

South Carolina
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
Post Office Box 8206
Columbia, South Carolina 29202-8206
www.scdhhs.gov
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MEDICAID BULLETIN

TO: Providers Indicated

SUBJECT: Co-Signature Update

Effective with dates of service on or after January 1, 2010, the South Carolina Department of Health and Human Services will discontinue the requirement of the physician's co-signature in a medical record when services are performed by a Nurse Practitioner (NP), Certified Nurse-Midwife (CNM), Certified Nurse Specialist (CNS) or Physician Assistant (PA). Delegated acts and protocols that outline the scope of practice guidelines for NP, CNM, CNS, or PA should be current and available in the personnel file of the supervised practitioner. Upon submission of a claim, the rendering physician is attesting that the services have been accurately and fully documented in the medical record and that he/she assumes responsibility for the NP, CNM, CNS, or PA. The claim also confirms the provider has certified the medical necessity and reasonableness for the service(s) submitted to Medicaid for payment.

This policy update does not supersede state law as it relates to requirements for off-site practice protocols that outlines when co-signatures are required for PA's. These requirements can be found in Article 7 of the South Carolina Physician Assistants Practice Act section 40-47-955.

For additional information on this policy update, please refer to the Physicians, Laboratories, and Other Medical Professionals manual located on our website at www.scdhhs.gov. If you have any questions regarding this bulletin, please contact your Program Manager at (803) 898-2660. Thank you for your continued support and participation in the South Carolina Medicaid Program.

/S/
Emma Forkner
Director

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NOTE: To receive Medicaid bulletins by email, please register at <http://bulletin.scdhhs.gov/>. To sign up for Electronic Funds Transfer of your Medicaid payment, please go to <http://www.dhhs.state.sc.us/dhhsnew/hipaa/index.asp> and select "Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT)" for instructions.