



STATE OF IOWA

CHESTER J. CULVER, GOVERNOR
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DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
CHARLES J. KROGMEIER, DIRECTOR

INFORMATIONAL LETTER NO. 974

DATE: December 15, 2010
TO: Iowa Medicaid Providers
FROM: Iowa Department of Human Services, Iowa Medicaid Enterprise (IME)
RE: Enforcement Provision Related to Excluded Providers

This Informational Letter is to advise that claims for providers, with the provider identified as the “referring” or “prescribing” provider, who are on the Health and Human Services - Office of Inspector General (HHS-OIG) exclusion list will be denied effective February 1, 2011.

Background

The HHS-OIG excludes individuals and entities from participation in Medicare, Medicaid, the State Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP), and all Federal health care programs (as defined in section 1128B(f) of the Social Security Act (the Act)) based on the authority contained in various sections of the Act, including sections 1128, 1128A, and 1156.

When the HHS-OIG has excluded a provider, Federal health care programs (including Medicaid and CHIP programs) are generally prohibited from paying for any items or services **furnished, ordered, or prescribed** by excluded individuals or entities. This payment ban applies to any items or services reimbursable under a Medicaid program that are furnished by an excluded individual or entity. In addition no Medicaid payments can be made for any items or services directed or prescribed by an excluded physician or other authorized person. **This prohibition applies even when the Medicaid payment itself is made to another provider, practitioner or supplier that is not excluded.**

The HHS-OIG maintains the List of Excluded Individuals and Entities (LEIE), which is a database accessible to the general public that provides information about parties excluded from participation in Medicare, Medicaid, and all other Federal health care programs. The LEIE website is located at: <http://www.oig.hhs.gov/fraud/exclusions.asp> and is available in two formats. This on-line search engine identifies currently excluded individuals or entities.

Medical Claims

All medical claims containing a referring provider number of a provider on the exclusion list will not be approved for payment. The provider submitting the claim will receive a denial on their remit stating this.

Pharmacy Claims

Pharmacies processing claims containing a prescribing provider number of a provider on the exclusion list will receive a Point of Sale (POS) denial message of, “71 Prescriber is not covered”. An override will not be allowed for excluded providers.

If you have any questions, please contact the IME Provider Services Unit at 1-800-338-7909 or locally (in Des Moines) at 256-4609, or e-mail at imeproviderservices@dhs.state.ia.us.