



State of Louisiana

Department of Health and Hospitals
Bureau of Health Services Financing

MEMORANDUM

TO: Medicaid Providers

FROM: Don Gregory
Medicaid Director

SUBJECT: Reminder of 2012 Hold Weeks for Medicaid Claims Payments

DATE: February 16, 2012

The Department of Health & Hospitals (DHH) introduced a new payment calendar for Medicaid claims at the start of this fiscal year, which built more time into the claims review process to allow for increased fraud and abuse monitoring. The added review time resulted in the check write dates for claims payments being pushed back at intervals throughout the year, and DHH issued a calendar of all claims payment dates for State Fiscal Year 2012 (July 2011-June 2012) so providers could be aware of when claims submitted would be paid and plan accordingly. A copy of the payment calendar is included with this letter for your reference.

Please be aware of the hold week that will occur at the end of this month, during the week of February 26, 2012. Provider clean claims submitted by February 23 will be paid March 06, 2012.

DHH also wishes to inform you of an update to the payment calendar. In the original calendar, the week of November 20, 2011, was scheduled as a hold week. DHH received extensive feedback from providers in November indicating that a hold week at that time would be burdensome to them and their staff during the holidays, and that they would prefer to have the hold week occur at a later date. To accommodate this request, DHH paid the claims that were held for that week in the following week's payment, and has since updated the payment calendar to have a hold week begin the week of June 3, 2012. Provider clean claims submitted by May 24, 2012, which normally would have been paid on June 05, will be paid June 12, 2012.

If you are a provider with one of the three prepaid BAYOU HEALTH Plans – Amerigroup Real Solutions, LaCare and Louisiana Healthcare Connections – please check with your Plan to see their payment schedule and claims submission dates.

Please review the payment calendar to be aware of these hold weeks and all check writing dates. We thank you for your patience as we implement this system to better control fraud in the Medicaid program. Any questions can be directed to Molina Provider Relations at 1-800-473-2783 or 225-924-5040.

DG/kms