



Medicaid Pharmacy News

October 17, 2011

Exclusion of Individuals and Entities from Participation in

Medicaid, Medicare, CHIP and All Other Federal Healthcare Programs

The Health and Human Services Office of the Inspector General (HHS-OIG) excludes individuals and entities from participation in Medicaid, Medicare, Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) and all Federal healthcare programs based on the authority contained in sections of the Social Security Act, including Sections 1128, 1128A and 1156.

When the HHS-OIG has excluded a provider, Medicaid and CHIP are generally prohibited from paying for any items or services furnished, ordered or prescribed by excluded individuals or entities. This includes payment for administrative and management services not directly related to patient care, such as salaries and fringe benefits. Other examples include services performed by nurses, technicians, pharmacists, pharmacy technicians, administrative staff, ambulance drivers, dispatchers, delivery drivers, social workers, billing agents, accountants, utilization reviewers, contractors, manufacturers and suppliers.

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid (CMS) will make no payments to states for any amount expended for items or services furnished under the plan by an individual or entity while being excluded from participation. Any such payments constitute an overpayment and are subject to recoupment.

Providers participating in Federal programs are obligated to screen all employees and contractors to determine whether any of them have been excluded. This screening should take place upon hiring of a new staff person and monthly thereafter on all staff to check for any new additions to the exclusion list. If any exclusionary information is discovered, it should be reported to ACS and/or BCBS immediately. Contact information is provided below.

The following website provides current information on excluded parties: <http://www.oig.hhs.gov/fraud/exclusions.asp>. You may search by name and verify the match by social security number or tax identification number. This is also a downloadable database that can be maintained by the provider. This option does not have the social security or tax identification number match.

An exclusion list from Medicaid and Kid Care CHIP in Wyoming is on the Wyoming Department of Health website at <http://www.health.wyo.gov/healthcarefin/equalitycare/index.html>

Report any exclusionary information for Medicaid to:

ACS Provider Relations
P.O. Box 667
Cheyenne, WY 82003
1-800-251-1268

Report any exclusionary information for Kid Care CHIP to:

BCBS Attn: Cathi Lewis
P.O. Box 2266
Cheyenne, WY 82003
1-800-209-9720

If you have any questions regarding this newsletter, please contact Christine Bates, Medicaid Program Integrity Manager, at (307) 777-3594 or Susie Scott, Manager Kid Care CHIP at (307) 777-6228.