



## More about NPI...

Effective May 23, 2007, providers who are covered entities under HIPAA must begin using their own unique **National Provider Identifier (NPI)** to identify themselves in standard transactions where an NPI is required, such as filing electronic health care claims, eligibility inquiries, and claims status inquiries.

The January 12, 2006 issue of the Web Tool Times explained the NPI application process and listed various NPI resources. Providers are encouraged to begin using NPI to identify themselves in standard transactions as soon as possible to make the transition a smooth process.

For additional resources, please refer to the following Web sites:

- <http://new.cms.hhs.gov/NationalProvIdentStand/>
- <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/apps/npi/npiviewlet.asp>
- <http://www.dhhs.state.sc.us/dhhsnew>

For more NPI information see page 2 of this issue.

## Let's Talk About... NPI in List Management: A Review

The January 2006 issue of the Web Tool Times highlighted new fields available for all claim types (CMS-1500, UB-92, and Dental) on the Web Tool to allow input of the NPI when entering information for claims entry and eligibility inquiries. These fields allow providers who have already received their NPIs to begin using NPI and Taxonomy codes in Claims Entry and Eligibility Verification.

Web Tool changes that were effective February 7, 2006 also allow the addition of NPI and Taxonomy codes to the Provider List in List Management.

### Main Menu>List Management>Provider Provider List Add/View Screen

**Providers List - Add/View**

**Add Provider Information**

Provider Last Name or Organization Name:  Provider:

Medicaid Provider ID:  National Provider ID:  Provider Taxonomy:

**Provider Information: (4 records)**

| Provider Last Name or Organization Name | Provider First Name | Medicaid Provider ID | National Provider ID | Provider Taxonomy | Status | Edit                                | Delete                                |
|---|---------------------|----------------------|----------------------|-------------------|--------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Alpha                                   |                     | 234456               |                      |                   | A      | <input type="button" value="Edit"/> | <input type="button" value="Delete"/> |
| Morrell Clinical Services               |                     | 895490               |                      |                   | A      | <input type="button" value="Edit"/> | <input type="button" value="Delete"/> |
| Outreach                                | Provider            | 854321               | 0987654321           | 987654321x        | A      | <input type="button" value="Edit"/> | <input type="button" value="Delete"/> |
| Smith                                   | Jacly-o             | 456789               |                      |                   | A      | <input type="button" value="Edit"/> | <input type="button" value="Delete"/> |

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 1 Let's Talk About
- 2 Frequently Asked Questions
- 2 What's New...
- 3 Web Tool Workshop Schedule



## Frequently Asked Questions

# What's New...



### ***National Provider Identifier – Frequently Asked Questions***

#### ***What is NPI?***

A unique 10-digit identifier required under HIPAA.

#### ***Which providers need an NPI?***

Health care providers who are individuals that use standard electronic transactions (physicians, nurse practitioners, nurse midwives, CRNAs, chiropractors, dentists, psychologists, physical therapists, speech therapists, audiologists, occupational therapists, optometrists, podiatrists, etc.); and health care providers that are organizations that use standard electronic transactions (hospitals, clinics, lab/X-ray, home health, DME, ambulance, group practices, infusion centers, ambulatory surgical centers, etc.).

#### ***Where do I obtain an NPI?***

From the National Plan and Provider Enumeration System (NPPES) : <https://nppes.cms.hhs.gov>  
If you have not yet applied for your NPI, you should do so NOW!

#### ***What is the timeline for implementation?***

Effective May 23, 2007 providers and payers may ONLY use NPI in standard electronic transactions such as electronic claims, eligibility queries, claims status queries and electronic remittances. Legacy provider numbers, such as your six-character Medicaid number will no longer be used. The NPI will replace Medicaid, Medicare, BCBS, UPIN, Tri-Care and other payer IDs.

#### ***Why should I use an NPI now instead of waiting until the mandatory implementation date?***

By obtaining, sharing and using NPI on claims between now and May 23, 2007, providers can partner with South Carolina Medicaid to accomplish a smooth transition and uninterrupted reimbursement. Providers can also identify any changes in business processes or systems to address with their clearinghouse or practice management system.

