

Kenosha County Department of Human Services

Medicaid Newsletter

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Jerry Cronin, DHS Medicaid Coordinator

jcronin@co.kenosha.wi.us

(262) 697-4648

ForwardHealth- Changes in Wisconsin Medicaid

There are big changes coming in the world of Wisconsin Medicaid. The changes include the type of identification cards distributed, the ways enrollees are named and the manner in which eligibility is checked and claims are billed. Perhaps the best way to provide an overview of the changes is to give some definitions of new terms:



ForwardHealth: ForwardHealth brings together many state health care programs... including BadgerCare Plus, Wisconsin Medicaid, Senior Care, Wisconsin Well Woman, and various managed care programs such as BadgerCare Plus HMO's, Medicaid SSI HMO's, Family Care and others.

Members: This is the shared term to describe a person receiving services under a ForwardHealth health care program.

Enrollment: This term replaces "eligibility" as the way to describe a member's status within a ForwardHealth health care program.

Rendering Provider: This is the term replacing "performing provider."

WiCall: The new name for the Automated Voice Response System.

ForwardHealth interchange: ForwardHealth interchange is the new system which replaces the current Medicaid Management Information System (MMIS) which has been in place since 1977.

National Provider Identifier (NPI): NPI is a unique 10 digit number that all Medicaid providers must apply for and report to ForwardHealth.

Remittance Advice: This is the new name for the Remittance and Status (R&S) Report.

New Member ID and Cards
In addition, there will be new ForwardHealth Member cards and ID numbers. *That is correct, there will be new 10 digit Member ID numbers replacing the current system based on an individual's Social Security number.*

Some enrollees will be assigned a New Member ID number before they receive a new ForwardHealth card.

The cards with the new numbers will begin to be sent out in October. The cards will not be distributed all at once, but rather to one geographical region of the state at a time.

For billing purposes, Wisconsin Medicaid will accept either the old MA# or the new number for the time being. ForwardHealth transactions will return with the new ID number on the Remittance form. However all adjustments to claims will need the new number and after an undetermined amount of time only the new MA numbers will be accepted.

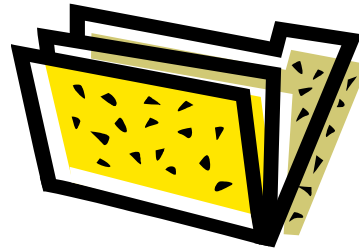
Some of these changes are already in effect with more of them scheduled for October 2008 and beyond. The planned last date for submitting both PES and electronic transactions is Friday, October 10th and the new system is planned to start Monday, October 13th. The planned last date for submitting paper claims under the old system is Friday, September 26th.

These are all planned dates as nothing is firm yet. If the majority of providers are not ready, the implementation date will be pushed back. For more information on these and other changes, please visit the ForwardHealth website- <http://dhs.wisconsin.gov/ForwardHealth/> or contact me at the e-mail/ phone above....

File Reviews/ Education

In order for Kenosha County to bill Wisconsin Medicaid, there are

requirements for documentation that are to be met.



The county bills MA for a number of services such as Targeted Case Management, Comprehensive Community Services(CCS), Community Support Program (CSP), Crisis Intervention, Birth to 3 and others. To help ensure the documentation complies as much as possible with MA guidelines, regular file reviews are performed on a sample of charts, in addition to those reviews performed by the provider agency. Feedback from these reviews is given to the Service Facilitator or Case Manager.

On the theory that it is always better to prevent problems, ongoing training in Medicaid documentation is offered. Either individual or group educational sessions are offered for new Service Facilitators or Case Managers, or for those in need of refreshing their knowledge.

Please contact me to set up a training session or if you have any questions or areas or files you would like me to review. Additional information is also available at the ForwardHealth website.