

LOUISIANA MEDICAID

HURRICANE KATRINA RECOVERY ASSISTANCE TEMPORARY HOSPITAL POLICY EASEMENTS/SUSPENSIONS

As a result of the impact of Hurricane Katrina on our healthcare community, Louisiana Medicaid has implemented several temporary policy suspensions.

The following policy requirements have been temporarily lifted for recipients identified as Hurricane Katrina evacuees* for dates of service August 27, 2005 forward:

- The pre-certification requirement for inpatient hospital stays;
- The requirement for out-of-state inpatient psychiatric hospitals to stabilize and transfer patients back to Louisiana within 2 days.

The requirement to obtain a CommunityCARE PCP referral for services requiring a referral, the KIDMED provider linkage edit, and the 60-day timely filing edit for KIDMED claims are lifted for specific date ranges and specific parishes. **Please refer to the Hurricane Related RA Messages link for detailed information concerning these policies.**

Hospitals must still obtain prior authorization for hospital related services (i.e., outpatient therapies and ambulatory surgeries performed as inpatient on the first or second day of the stay by state-operated facilities).

We want to take this opportunity to thank the entire medical provider community for the extraordinary efforts being made to provide medical services to all of our Louisiana residents during these trying times.

* Recipients identified as Hurricane Katrina evacuees are those residing in the parishes of Orleans, Jefferson, St. Bernard, St. Tammany, St. Charles, St. John, St. James, LaFourche, Terrebonne, Tangipahoa, Plaquemines, and Washington.