*Continued on page 3.*

### ***Change in Technical Requirements***

To use the Web Tool, you must have an Internet Service Provider (ISP) and an Internet connection. Prior to January 1, you could access the Web Tool with Internet Explorer 5.0. Effective January 1, 2006, your Internet Explorer must be 6.0 or higher with 128-bit encryption.

To verify your version of Internet Explorer, click Help on the Internet browser bar. A drop-down menu will appear. Choose About Internet Explorer. A window will appear on your screen detailing the version you have.

### ***Do you know the Basics?***

Are you new to SC Medicaid? Or do you have new staff working in your office? Would you like a basic refresher?

In January 2006, SCDHHS introduced a new class that is offered monthly to South Carolina Medicaid providers. Medicaid Basics presents an overview of South Carolina Medicaid that includes specific information about eligibility, claim filing options, the remittance package, Third Party Liability, and adjustments.

To register, contact South Carolina Medicaid Provider Outreach toll-free at 1-888-289-0709 or online at [www.scm Medicaid provider.org](http://www.scm Medicaid provider.org).

**Thursday, April 27, 2006 (Lunch on your own)**  
**Thursday, May 25, 2006 (Lunch on your own)**  
**Tuesday, June 27, 2006 (Lunch on your own)**

The workshops are 10:00am-3:30pm, at:  
BlueCross BlueShield of SC  
4101 Percival Road  
Columbia, SC 29223

# Web Tool Workshops

## 2006 Workshops Scheduled through June!

South Carolina Medicaid continues to offer Web Tool workshops in Columbia, South Carolina for providers who have not yet had the chance to attend or who would like a refresher course.

Please register online at [www.scm Medicaid provider.org](http://www.scm Medicaid provider.org) or call the toll-free number for South Carolina Medicaid Provider Outreach at 1-888-289-0709.

### **April 13, 2006**

**Thursday**

**10:00am – 3:30pm (Lunch on your own)**

### **May 11, 2006**

**Thursday**

**10:00am – 3:30pm (Lunch on your own)**

### **June 20, 2006**

**Tuesday**

**10:00am – 4:00pm (Lunch on your own)**

All of the above workshops will be held at:  
BlueCross BlueShield of SC  
4101 Percival Road  
Columbia, SC 29223

Enroll today to attend a workshop!

## *National Provider Identifier – Frequently Asked Questions*

*Continued from page 4.*

### ***What should providers do once they get an NPI?***

Share your NPI with South Carolina Medicaid and other payers. For Medicaid, providers can

1. Register online at:  
<https://secure.dhhs.state.sc.us/npi/index.asp>

OR

2. Send a copy of the document you received from the enumerator to:  
Medicaid Provider Enrollment,  
Mailing address: PO Box 8809  
Columbia, SC 29202-8809  
Fax: 803-699-8637  
Email: [provider.enrollment@bcbsc.com](mailto:provider.enrollment@bcbsc.com)

Include your NPI and your legacy provider number on electronic claims NOW. Refer to the South Carolina Medicaid Companion Guides, located at:

<http://www.dhhs.state.sc.us/dhhsnew/hipaa/Companion%20Guides.asp>, for information regarding placement of the NPI.

### ***What is the contact information for NPPES?***

**Web address:** <https://nppes.cms.hhs.gov>

**Toll-free number:** (800) 465-3203 or  
(800) 692-2326 (TTY)  
for a paper application

**Email address:** [customerservice@npienumerator.com](mailto:customerservice@npienumerator.com)

**Mailing address:** NPI Enumerator  
P.O. Box 6059  
Fargo, N.D. 58108-6059

## **Contact Us -**

Please notify us if there are any changes in your address, telephone number, or e-mail address. Be sure to include your SC Medicaid Provider ID.

South Carolina Medicaid Provider Outreach  
P.O. Box 17  
Columbia, SC 29202  
Phone Number: 1-888-289-0709  
Fax Number: 803-264-9630

Visit our Web site at:  
[www.scm Medicaid provider.org](http://www.scm Medicaid provider.org)

You may contact us via e-mail at:  
[edig.ops-mcaid@palmettogba.com](mailto:edig.ops-mcaid@palmettogba.com)

The Web Tool is a free online Web-based application offered by South Carolina Medicaid for claims submission and eligibility requests. For help with Web claims, please call 1-888-289-0709 or e-mail us at [edig.ops-mcaid@palmettogba.com](mailto:edig.ops-mcaid@palmettogba.com).