



Published by the
N.J. Dept. of Human Services,
Div. of Medical Assistance & Health Services

Medicaid Alert

MA-2003-01

March 2003

TO: Acute Care Hospitals – **For Action**
Health Maintenance Organizations – **For Information Only**

SUBJECT: Denied Emergency Room Claims for Mental Health Services Provided to Children Enrolled in the Partnership for Children

PURPOSE: To inform providers of a temporary procedure to file claims

BACKGROUND: The Division has recently discovered a problem with the logic that was given to Unisys for the identification of mental health claims that require prior authorization. This has been causing some claims for emergency room mental health services rendered to children enrolled in the Partnership for Children (formerly the Children's System of Care Initiative) to be denied due to a lack of prior authorization.

ACTION: Effective **IMMEDIATELY** all emergency room claims for the provision of mental health services to a child/youth or young adult enrolled in the Partnership for Children must be submitted *hard copy* directly to the Division of Medical Assistance and Health Services at the following address:

Division of Medical Assistance and Health Services
Office of Utilization Management – Mental Health Unit
PO Box 712 Mail Code 15
Trenton, NJ 08625-0712

NOTE: Providers who have already filed claims and have received notice from Unisys that the claim has been denied due to lack of prior authorization (edit 423) must send a hard copy claim with original signature to the Division at the address above.

Once received by the Division, these claims will be processed as quickly as possible in a special batch so that the claims will be paid, if services have been provided in accordance with all other requirements and the claim has otherwise been completed correctly.

The Division apologizes for any inconvenience that this has caused and is working on a permanent resolution to the problem. We appreciate your patience and cooperation until this is accomplished.

If you have any questions concerning this Medicaid Alert, please do not hesitate to contact the Office of Utilization Management at (609) 588-2721.

RETAIN THIS MEDICAID ALERT CHRONOLOGICALLY BEHIND THE MEDICAID ALERTS TAB (GREEN TAB MARKED "4")