



State of New Jersey  
Department of Human Services  
Division of Medical Assistance & Health Services

# NEWSLETTER

Volume 14 No. 2

January 2004

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

**SUBJECT:** NCPDP Version 5.1 and Version 1.1 Claim Format Standards

**EFFECTIVE:** **Electronic (POS) pharmacy claims with service dates on or after January 21, 2004 and Electronic Medium Claims (EMC) with service dates on or after April 1, 2004**

**PURPOSE:** To notify providers of pharmaceutical services of the intentions of the New Jersey Division of Medical Assistance and Health Services (DMAHS) to discontinue processing of electronic pharmacy claims submitted to Unisys in the National Council for Prescription Drug Programs (NCPDP) Version 3C, Fixed or Unisys EMC claim formats, also commonly referred as the Unisys proprietary claim formats.

**BACKGROUND:** The DMAHS has been working to fully implement the national Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) standards for pharmacy claims. This standard is the NCPDP Version 5.1 format for electronic (POS) claims and the NCPDP Version 1.1 format for electronic medium claims (EMC) claims.

DMAHS has determined that over ninety (90) percent of POS claims processed by Unisys use the NCPDP Version 5.1 claim format. This Newsletter is intended to announce termination dates for accepting pharmacy claims in Unisys proprietary claim formats.

**ACTION:** Effective for POS claims with service dates on or after January 21, 2004, only the NCPDP Version 5.1 claim format will be accepted by Unisys. Submitted POS claims using the Unisys proprietary claim format will be denied payment by the POS claims processing system. **These changes do not apply to hard-copy or paper claims.**

Effective for EMC with service dates on or after April 1, 2004, only the NCPDP Version 1.1 claim format will be accepted by Unisys. Submitted EMC using the Unisys EMC format will be denied payment by the State's claims processing system. Prior to April 1, 2004, submitters of EMC may continue using the Unisys EMC format.

DMAHS invites EMC submitters to participate in testing of the NCPDP Version 1.1 claim format in preparation for the April 1, 2004 deadline. Interested submitters should contact the DMAHS Office of Information Systems at (609) 588-2450.

If you have any policy questions concerning this Newsletter, please contact the Chief, Pharmaceutical Services, at (609) 588-2724. If you have any technical questions, please contact the Office of Information Systems at (609) 588-2450.

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