



Iowa Department of Human Services

Terry E. Branstad
Governor

Kim Reynolds
Lt. Governor

Charles M. Palmer
Director

INFORMATIONAL LETTER NO.1416

DATE: August 29, 2014

TO: All Iowa Medicaid Providers Excluding Waiver and Individual Consumer Directed Attendant Care (CDAC)

FROM: Iowa Department of Human Services (DHS), Iowa Medicaid Enterprise (IME)

RE: Reminder: Referring or Prescribing Providers Must Be Enrolled With Iowa Medicaid

EFFECTIVE: June 1, 2015

Beginning June 1, 2015, pharmacy claims that are submitted to the IME with a prescribing National Provider Identifier (NPI) that is not enrolled with the Iowa Medicaid program will be denied. This includes any prescription medications processed through the Pharmacy Point of Sale (POS) system including refills on maintenance pharmaceuticals.

This requirement will impact all Iowa Medicaid members. Not enrolling with Iowa Medicaid can delay member access to vital medications and cause unnecessary complications.

Regulations within the Affordable Care Act (ACA) intended to strengthen the integrity of each state's Medicaid program, require that providers who prescribe (order) or are indicated as a referring provider on a Medicaid claim must be enrolled as participating providers in the program. No provider type or facility is exempt from this requirement. The requirement subjects referring or prescribing providers to the same Medicaid screening and verification processes as all other providers indicated on a claim. This helps ensure the integrity of the payment.

Iowa Medicaid already requires referring or prescribing NPIs on claims for consultation, independent lab or durable medical equipment (DME) as announced in [Informational Letter 1330](#)¹ issued on December 10, 2013. Please reference the current [claim form instructions](#)² found on the DHS website for these requirements.

Any organization with residents, physician assistants or licensed medical professionals rendering services that are not enrolled with Iowa Medicaid, should enroll, at minimum, as an ordering/prescribing provider by completing the [Ordering/Referring Provider Enrollment Application](#)³.

The IME appreciates your continued partnership as we work to implement the requirements within the ACA and improve program accountability. If you have any questions please contact the IME Provider Services Unit at 1-800-338-7909, locally in Des Moines at 515-256-4609, or by email at imeproviderservices@dhs.state.ia.us.

¹<http://dhs.iowa.gov/sites/default/files/1330%20Referring%20or%20Prescribing%20Providers%20Must%20be%20Enrolled%20with%20Medicaid.pdf>

²<http://dhs.iowa.gov/ime/providers/claims-and-billing>

³https://dhs.iowa.gov/sites/default/files/470-5111%20ver%202-13_0.pdf

