance and Health Services, 284 N.J.Super. 184, 664 A.2d 505 (A.D.1995).

Delay between claim receipt and claim processing was that of agency, not that of provider and did not warrant denial of Medicaid reimbursement for untimeliness. Bergen Pines County v. Division of Medical Assistance, 95 N.J.A.R.2d (DMA) 30.

Twelve-month rule not applicable; government failed to give hospital provider number. Bergen Pines County Hospital v. Division of Medical Assistance and Health Services, 93 N.J.A.R.2d (DMA) 54.

Billing agent's error did not provide exception from one-year period. Pan American Pharmacy, Inc. v. Division of Medical Assistance and Health Services, 93 N.J.A.R.2d (DMA) 32.

Mismanagement by primary insurer no reason for relaxing time frames. Newark Beth Israel Medical Center v. Division of Medical Assistance and Health Services, 93 N.J.A.R.2d (DMA) 27.

Failure to receive determination from primary carrier did not excuse untimely application for Medicaid. Carrier Foundation v. Division of Medical Assistance and Health Services, 93 N.J.A.R.2d (DMA) 17.

Medicaid claim untimely; computer-indicated error not corrected for over one year. Lincoln Park Intermediate Care Center v. Division of Medical Assistance and Health Services, 92 N.J.A.R.2d (DMA) 63.

Claims for Medicaid reimbursement not timely filed. Jewish Hospital and Rehabilitation Center v. Division of Medical Assistance and Health Services, 92 N.J.A.R.2d (DMA) 53.

Corrected copy was sufficient notice of filing of discharge in error. Courthouse Convalescent Center v. Division of Medical Assistance and Health Services, 92 N.J.A.R.2d (DMA) 43.

Claim for reimbursement not filed within one year of date of discharge. Holy Name Hospital v. Division of Medical Assistance and Health Services, 92 N.J.A.R.2d (DMA) 36.

Hospital's claims for Medicaid reimbursement were untimely. Holy Name Hospital v. Division of Medical Assistance and Health Services, 92 N.J.A.R.2d (DMA) 33.

Long term care facility's claim for payment was untimely. Leisure Chateau Care Center v. Division of Medical Assistance and Health Services, 92 N.J.A.R.2d (DMA) 31.

Medicaid reimbursement; properly completed claims timely filed after rejection of improperly submitted claims. *Leader Nursing and Rehabilitation Center v. Division of Medical Assistance and Health Services*, 92 N.J.A.R.2d (DMA) 21.

Home care visits could not be added to cost report in absence of timely claim. *Long Branch Public Health Nursing Association, Inc. v. Division of Medical Assistance and Health Services*, 92 N.J.A.R.2d (DMA) 10.

10:49-7.3 Third party liability (TPL) benefits

(a) "Third party liability" (TPL) exists when any person, institution, corporation, insurance company, absent parent, Medicare program, public, private, or governmental entity is or may be liable in contract, tort, or otherwise by law or equity to pay all or part of the cost of medical assistance payable by the Medicaid program.

1. It is a violation of section 1902(a)(25)(D) of the Federal Social Security Act to refuse to furnish covered services to any Medicaid beneficiary because of a third party's potential liability to pay for services.

(b) Medicaid benefits are last-payment benefits. All TPL, for example, health insurance, Medicare, CHAMPUS, prepaid health plans, workers' compensation and auto insurance, shall, if available, be used first and to the fullest extent in meeting the cost of the medical needs of the Medicaid beneficiary, subject to the exceptions listed in (h) below.

(c) The New Jersey Medicaid program will supplement the amount paid by a third party, but the combined total paid to the provider shall not exceed the total amount payable under the program in the absence of any TPL. The following exceptions should be noted:

1. Medicare: The program will make payment in the full amount of the Medicare Part A deductible and co-insurance for inpatient hospital services, and Part B ambulatory care.

2. Contracting practitioners: No program payments shall be made when the third party calls for a contracting or participating practitioner to accept the TPL as payment in full.

(d) Medicaid participating providers are prohibited from billing Medicaid beneficiaries for any amount, except:

1. For services, goods, or supplies not covered or authorized by the New Jersey Medical Assistance and Health Services Act (N.J.S.A. 30:4D-1 et seq.) if the beneficiary elected to receive the services, goods, or supplies with the knowledge that they were not covered or authorized; or

2. For payments made to the beneficiary by a third party on claims submitted to the third party by the provider.

(e) When a Medicaid beneficiary has other health insurance, the program requires that such benefits be used first and to the fullest extent, subject to the exceptions in (h) below. Supplementation may be made by the program, but the combined total paid shall not exceed the amount payable under the program in the absence of other coverage. The program shall not supplement covered services rendered by a participating or contracting practitioner with any private health coverage program where the private plan calls for the practitioner to accept that plan's payment as payment in full. When other health insurance is involved, supplementation claims shall not be filed with the program unless accompanied by a statement of payment, Explanation of Benefits (EOB), or denial from the other carrier. Attachment of such information will expedite Medicaid claim processing.

1. Medicare is a health insurance program which covers certain aged and disabled persons. When rendering Medicare-covered services to any Medicaid beneficiary, providers shall inquire about Medicare eligibility especially if the third digit of the Medicaid Eligibility Identification Number is a 1, 2, 5, or 7.

(f) When a Medicaid beneficiary has benefits available, such as those described above or from any other liable third party, an approved Medicaid provider shall be authorized to sign an insurance claim for the Commissioner, based on the third party assignment of rights, in order to receive direct payment from the insurer. This is done pursuant to N.J.S.A. 30:4D-7.1(c). The following language shall be used by the provider when completing insurance claims: "(signature of authorized provider), Assignee for the Commissioner, New Jersey Department of Human Services."

(g) When recovery of benefits is sought by the Medicaid program from a liable third-party, the Commissioner shall authorize the Director or his designee(s) to sign the recovery demand.

(h) TPL may be exhausted, but is not required to be, before a claim is submitted for Medicaid payment in any of the following circumstances:

1. The TPL benefits are derived from a parent whose obligation to pay support is being enforced by the State Title IV-D agency;