

## **Medicaid Fee for Service (FFS) Requirement for OASAS Certified Programs: New Ordering/Prescribing/Referring/Attending (OPRA) Requirements**

**ATTENTION OASAS PROVIDERS: YOU WILL NOT BE PAID FOR MEDICAID FEE FOR SERVICE (FFS) CLAIMS THAT DO NOT ADHERE TO THE OPRA INSTRUCTIONS BELOW.**

Beginning January 1, 2014, Medicaid FFS claims submitted by OASAS providers must include the National Provider Identifier (NPI) of the ordering/referring/prescribing practitioner or they will be denied.

***YOU MUST ENROLL YOUR ORDERING/PRESCRIBING/REFERRING PRACTITIONERS IN THE MEDICAID SYSTEM.*** In addition to ensuring that your ordering/referring/prescribing staff practitioners are enrolled in Medicaid, as your patients may receive prescriptions from other providers, you should advise your patients of this new Medicaid FFS Requirement and work with them to assure safe and effective continuity of care. To determine if your staff practitioners are already enrolled in Medicaid, use the search feature available at: <https://www.emedny.org/info/opra.aspx>.

OASAS recognizes that there can be many challenges to a patient's recovery and encourages you, as providers, to take an active role in assisting your patients particularly as it might apply to addiction medications.

**ATTENTION DOCTORS, NURSE PRACTITIONERS, PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS AND OTHER LICENSED PROFESSIONALS SERVING MEDICAID RECIPIENTS IN OASAS PROGRAMS AND OTHER SETTINGS!!!**

If you are not enrolled in Medicaid and you write an order, make a referral, or write a prescription for a Medicaid recipient, the claim will be denied and/or the prescription will not be paid for by Medicaid.

***YOU MUST ENROLL IN THE MEDICAID SYSTEM.*** If you prescribe, refer, or order services and you are not interested in enrolling as a participating Medicaid provider ***YOU MAY APPLY FOR LIMITED ENROLLMENT AS AN OPRA PROVIDER.*** Medicaid will not make direct payments to you as an OPRA enrolled provider but will recognize your NPI for services rendered by participating Medicaid providers.

## Background:

The Affordable Care Act and subsequent federal regulations (42CFR 455.410) include provisions requiring additional screening of Medicaid providers to improve the integrity of the Medicaid program and to reduce fraud, waste and abuse. As announced in the April 2011 and June 2012 DOH Medicaid Updates (see links below), ***practitioners are required to be enrolled in state Medicaid programs to be eligible to order /prescribe /refer for services/medications reimbursed by FFS Medicaid.***

## Frequently Asked Questions:

### 1 - To which OASAS program types do these rules apply?

The OPRA rules apply to all OASAS programs which submit Medicaid FFS claims. Such claims for services (and items) that were ordered, prescribed, or referred must contain the NPI of an enrolled participating Medicaid provider or a Medicaid OPRA provider.

### 2 - What is OPRA and how are the terms defined?

OPRA stands for Ordering/Referring/Prescribing/Attending. These terms are relevant for all providers submitting FFS Medicaid claims and Practitioners who prescribe for Medicaid recipients.

- ***Ordering/Referring*** -a healthcare practitioner who orders/refers Medicaid reimbursable services must enroll in Medicaid. The order or referral must be within the professional's scope of practice and comply with program rules regarding ordering/referrals. Any practitioner reported as ordering/referring on a Medicaid FFS claim *must* be enrolled in the Medicaid program. Physicians, Nurse Practitioners and/or Physicians Assistants can order/refer in OASAS programs.
- ***Prescribing*** - a healthcare practitioner who prescribes medications or services for a Medicaid recipient. Any practitioner reported as prescribing on a Medicaid FFS claim *must* be enrolled in the Medicaid program. Physicians, Nurse Practitioners and/or Physicians Assistants can prescribe in OASAS programs.

- **Attending** - the healthcare practitioner who sees the Medicaid recipient on the service date submitted on the claim. Certain individuals licensed by the State Education Department (SED) or credentialed by OASAS can be an attending practitioner in OASAS programs.

