

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. The claim may be submitted hard copy or by means of an approved method of automated data exchange. In order for a Medicaid claim to be considered for reimbursement, all appropriate documentation shall be included with the claim form.

1. 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; 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 recipient 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 form 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; intermediate care facility/mental retardation; residential treatment center; or government 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" on the claim form.

(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, residential treatment center, or governmental psychiatric hospital. The time requirements for submitting a non-institutional claim is as follows:

1. A claim for payment of a non-institutional service provided to any Medicaid recipient 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 form if the claim form carries more than one date of service;

iii. One year (365 days) of the dispensing date on a pharmacy claim form; 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 claim are as follows (Under Federal regulations, this applies only to Medicare/Medicaid 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 recipient.

i. The claim form shall contain both the HSP (Medicaid) Case Number 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 recipient is eligible for both Medicare and Medicaid, a Medicare/Medicaid claim will cross over from the Medicare Carrier/Intermediary to the Medicaid Fiscal Agent. The provider is requested to allow 45 days from Medicare adjudication for the Medicaid Program to receive and process crossover claims. Failure to allow the 45 days for the transition from Medicare to Medicaid may result in payment delays due to duplicate claim errors. There are instances, however, where claims will not cross over from Medicare to Medicaid. In those instances, or when a Medicare/Medicaid crossover is not reflected on the provider's Medicaid Remittance Advice 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.

Case Notes

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 under this act.