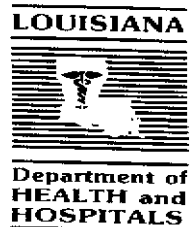




M. J. "Mike" Foster, Jr.
GOVERNOR

STATE OF LOUISIANA
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HOSPITALS



David W. Hood
SECRETARY

January 30, 2002

Dear Pharmacy Provider:

Effective drug utilization review and analysis by the Louisiana Medicaid Pharmacy Benefits Management (LMPBM) and the Louisiana Medicaid Management Information System (LaMMIS) requires a valid five digit only "individual prescriber practitioner ID number" data information. Audits and analyses by the LMPBM and LaMMIS have identified that invalid individual prescriber practitioner numbers are being used in spite of the current educational edits. As a result, DHH intends to implement additional edits on the pharmacy claims "prescriber ID" field.

Effective March 1, 2002, pharmacy claims should be submitted with individual prescriber practitioner ID numbers (i.e. physicians, dentists, podiatrists, optometrists as well as advanced nurse practitioners, certified nurse midwives and clinical nurse specialists with prescriptive authority). An educational alert message with **edit number# 491 - "prescriber number not for individual prescriber"** which is linked to NCPDP **edit code - 25-"missing or invalid prescriber identification"**, will be issued if a provider group number including but not limited to hospitals (private and state operated hospitals), multi specialty clinics and nursing homes is submitted on a pharmacy claim.

Effective July 1, 2002, only pharmacy claims submitted with an individual prescriber number will be allowed through claims processing. All pharmacy claims submitted with prescriber numbers other than an individual prescribing practitioner number in the prescriber provider field will deny. The denial message will be **edit number 489-"Invalid prescriber number"** which is linked to **NCPDP edit code- 25-"missing or invalid prescriber identification"**.

SPECIAL NOTE:

- To help facilitate and assist the pharmacy provider submit accurate individual prescriber ID numbers, DHH and the Five Academic Centers listed below have issued individual prescriber ID numbers to all interns, residents, and fellows currently in training. The pharmacist may contact the following contact persons for each institution listed below whenever the resident does not include his/her prescriber number or if the prescriber name and ID number is not legible. They are:

Baton Rouge General Medical Center
Family Residency Program
Contact: Triage Nurse
ph. 225-381-6620

LSU Medical Center-New Orleans
Contact: Cynthia Scott
ph. 504-568-8632
ph. 504-568-4006

Tulane University - New Orleans
Contact: Chris Antezak
ph. 504-588-5464

LSU Medical Center-Shreveport
Contact: Chasidy Mangham
ph. 318-675-5053

Oschner Medical Foundation
Contact: Reonda Victor
ph. 800-752-6768

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- The following are the contact persons for the state operated hospitals (Charity Hospitals):

Earl K. Long Hospital
Contact: Medical Director's Office
ph. 225-358-1085

Walter O. Moss Hospital
Contact: Medical Director's Office
ph. 337-475-8106

Huey Long Hospital
Contact: Medical Director's Office
ph. 318-473-1426

Chabert Medical Center
Contact: Medical Director's Office
ph. 985-873-1265

Washington St. Tammany Hospital
Contact: Medical Director's Office
ph. 985-735-1322

Lallie Kemp Hospital
Contact: Medical Director's Office
ph. 985-878-1305

University Medical Center
Contact: Medical Director's Office
ph. 337-261-6156

E. A. Conway
Contact: Medical Director's Office
ph. 318-330-7513

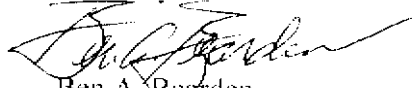
- Most of the prescriber practitioners who deliver health care services in the state operated mental health clinics, developmental centers and public health clinics have been assigned individual prescriber ID numbers.

DHH encourages the use of the following resources to help identify the correct individual prescribing practitioner provider numbers.

- If it is determined that a prescribing practitioner does not have an individual prescriber practitioner provider number, the Unisys Provider Enrollment Unit should be contacted at 225-923-8510.
- It is anticipated that the prescriber number information will be placed on the Provider website, www.lamedicaid.com, in the near future. Notification of this information being placed on the website will be via a remittance advice message.
- Prescribing Provider List distributed by the Louisiana Pharmacists Association
- LMPBM Point of Sale Help Desk at 800-648-0790

The Department appreciates your participation in the Medicaid Program and the pharmacy services which you provide to its recipients.

Sincerely,



Ben A. Bearden
Director

BAB/mjt