**If a CASAC is the attending practitioner** the OASAS program should continue to use the OASAS Unlicensed Practitioner ID, 02249145, in the Attending Practitioner field.

***A practitioner reported as attending on a Medicaid FFS claim does not need to be enrolled in the Medicaid program unless the ordering/referring section of the claim is left blank.***

### **3 - Which professions must enroll in Medicaid?**

Physicians, Nurse Practitioners, and Physician Assistants that prescribe or order services for Medicaid recipients, or who refer Medicaid recipients to other providers must be enrolled as a participating Medicaid provider or as an OPRA Medicaid provider, even if they do not submit claims to Medicaid for their services. (Note: Providers already enrolled as Medicaid participating providers do not need to enroll again as OPRA providers.)

### **4 - Does the doctor need to enroll as a participating Medicaid provider if he/she does not bill Medicaid but the Program does bill Medicaid?**

Yes. All ordering or referring physicians at the Medicaid program must be enrolled as Medicaid providers, even if those professionals do not bill fee-for-service (FFS) Medicaid themselves. Physicians and other professional who prescribe, refer, or order services and who are not interested in full Medicaid enrollment may apply for limited Medicaid enrollment as an OPRA provider. Medicaid will not make payment to an OPRA provider but will recognize their NPI for services rendered by participating Medicaid providers.

### **5 - Why does a doctor who does not participate in Medicaid need to be enrolled as an OPRA provider?**

In addition to the OASAS program not being paid for services delivered, if the doctor is not enrolled in Medicaid and writes a prescription for a Medicaid participant the prescription will be denied at the pharmacy.

Therefore, failure to enroll will impact patients' ability to obtain their medications.

## **6 - Is a doctor enrolled as an OPRA provider obligated to see Medicaid patients?**

No. Enrolling as an OPRA provider:

- Does *not* obligate you to see Medicaid patients;
- Does *not* mean you will be listed as a Medicaid provider for patient assignment or referral;
- Is a streamlined enrollment process;
- *Allows* you to continue to see Medicaid patients without billing the Medicaid program if you so choose; and
- *Helps ensure* that your orders, prescriptions and referrals for Medicaid patients are accepted and processed appropriately.

## **7 - Does a doctor at an OASAS OTP program need to enroll in Medicaid?**

Yes. A doctor who orders, prescribes, or refers at the OTP program must be enrolled in Medicaid even though the doctor does not bill Medicaid. When a FFS provider is requesting a Medicaid payment and the referring/ordering practitioner reported on the claim is not enrolled as a Medicaid provider, the FFS provider will not be paid by the Medicaid program.

## **8 - When must the attending professional be enrolled (institutional claims)?**

The attending professional must be enrolled if the Ordering/Referring NPI field is blank on the institutional (837I) claim. This is because the Attending NPI is considered the ordering/referring provider in the absence of a Referring NPI.

## **9 - Who are Non-billing providers?**

Non-billing providers are professionals who order, prescribe, or refer for a Medicaid recipient but do not bill the Medicaid program. Their enrollment in Medicaid is now mandated in order for a covered service to be paid to the provider of those services. The NPI of the 'non-billing' provider must be appropriately reported by the Medicaid provider rendering a service on a Medicaid claim. As stated earlier, at a minimum OPRA enrollment is necessary.

**10 - Who needs to be enrolled in Medicaid to be an Ordering/Referring/Attending Practitioner on a Medicaid claim?**

	<b>Ordering/Referring Practitioner</b>	<b>Attending Practitioner</b>
Required to be enrolled in Medicaid	Required	Not required
<b>Exceptions:</b>	If Medicaid does not enroll the ordering/referring profession type for the service billed and this professional may order/refer according to program rules the State will allow the provider who employs the professional to report their NPI, or in the case of atypical providers their MMIS provider ID, as the ordering/referring.	The attending professional must be enrolled if the Referring NPI field on the claim is blank. This is because the Attending NPI is considered the ordering/referring in the absence of a Referring NPI.

