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

MEDICAID ALERT

August 1996

TO: Providers of Pharmaceutical Services

EFFECTIVE: Immediately

SUBJECT: Clarification of Billing Procedures for Prolastin Injection

BACKGROUND: Prolastin (1,000 mg) for Injection (Alpha-1-Proteinase) Inhibitor) is a whole-blood derivative packaged as a "KIT" which includes a powder-filled vial and related diluent. Although this drug's "average" potency is "1,000 mg," the potency may range between 800 mg and 1,200 mg per vial.

PURPOSE: To notify providers of pharmaceutical services regarding the proper billing procedures for requesting claim payments for Prolastin Injection.

ACTION: To ensure proper reimbursement for claims processed for the Medicaid, Medicaid-related programs and Pharmaceutical Assistance to the Aged and Disabled (PAAD) program for Prolastin Injection, the metric quantity reported in Field 16 on the MC-6 claim form, or related field in the Electronic Media Claim (EMC) format, must reflect the "number of milligrams" of Prolastin dispensed on a service date. For example, when 800 mg of Prolastin are dispensed, the reported metric quantity must equal "800" and not "1" vial.

It is important to note that this billing procedure is unique for Prolastin for Injection. Pharmacies are reminded that powder-filled vials for other injectable drug products must continue to be reported on pharmacy claims as the "number of vials." In addition, the billing procedures described in the Medicaid Alert dated January 1993 for hemophiliac drugs remain the same.

If you have any questions, please contact the Chief, Pharmaceutical Services, at (609)588-2724.

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