

Michelle Lujan Grisham, Governor David R. Scrase, M.D., Secretary Nicole Comeaux, J.D., M.P.H, Director

# **Special COVID-19 Letter of Direction 19-1**

**Date:** March 3, 2021

To: Centennial Care 2.0 Managed Care Organizations

From: Nicole Comeaux, Director, Medical Assistance Division

Subject: COVID-19 Claims— Waive Timely Filing Repeal and Replace COVID-19 LOD 19

Title: COVID-19 Claims- Waive Timely Filing for All Medicaid enrolled providers

The purpose of this Letter of Direction (LOD) is to provide guidance and directives to the Centennial Care 2.0 Managed Care Organizations (MCOs) for modification of services and program standards related to the national public health emergency associated with the 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak. The purpose of these changes is to assure the continuation of essential services to Medicaid patients without disruption or delay while following Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) direction to maximize social distancing for the duration of the public health emergency. This Letter of Direction (LOD) provides direction to the Centennial Care 2.0 Managed Care Organizations (MCOs) to waive timely filing requirements for COVID-19 testing claims associated to specimen collection and analysis and administration of FDA approved COVID-19 vaccines submitted by the New Mexico Department of Health (NM DOH) and all other Medicaid enrolled providers.

### This repeal and replace LOD:

- Extends the waiver of timely filing requirements to all Medicaid enrolled providers and not just claims submitted by the NM DOH;
- Extends the waiver of timely filing requirements to claims for the administration of FDA approved COVID-19 vaccines; and
- Extends the waiver of timely filing from 250 days to one calendar year.

### **COVID -19 testing claims for all Medicaid enrolled providers:**

The 90-day timely filing requirement stated in NMAC 8.302.2.11 will be waived for all COVID testing claims associated to specimen collection and analysis and administration of FDA approved COVID-19 vaccines. Providers should be allowed up to one calendar year from the date of service to submit claims. Each MCO should contact providers regarding the filing limit extension, provide guidance for submitting claims, and/or to let them know that claims that denied for timely filing will be reprocessed.

## **Department of Health Claims:**

For COVID-19 testing claims submitted by the NM DOH, the 90-day timely filing requirement stated in NMAC 8.302.2.11 will be waived and they should be allowed up to one calendar year from the date of service to submit claims. The provider ID number for NM DOH claims is 53686.

Each MCO should contact the NM DOH and provide guidance for submitting claims. Their contact information is below:

Michelle Cisneros BEHR Manager

Phone: (505) 827-0664

Email: Michelle.Cisneros@state.nm.us

## **Reporting Requirements**

An updated template will be provided with the LOD, and MCOs are directed to run reports for the claims identified and submit them to their HSD contract managers via email by 5:00 p.m. on the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month following the last day of each month (i.e. monthly reporting period), reporting with the updated template will begin on March 15, 2021.

The effective date of this LOD is retroactive to the date of New Mexico's emergency declaration on March 11, 2020. Reporting requirements will cease one year after the end of the public health emergency (e.g. HSD determines that the national public health emergency ceases on 12/31/2021, the last report submission will be due on 1/15/2023. This will provide HSD with insight into claims lag for these reimbursements. This COVID-19 LOD will sunset when HSD determines all reporting requirements have been completed.

**LOD Attachment:** Administrative Order dated 2/22/2021

# **New Mexico Human Services Department (HSD)**

# ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER AND INSTRUCTIONS

Pursuant to the authority and power granted by the Secretary of the Human Services Department (HSD) under §9-8-6 B(6), NMSA 1978 the following Administrative Order and Instruction is issued on this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of February 2021, and shall remain in effect for the duration of the current Public Health Emergency Declaration and thereafter until it is determined by the Secretary of HSD that these Orders and Instructions are no longer necessary to address the modification to Medicaid program standards needed to respond to the current circumstances.

#### IT IS SO ORDERED THAT:

In response to the National Public Health Emergency (PHE) associated with the 2019 COVID-19 pandemic, the Human Services Department, Medical Assistance Division is issuing this administrative order and instruction to waive timely filing limits cited in NMAC 8.302.2.11.A(1); Claims for services must be received within 90 calendar days of the date of service unless an alternative filing limit is stated within this section. Waiver of this requirement is limited only to all COVID testing claims associated to specimen collection and analysis and administration of FDA approved COVID-19 vaccines when NM Medicaid is the primary or secondary payer.

This administrative order allows eligible NM Medicaid providers up to one calendar year from the date of service to submit claims for dates of service (DOS) beginning March 11, 2020 through the end of the PHE.

Thank you for your service to New Mexicans during this emergency pandemic. Please contact the Medical Assistance Division at (505) 827-6252 or MADInfo.HSD@state.nm.us if you have any questions regarding this administrative order.

ORDERED ON THIS 22<sup>nd</sup> DAY OF FEBRUARY 2021.

bootoigned by.

<u>Angela Medrano</u> Antonetamedrano 2/22/2021

Date

Deputy Secretary HSD

Under Delegated Authority from

David R. Scrase, M.D., HSD Secretary