



**Louisiana Department of Health
Informational Bulletin 18-12
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**Non-Emergency Ambulance Program to Non-ER Provider Sites – Effective
11/1/2018**

Effective Nov. 1, 2018, transportation by ground ambulance should be to the most appropriate medical facility, which may be an alternative destination other than a hospital emergency department. The non-emergency ambulance transportation (NEAT) fee schedule will add a code to pay the NEAT rate for ambulance transports with non-emergency provider site modifiers (clinics, behavioral health facilities, etc.). The code should be paid when an ambulance was dispatched for a Basic Life Support (BLS) level of care but had obtained a signature from a medical professional at the receiving facility, attesting that the visit was medically necessary but non-emergent. Louisiana Medicaid and managed care organizations (MCOs) will monitor the process to ensure that measures are in place to curtail fraud and abuse where recipients sought assistance using 911 in lieu of non-emergency medical transportation. MCOs must ensure that:

- 1) No Medicaid enrollee is transported to an alternative destination unless the enrollee and alternative destination both consent to the transport;
- 2) No ambulance service provider will transport a Medicaid enrollee to an alternative destination in which the ambulance provider has a financial interest; and
- 3) Such transport may be made to an alternative destination when the enrollee's condition does not meet the definition of emergency medical service.

Should you have any questions regarding this matter, contact Ronald W. Johnson by email at ronaldw.johnson@la.gov or by phone at (225) 342-6894.