



State of Louisiana

Department of Health and Hospitals

Office of Management and Finance

May 13, 2011

Dear Pharmacy Provider:

In anticipation of the threat of flooding along the Mississippi River and other affected bodies of water, many Louisiana Medicaid recipients are preparing and/or evacuating and are in need of essential medications. Louisiana Medicaid will assist recipients and providers in as many ways as possible so that recipients may receive their necessary medication. Please advise your patients to safeguard their medication as they would important documents. Providing your patients with printouts of their prescription history would be helpful should they relocate to an area outside of the potential flood zone. You, as a Louisiana Medicaid pharmacy provider, are greatly appreciated as you fulfill Medicaid recipients' needs.

State of Emergency Declared by Governor Jindal

Governor Jindal declared a State of Emergency for the following parishes: Ascension, Assumption, Avoyelles, Caldwell, Catahoula, Concordia, East Baton Rouge, East Carroll, East Feliciana, Evangeline, Franklin, Iberia, Iberville, Lafourche, LaSalle, Lincoln, Madison, Morehouse, Pointe Coupee, Richland, St. Charles, St. James, St. John the Baptist, St. Landry, St. Martin, St. Mary, Tensas, Terrebonne, Union, West Baton Rouge, West Carroll and West Feliciana.

Secretary Greenstein has authorized Medicaid recipients to obtain **up to a thirty day supply** of their prescriptions if they reside in an area which may be potentially affected by the flood. Pharmacists may override the early refills of necessary medications when they receive:

NCPDP rejection code 88 (DUR Reject Error) mapped to **EOB code 445** (Duplicate Drug Therapy) or **EOB code 447** (Compliance Monitoring/Early or Late Refill)

For a prescription override, the pharmacist must supply the codes listed below with the Point of Sale claim.

NCPDP Field	Name of Field	Value	Definition
NCPDP 439-E4	Reason for Service Code	ID	Ingredient Duplication (for different pharmacy)
		ER	Overuse/Early Refill (for same pharmacy)
NCPDP 440-E5	Professional Service Code	M0	Prescriber Consulted
		P0	Patient Consulted
		R0	Pharmacist Consulted Other Source
NCPDP 441-E6	Result of Service Code	1A	Filled As Is; False Positive
		1B	Filled Prescription As Is
		1C	Filled With Different Dose
		1D	Filled With Different Directions
		1E	Filled With Different Drug
		1F	Filled With Different Quantity
		1G	Filled With Prescriber Approval
		2A	Prescription Not Filled
2B	Prescription Filled, Directions Clarified		

Pharmacists shall **document** the required drug utilization review information on the prescription **without** contacting the prescribing provider along with the notation of "**Flood 2011**". This documentation may be accomplished either by direct notation of the approval on the hard copy or electronically through such

means as pharmacists notes/comments, etc., depending on your particular software, and is readily retrievable when requested by audit staff.

Louisiana Board of Pharmacy Regulations

Additionally when the Governor issues a State of Emergency, the Louisiana Board of Pharmacy allows a pharmacist working in the affected parishes to dispense a one-time emergency prescription of **up to a thirty day supply** of a prescribed medication if:

- In the pharmacist's professional opinion the medication is essential to the maintenance of life or to the continuation of therapy; and
- The pharmacist makes a good faith effort to reduce the information to a written prescription marked "Emergency Prescription", then file and maintain the prescription as required by law.

A pharmacist not licensed in Louisiana, but currently licensed in another state, may dispense prescription medications in the affected parish or parishes during the time a state of emergency exists when:

- The pharmacist has some type of identification to verify current unrestricted licensure in another state;
- The pharmacist is engaged in a legitimate relief effort during the emergency period; and
- The pharmacist and pharmacy notify the board of their presence and approximate location in the affected parish or parishes prior to the engagement of professional practice.

The authority provided for in this section shall cease with the termination of the state of emergency.

La. R.S. 46:§ 519

Eligibility and Drug Utilization Data

Pharmacists may access the Louisiana Medicaid website at www.lamedicaid.com. This website is a useful tool to access information regarding recipients, prescribing provider numbers and clinical data. To gain access to the website, providers should follow directions on the website. Providers should obtain a log-in ID and password.

- Providers are able to access the Medicaid Eligibility Verification System (MEVS) to verify recipient eligibility. Providers should have the recipient's name **and** date of birth **or** social security number.
- Providers may access recipient pharmacy claim history through the electronic Clinical Data Inquiry (e-CDI).
- Louisiana enrolled prescribing providers, Medicaid provider numbers and NPIs may be accessed through the RXPA PPN link. The password is KARNARDO2002. The password is case sensitive.

Lock-In Recipients

There may be instances where recipients affected by the flood are also lock-in recipients attempt to have prescriptions filled at non lock-in pharmacies. These pharmacists in their professional opinions may utilize the emergency override procedures to fill these claims if the need is appropriate. These claims should be electronically submitted with a value of "3 = Emergency" in NCPDP field 418-DI (Level of Service). The notation of "Emergency Prescription" should be written on the hard copy prescription.

Any updates will be included on the website at www.lamedicaid.com. Please direct your pharmacy questions to the Louisiana Pharmacy Benefits Management Section at 1-800-437-9101 or 225-342-9768. Your continued efforts to assist Louisiana Medicaid recipients during this trying time are greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,



Don Gregory
Medicaid Director

DG/MJT/alp