



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

MEDICAID ALERT

JULY 1992

TO: Physicians, Independent Clinics,
Hospitals, and Psychologists

SUBJECT: Mental Health Services - "Retroactive" Authorization

EFFECTIVE: Immediately

BACKGROUND: In Medicaid Fiscal Agent Closeout Activity Bulletin #4, (October 25, 1991) the Division of Medical Assistance and Health Services (Medicaid) announced that "the provider must submit prior authorization requests utilizing the new forms....".

In response to concerns expressed by certain providers of mental health services with regard to the statement above, the Division, on an interim basis only, is allowing the following procedure to assist the providers who may have withheld requests for prior authorization.

ACTION: Providers of mental health services may now submit their requests to Medicaid for "retroactive" authorization of mental health services for which they have not yet requested an authorization. The granting of the "retroactive" authorization is a one-time-only exception to current Medicaid policy and is time limited; providers must submit requests for retroactive authorization by August 31, 1992.

Providers may submit their request(s), using Form FD-07 (Rev. 9/91), to:

Mental Health Services Unit
Division of Medical Assistance and Health Services
CN-712
Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0712

The "from date" for these "retroactive" authorizations must be the ending date of the previous authorization period, but not earlier than October 25, 1991 (the date of Bulletin #4). The "to date" of these authorizations may be the start date of the currently active authorization or a date selected by the provider up to twelve months from the "from date" of the retroactive request.

Please keep in mind that all requests for retroactive authorizations must be submitted to the Division by August 31, 1992.

Questions regarding this MEDICAID ALERT may be directed to Constance Thomas, Supervising Administrative Analyst, at (609) 588-2601.

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