



Newsletter

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TO: Providers of Pharmaceutical Services - **For Action**
Health Maintenance Organizations - **For Information**

SUBJECT: **Point-of-Sale (POS) Testing of the National Council for Prescription Drug Programs (NCPDP) version 5.1 Electronic Claim Format and the NCPDP version 1.1 (batch) Claim Format**

EFFECTIVE: Immediately, for NCPDP version 5.1 POS test claims and version 1.1 batch test claims to be processed by Unisys during assigned testing periods.

PURPOSE:

- 1) To notify providers of pharmaceutical services and software vendors of opportunities to submit test claims for the new NCPDP version 5.1 electronic claim format for submitting point-of-sale (POS) claims.
- 2) To notify providers of pharmaceutical services and software vendors of opportunities to submit test claims for the new NCPDP version 1.1 (batch) claim format for submitting electronic media (EMC) claims.

BACKGROUND: The New Jersey Division of Medical Assistance and Health Services (DMAHS) has arranged for Unisys, the State's fiscal agent, to set aside periods of time for providers to submit test claims to verify the accuracy of POS claims submitted for adjudication using the new NCPDP version 5.1 claim format. Additional testing procedures will also be provided for testing the new NCPDP version 1.1 claim format for submitting EMC claims.

Providers of pharmaceutical services were notified of requirements for the new NCPDP version 5.1 and the new NCPDP version 1.1 claim formats in the Medicaid/Department of Health and Senior Services (DHSS) Newsletter Volume 13, No. 15, dated April 2003, and the Medicaid/DHSS Newsletter Volume 13, No. 16, dated April 2003. Providers are encouraged to reference these newsletters for additional information concerning the timeline for implementation and the new electronic claim format requirements.

It is important to note that the NCPDP version 5.1 and version 1.1 claim format requirements of the State are consistent with all national standards. Providers are not required to submit test claims to Unisys. In fact, DMAHS anticipates that many providers will have already tested claims generated by their practice management systems through other means.

ACTION:

Providers of pharmaceutical services are being provided opportunities to submit test claims to Unisys to verify the accuracy of the new NCPDP version 5.1 electronic claim format generated by their practice management system for State POS claims. The following provides the details of this testing program:

- **Testing Dates and Times**

June 15, 2003	6 A.M. to 8 A.M.
July 20, 2003	6 A.M. to 8 A.M.
August 24, 2003	6 A.M. to 8 A.M.
September 14, 2003*	6 A.M. to 8 A.M.
September 28, 2003*	6 A.M. to 8 A.M.

* May be subject to change based on demand

- **How to request testing**

Providers or software vendors desiring to test are required to send an electronic message (e-mail) to Lorraine.Harris@dhs.state.nj.us to register for testing. Each software vendor will be assigned a unique identifier for test claims being submitted by that company. The identifier for Medicaid-participating pharmacies will be their Unisys provider number.

- **How claims are to be submitted**

Providers or software vendors may submit test POS claims to Unisys during the testing period(s) using the new NCPDP version 5.1 electronic claim format. In the Submitter Field of the new format, providers or software vendors must report the value "NJT" instead of "NJP" to properly direct the claims to the test environment at Unisys.

- **Suggested testing scenarios**

Telecommunications; proper field creation; new NCPDP version 5.1 packaging/units procedures; proper integration of POS response into provider software; proper population of coordination of benefits (COB) fields; proper population of compound drug claim fields; and changes to reporting of the quantity of nutritionals and hemophiliac drugs.

- **Testing limitations**

- a) Providers or software vendors should report a recent, but past, date of service on test claims.
- b) Providers or software vendors should report an active beneficiary identification number on all test claims.
- c) The testing process will not test prior authorization issued by the First Health Services Corporation. Providers and software vendors are instructed to not contact First Health Services for prior authorization requested on POS test claims.
- d) Testing results will not be reported on a provider's Remittance Advice (RA) statement. **Providers are encouraged to screen print any data required for their own future use. Following the conclusion of each testing period, Unisys will delete all test results.**

Providers of pharmaceutical services are also being provided opportunities to submit test claims to Unisys to verify the accuracy of the new NCPDP version 1.1 (batch) claim format generated by their practice management system for submitting electronic media claims (EMC).

Due to the anticipated arrival of a testing program for the new NCPDP version 1.1 (batch) claim format at Unisys later this year, this new batch format cannot be immediately tested by Unisys. Providers or software vendors needing to test this new format are instructed to submit a CD of test claims in the new NCPDP version 1.1 (batch) claim format to:

Lorraine Harris, Office of Information Systems
P.O. Box 712, Mail Code #4
Trenton, NJ 08625-0712.

A single batch shall include no more than five (5) test claims.

If providers or software vendors have any technical questions concerning the testing program, please do not hesitate to contact Lorraine Harris, Office of Information Systems, at (609) 588-6291.

If providers or software vendors have any policy questions related to the testing program, please do not hesitate to contact the Chief, Pharmaceutical Services, DMAHS, at (609) 588-2724.

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