January 20, 2004

Dear County Health Departments and Federally Qualified Health Centers:

With the implementation of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA), Florida Medicaid has required county health departments (CHDs) and federally qualified health centers (FQHCs) to modify their billings for immunization services. The current guidelines require that CHDs and FQHCs bill Medicaid with the appropriate Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) code for the vaccine with modifier -SL in order to receive the $5.00 administration fee.

Effective January 1, 2004, Florida Medicaid will allow CHDs and FQHCs to bill CPT codes 90471 and 90472 for the administration fee for vaccines given to Medicaid-eligible beneficiaries. All Medicaid-eligible beneficiaries are eligible for the Vaccines for Children (VFC) program and should receive vaccines at no cost to the provider. Florida Medicaid will no longer reimburse CHDs and FQHCs for CPT codes with the -SL modifier.

All immunization services which have been provided since the HIPAA implementation date of October 16, 2003, may be reimbursed in this manner.

If you have any questions, or need additional information, please contact the Immunization Coordinator at (850) 922-7327.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Bob Sharpe
Deputy Secretary for Medicaid

BS/r