**11 - How does a practitioner enroll in NYS Medicaid for ordering/prescribing/referring?**

Visit the eMedNY website:

<https://www.emedny.org/info/ProviderEnrollment/index.aspx> and click on the provider type's Provider Enrollment page for the OPRA form. Be sure to complete all required fields, answer all questions and provide all required documentation. For assistance with enrollment application questions, call CSC at (800) 343-9000.

**12 - What is the turn-around time for the expedited enrollment process?**

Most enrollments are processed within 30 days of receipt of a completed application.

**13 - Can the Medicaid enrollment be back dated?**

After receiving their enrollment approval letter, the provider may request retroactive enrollment by contacting the Bureau of Provider Enrollment at: [ffspe@health.state.ny.us](mailto:ffspe@health.state.ny.us).

**14 - Do the ordering/referring requirements apply to prescriptions and pharmacy claims?**

Yes, the prescriber listed on the FFS drug claim must be enrolled in NYS Medicaid. (Note: Effective January 1, 2014 if a prescription is written by a prescriber who is not enrolled as a Medicaid provider, Medicaid will not pay for the prescription.)

**15 - What practitioners can I use as attending?**

Report the NPI of the practitioner who actually saw the client and provided treatment on the date of service.

- If the attending practitioner reported on the claim is not enrolled in Medicaid, then the ordering/referring section **must** be filled in. ***A practitioner reported as attending/servicing on a Medicaid FFS claim does not need to be enrolled in the Medicaid program unless the ordering/referring section of the claim is left blank.*** (This is because the Attending NPI is considered the ordering/referring provider in the absence of a referring NPI.)

Note: Providers must make sure that the NPIs of all healthcare practitioners affiliated with the provider who might be included as an attending/servicing practitioner on claims submitted by the facility are on record with the NYS Medicaid program. (For information on recording NPIs of affiliated practitioners, go to [www.eMedNY.org](http://www.eMedNY.org).) Please note that the recording of affiliated practitioners does not equate to enrolling these practitioners in the Medicaid program.

**16 - What should a provider do if an attending practitioner is a CASAC and cannot enroll in Medicaid or get an NPI?**

In those instances, where the CASAC is the attending practitioner, programs should continue to use the OASAS Unlicensed Practitioner ID, 02249145, in the Attending Practitioner field.

(Note: If a CASAC is reported in the Attending NPI field on the clinic claim, the medical practitioner who is responsible for ordering/referring should be reported in the Referring NPI field.)

**17 - What should a Medicaid recipient do if they are told their prescriber is not enrolled in Medicaid and therefore their prescription is not covered?**

The Medicaid recipient should contact their prescriber.

## **Additional Information**

Please refer to information provided in the links below:

### **OPRA FAQs Issued by the NYS Dept of Health:**

[https://www.emedny.org/info/ProviderEnrollment/ProviderMaintForms/Core\\_OPRA\\_FAQs.pdf](https://www.emedny.org/info/ProviderEnrollment/ProviderMaintForms/Core_OPRA_FAQs.pdf)

### **Medicaid Update Newsletters issued by NYS Dept of Health:**

[http://www.health.ny.gov/health\\_care/medicaid/program/update/2013/march13\\_mu.pdf](http://www.health.ny.gov/health_care/medicaid/program/update/2013/march13_mu.pdf)

[http://www.health.ny.gov/health\\_care/medicaid/program/update/2013/july13\\_mu.pdf](http://www.health.ny.gov/health_care/medicaid/program/update/2013/july13_mu.pdf)

### **DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES, Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, CMCS Informational Bulletin, December 23, 2011:**

<http://www.medicaid.gov/Federal-Policy-Guidance/downloads/CIB-12-23-11.pdf>

## **Any Questions?**

Contact the NYS OASAS Bureau of Healthcare Financing at:

[HealthCareFinancing@oasas.ny.gov](mailto:HealthCareFinancing@oasas.ny.gov)

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