

Up-to-Date with Alaska Medicaid

A Monthly Newsletter for Alaska Medicaid Providers

August 2018

Conduent

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Web Address

<http://medicaidalaska.com>

Phone Numbers

907.644.6800
800.770.5650 (toll-free)

Fraud and Abuse Hotline

907.644.5975 or
800.256.0930 (toll-free)

Recipient Services

907.644.6800, option 6
800.780.9972, option 2 (toll-free)

Provider Inquiry

907.644.6800, option 1
800.770.5650, option 1, 1 (toll-free)

Provider Enrollment

<https://medicaidalaska.com/portals/wps/portal/ProviderEnrollment>

Fax Numbers

SA..... 907.644.8131
SA Travel, MRI 907.644.5982
SA Mental Health 866.653.1435
SUR..... 907.644.8128
EPS 907.644.9845
Finance..... 907.644.8120
Training..... 907.644.9845
Attachments..... 907.644.8122
or 907.644.8123
Enrollment 907.646.4273
Provider Inquiry..... 907.644.8126

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Stay Up-to-Date with State of Alaska Public Notices

The Department of Health and Social Services encourages Medicaid-enrolled providers to stay apprised of State of Alaska public notices regarding Medicaid covered services and reimbursement rates, public meetings, and other topics that affect providers. Alaska Medicaid has published instructions for subscribing to email notifications from the State of Alaska, including the Department of Health and Social Services. You can subscribe to specific topics (adopted regulations, agency meetings, etc.) or all notices sent from DHSS. The instruction document titled *How to Subscribe to Receive Public Notices* is available on the Provider Reference page at <http://manuals.medicicaidalaska.com/docs/ProviderReference.html>.

Questions? Please contact Provider Inquiry at 907.644.6800, option 1, 1, or toll-free in Alaska at 800.770.5650, option 1, 1, 1.

Allow Three to Five Days for Service Authorization Processing By Conduent

When submitting a service authorization request to Conduent, please allow three to five days to receive a response. Please do not send duplicates of the same request.

Date of Service on Dental Service Authorization Requests Must Be Within 30 Days of Submission Date

Alaska Medicaid asks that providers submit service authorization (SA) requests for dental services within 30 days of the planned date of service. SA requests for service dates more than 30 days in the future will not be considered for approval.

Questions? Contact Mary Hansen at or mary.hansen@alaska.gov or 907.334.2403.

New Requirements for Specialty Frames

Effective for dates of service on and after September 1, 2018, prior authorization requests for specialty frames (e.g., MiraFlex®) will require medical justification. Medical justification must be documented in box 16 of the Vision Service Authorization Request form and must include the reason why specialty frames are medically necessary and why standard frames will not suffice (e.g., physical or cognitive disability). Service authorization requests for specialty frames that do not include medical justification will be denied.

Questions? Contact Ryan Bender at ryan.bender@alaska.gov or 907.334.2419.



Holiday Closures

The State of Alaska and Conduent offices will be closed Monday, September 3, 2018 in observance of Labor Day.

Provider Training Dates

In August, training is scheduled in Kenai and via Instructor-led Webinar.

August	
Webinar	August 7 — 9
Kenai	August 28 & 30

Register Today!

Alaska Medicaid training courses will guide you and your staff in understanding and billing for services reimbursed by Alaska Medicaid and Denali KidCare. Included are introductory courses such as Member Eligibility, Adjustments and Voids, Claims Management, and Service Authorizations. Register online at <http://manuals.medicaidalaska.com/docs/akmedicaidtraining.htm>.

Revised Transportation and Accommodation Fee Schedule Effective 07/01/2018

A revised Alaska Medicaid Transportation and Accommodation Fee Schedule, effective July 1, 2018, is now available. As part of this revision, coverage for ambulance and accommodation services has been amended to reflect recent program changes. All changes to the fee schedule are consistent with prevailing Alaska Medicaid regulations. The revised Alaska Medicaid Transportation and Accommodation Fee Schedule, is available at <http://manuals.medicaidalaska.com/medicaidalaska/providers/FeeSchedule.asp>.

