



**RHODE ISLAND MEDICAL  
ASSISTANCE PROGRAM**

**PROVIDER UPDATE**

**ALL PROVIDERS**

**REMITTANCE ADVICE GOING TO ELECTRONIC FORMAT**

The Rhode Island Medical Assistance Program (RIMAP) will soon discontinue the mailing of paper remittance advices. *All remittance advices will be available to providers for download and/or printing on the Department of Human Services (DHS) website only. Paper copies will not be mailed once the change occurs.*

If you do not currently have an active Trading Partner Agreement (TPA) with DHS, you are strongly encouraged to obtain one immediately. You will not be able to access your remittance advice until you have a Trading Partner number. The TPA request/application and instructions can be found on the DHS website at <http://www.dhs.ri.gov/ForProvidersVendors/MedicalAssistanceProviders/FormsApplications/>

Watch for updates on the Banner Page of your current Remittance Advices and Provider Update newsletters. If you are not sure you already have a TPA with RI Medical Assistance, please send an email to Sandra Bates at [sandra.bates@hp.com](mailto:sandra.bates@hp.com). Be sure to include your name and provider ID. If you have general questions, please contact the Customer Service Help Desk at 401-784-8100.

<b>TABLE OF CONTENTS</b>	<b>PAGE</b>
ALL PROVIDERS	1
PHARMACIES DURABLE MEDICAL EQUIPMENT PROVIDERS	2
HOSPITAL PROVIDERS	3-4

## PHARMACY DURABLE MEDICAL EQUIPMENT PROVIDERS

### PHARMACIES PROCESSING DME CLAIMS

Recently pharmacies having trouble submitting Durable Medical Equipment (DME) claims for payment have been contacting the help desk. Here is some information which will help DME claims process more efficiently.

#### A few reminders:

- Only pharmacies which are participating DME providers may bill for DME supplies
- DME items most commonly billed by pharmacies are diabetic supplies (test strips and lancets), incontinence supplies, canes, crutches, walkers and nutritional supplements (Boost, Ensure)
- In all cases, EDS needs to receive a HCPCS code which is the basis for DME claim payments. Some pharmacy systems capture an NDC, but your system changes the NDC to a HCPCS code prior to the claim reaching EDS

#### Billing and error messages:

- Pharmacies may bill DME claims either electronically through their own or a vendor's software, on paper CMS 1500 forms, or through the free PES software offered by EDS
- Pharmacies receiving error messages indicating "payable through a DME program" are not using their DME provider number to submit
- Pharmacies receiving error messages that "the recipient is not eligible for these services" should check eligibility by calling 401-784-8100 and using the automated REVS line or speaking with a representative at the help desk

#### Additional resources:

- Directions for completing the paper CMS 1500 form are found at [http://www.dhs.ri.gov/dhs/heacre/provsvcs/manuals/cms1500\\_directions.pdf](http://www.dhs.ri.gov/dhs/heacre/provsvcs/manuals/cms1500_directions.pdf)
- Directions for submitting an electronic claim in PES are found at [http://www.dhs.ri.gov/dhs/hipaa/Install\\_0507/cheat\\_sheets/professional\\_837.pdf](http://www.dhs.ri.gov/dhs/hipaa/Install_0507/cheat_sheets/professional_837.pdf)
- When calling about a claim, please have the following information available: the pharmacy's DME NPI, the recipient identification number, date of service and HCPCS code
- Pharmacies may contact our help desk or DME Provider Representative, Jeanne Giroux, at 401-784-8826 or [jeanne.giroux@hp.com](mailto:jeanne.giroux@hp.com) with any other error messages which cannot be understood

## **HOSPITAL PROVIDERS**

Rhode Island Medical Assistance will be implementing All Patient Refined Diagnosis Related Groups (APR-DRGs) for pricing of inpatient claims effective with admission date April 1, 2010.

This new payment method will apply to almost all stays. The exceptions are Medicare crossover stays, sub-acute mental health stays and stays where pediatric patients with dual diagnoses of mental illness and intellectual or developmental disability are expected to require highly specialized acute care for a period of weeks or months.

APR-DRGs were chosen because they are suitable for use with a Medicaid population, especially with regard to neonatal and pediatric care, and because they incorporate sophisticated clinical logic to capture the differences in co-morbidities and complications that can significantly affect hospital resource use. Each stay is assigned first to one of 314 base APR-DRGs. Then, each stay is assigned to one of four levels of severity (minor, moderate, major or extreme) that are specific to the base APR-DRG.

Rhode Island Medical Assistance will be implementing version 27 of the APR-DRG software. For more information on APR-DRGs, please visit the following web site:  
[www.3m.com/us/healthcare/his/products/coding/refined\\_drg.html](http://www.3m.com/us/healthcare/his/products/coding/refined_drg.html)

Please visit the Rhode Island Department of Human Services web site periodically for more information on the change to APR-DRGs. You may also contact Kelly Leighton at [kelly.leighton@hp.com](mailto:kelly.leighton@hp.com) for more information.

**HOSPITAL PROVIDERS**

**OUTPATIENT PRICING REMINDER**

RI Medical Assistance policy states that multiple surgical procedures and imaging (within the same family) will be subject to multiple procedure discounting if they are performed on the same date of service. RI Medical Assistance processing assumes that all details billed on the same claim are for the same date of service. Therefore, if there are multiple procedures that fall into these categories they will be subject to the discounting even if the actual dates of service on the claim are different. This may result in an incorrect payment.

In order to ensure that you are paid appropriately, please do not span bill these claims. Please bill each date of service on its own claim. This will ensure that you receive payment based on the policy.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Alfred Izzo at 401-784-8858 or [Alfred.izzo@hp.com](mailto:Alfred.izzo@hp.com).

