

**Attention: All Providers****NPI and New Claim Forms Implementation Changes**

DMA will not implement utilization of the National Provider Identifier (NPI) on the originally scheduled implementation date of May 18, 2007. Claims will continue to be adjudicated after the May 23rd date using the Medicaid Provider Number instead. The Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) is concerned about the health care industry's state of readiness with regard to successful implementation of the NPI. CMS will focus on voluntary compliance and is allowing entities covered under the Health Insurance and Portability Act (HIPAA) of 1996 to employ a contingency plan after May 23, 2007. DMA's contingency plan is based on continued use of the Medicaid Provider Number. As a result, the date on which DMA will implement the NPI rule is yet to be determined.

It is important to realize that with the delay in NPI implementation, claims submitted after May 18, 2007 without a Medicaid Provider Number will deny.

Providers should be aware that voluntary compliance does not change the HIPAA requirement that health care providers obtain an NPI by May 23, 2007. DMA will continue to collect NPI information from providers, and the N. C. Medicaid program strongly encourages providers to immediately begin submitting claims that contain both their Medicaid Provider Number and NPI.

In addition, N.C. Medicaid will no longer accept the old CMS 1500 (12/90) after **06/01/2007**. Any CMS 1500 (12/90) old paper claim version sent after **07/01/2007** will be returned to providers. N.C. Medicaid requests that providers continue to send only the new paper claim versions of the UB04 and ADA. Medicaid will publish in up coming bulletin articles the final date that the ADA and UB92 old paper claim versions will be accepted.

Additional information regarding the new NPI implementation date will be communicated when available. The quickest and easiest way for providers to obtain updated information regarding the NPI will be via e-mail from the NPI Electronic Mailing List. If you have not subscribed to the Electronic Mailing List, please do so immediately by visiting the DMA website at <http://www.ncdhhs.gov/dma/NPI.htm>. Click on the NPI Mailing List link highlighted in red at the top of the page to subscribe. In addition, NPI information will be communicated to the provider community via bulletins, RA banner messages, and the DMA website.

NPI - Get It! Share It! Use It! Getting one is free - Not having one can be costly!

EDS, 1-800-688-6696 or 919-851-8888