Lodging and Prematernal Home Rate Increase

The reimbursement rate for hotel and prematernal lodging (A0180 and A0200) has increased to \$110.00 per unit effective July 1, 2018.

Reminder: multiple hotel units will no longer be authorized as of July 1, 2018 for the member and escort for the same overnight stay. The department will pay the new rate as a single rate per night, regardless of the number of individuals staying in the room. The department will not pay for separate rooms or a higher double-occupancy rate. For additional information, please see provider flyer “Billing Guidance: Lodging Unit Changes” available on the Provider Updates page at <http://manuals.medicaidalaska.com/docs/updates.htm>.

Ambulance Rates for Services Originating in Fairbanks

Based on population size, the U.S. Census Bureau now classifies Fairbanks as urban (<https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2012-03-27/pdf/2012-6903.pdf>). Effective for dates of service on and after August 1, 2018, claims for ambulance services originating in Fairbanks will be paid at urban rates instead of rural rates. The current transportation fee schedule is available at <http://manuals.medicaidalaska.com/medicaidalaska/providers/FeeSchedule.asp>.

Coagulation Factors II and V Coverage Criteria

In accordance with 7 AAC 105.100, Alaska Medicaid will pay for medically necessary 81240 F2 (Prothrombin, Coagulation Factor II) and 81241 FV (Coagulation Factor V) gene analysis in accordance with the following coverage criteria:

- Covered only for members age birth through 20 who meet at least one of the following criteria: spontaneous thrombosis and/or non-catheter related venous thrombosis or stroke
- Not covered for routine screening for pregnant women
- Not covered for adults with idiopathic venous thromboembolism (VTE)
- Not covered for adult family members of individuals with identified genetic mutations

Rate Increases for FY2019; Delayed Rate Reductions for FY2018

On April 12, 2017 the Department of Health and Social Services public noticed proposed cost-containment regulations necessary to meet budgetary constraints. The changes were proposed to reduce rates for facilities and other providers, and disregard the FY2018 annual inflation-based changes for physicians and other professional providers whose rates are subject to the Resource-Based Relative Value Scale (RBRVS) methodology. Following an extended public comment period, the proposed regulations were filed by the lieutenant governor on August 21, 2017, with an October 1, 2017 effective date. The signed regulations are available at <https://aws.state.ak.us/OnlinePublicNotices/Notices/Attachment.aspx?id=109017>.

Facility and other provider rate reductions were implemented as scheduled, however modifications to RBRVS-based rates were delayed until June 11, 2018. As the RBRVS-based rate adjustments occur, you will see the slight changes in your weekly remittance advice.

The annual RBRVS rate adjustment for FY2019, effective July 1, 2018, will result in an overall net .05 percent increase in RBRVS-based rates, which will partially offset rate decreases that occur as a result of the October 1, 2017 regulations. FAQs are available at <http://manuals.medicaidalaska.com/docs/updates.htm>. If you have any questions that are not answered in the RBRVS Rate Adjustment FAQs, please email them to Susan Dunkin at susan.dunkin@alaska.gov

Inhaler Assist Devices (Spacers) and Nebulizer Claims

Inhaler assist devices, also known as spacers (A4627 SPACER, BAG OR RESERVOIR, WITH OR WITHOUT MASK, FOR USE WITH METERED DOSE INHALER), used with meter dose inhalers, are medical supplies covered by Alaska Medicaid. Similar to diabetic supplies, spacers may be billed by Alaska Medicaid enrolled medical suppliers.

Alaska Medicaid does not require use of a specific brand of spacer. Claims for spacers or nebulizers submitted by a pharmacy through the pharmacy point-of-sale system that do not result in a paid claim should be submitted as a medical supply/DME claim.

Questions about enrolling as a medical supplier? Contact Provider Enrollment at 907.644.6800, option 2, or toll-free in Alaska at 800.770.5650, option 1, 3.

Questions about billing for medical supplies? Contact Provider Inquiry at 907.644.6800, option 1, 1, or toll-free in Alaska at 800.770.5650, option 1, 1, 1.

