



CHARLIE CRIST
GOVERNOR

THOMAS W. ARNOLD
SECRETARY

July 16, 2010

Dear Medicaid Ultrasound Provider,

Florida Medicaid has experienced a backlog in clinical review of claims for diagnostic ultrasounds which has delayed adjudication and reimbursement of those claims. The purpose of this letter is to explain the steps we are taking to remedy this issue. Providers include modifiers on these claims to request medical review of documentation submitted with the claims to justify exceeding limits placed on these services. Our research shows that many of these claims are duplicates, resubmitted because of the delay in reimbursement, and others may have modifiers applied needlessly.

As part of our strategy to return to normal processing of claims, the week of August 9 through 13, 2010, we will temporarily turn off the requirement for medical review and allow the diagnostic ultrasound claims in the review queue to adjudicate based only on service limits.

This will allow Medicaid to reimburse all claims for diagnostic ultrasounds that do not exceed service limits and will also purge all duplicate claims. When all claims currently in the medical review queue are adjudicated, the edits will be restored and the normal medical review procedures will resume. If you have claims that deny in error please resubmit them with the appropriate documentation. Please review Medicaid policy in the Physician Coverage and Limitations Handbook regarding documentation requirements for specific codes.

We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause, but we believe this action is the most timely way to reimburse for ultrasound services.

Next month Medicaid will begin policy training sessions for providers of obstetrical ultrasound services. Please see the attachment to this letter for details on how to participate in this training and the dates the training will be offered.

If you have any questions, please contact your Medicaid area office for assistance.

Sincerely,

Beth Kidder, Chief
Bureau of Medicaid Services

BK/aa
cc: Field Office Managers, Areas 1-11



Medicaid Policy Training for Obstetrical Ultrasound Providers

Medicaid provider training on obstetrical (OB) ultrasound services policy will be held on the dates listed below. OB providers are strongly encouraged to participate. The training will be performed via teleconferencing. To join the teleconference training, please dial **1 (888) 808-6959**, and, at the prompt, enter the conference code **7556753**.

Each training session below is limited to 125 participants. If the session is full when you call, please plan to participate in any of the other sessions.

The training will follow a PowerPoint presentation found at the following link:

http://ahca.myflorida.com/Medicaid/deputy_secretary/recent_presentations/index.shtml. This presentation will be available at the above Web site on August 9, 2010, for providers who wish to pre-view the training materials. Providers may want to print a copy of it to follow along while the training is in progress. Any questions that arise during the training may be emailed to Ouida Mazzoccoli, at ouida.mazzoccoli@ahca.myflorida.com. Responses to the questions will be provided by the trainer at the end of the presentation.

Tuesday 10:00 - 11:00 a.m.	Wednesday 2:00 –3:00 p.m.	Thursday 9:00 – 10:00 a.m.
August 10, 2010	August 11, 2010	August 12, 2010
August 17, 2010	August 18, 2010	August 19, 2010
August 24, 2010	August 25, 2010	August 26, 2010
August 31, 2010	September 1, 2010	September 2, 2010