

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

TO: Physicians

SUBJECT: Allied Health Professionals Policy

The purpose of this follow-up bulletin is to notify you of upcoming policy changes regarding Allied Health Professionals practicing under your supervision. The South Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (SCDHHS) will transition the Psychiatric and Counseling Program from the Division of Physician Services to the Division of Family Services, effective with dates of service on, or after July 1, 2010. The Division of Family Services is responsible for the administration of optional State Medicaid Rehabilitative Behavioral Health Services for children and adults. This transition will allow SCDHHS to enroll Licensed Professional Counselors, Licensed Marriage and Family Therapists, Licensed Independent Social Workers - CP and Licensed Psychologists to practice independently in the SC Medicaid program. Psychologists currently participating in the Medicaid Program for Psychological Services to children under 21 will not need to re-enroll in the Medicaid program.

Prior authorization through the SCDHHS Quality Improvement Organization (QIO) will be required prior to all services being rendered by Licensed Independent Practitioners (LIPs).

Information about Medicaid enrollment for LIPs will be issued in a subsequent Medicaid Bulletin in the next several weeks. This forthcoming bulletin will outline when the enrollment process will begin and who can enroll. Allied Health Professionals who intend to enroll directly in the Medicaid program will be required to obtain a National Provider Identifier (NPI) number at <https://nppes.cms.hhs.gov> and will be asked to complete an on-line Pre-Enrollment Orientation to familiarize the LIP with the Medicaid policy requirements for Rehabilitative Behavioral Health Services. The LIP will also need to complete a Medicaid Enrollment Application (to include all enrollment agreements) and submit these to the Division of Family Services for review and approval. Physicians are encouraged to share this bulletin with all Allied Health Professionals that qualify as LIPs. SCDHHS recommends that potential providers register at <http://bulletin.scdhhs.gov> to receive Medicaid Bulletins electronically through e-mail. This will ensure that potential providers are receiving the most current information on this policy and procedure change.

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If you have any questions regarding this bulletin, please contact your Program Manager in Physician Services at (803) 898-2660, or the Division of Family Services at (803) 898-2565. Thank you for your continued support and participation in the South Carolina Medicaid Program.

/S/
Emma Forkner
Director

EF/mwcj

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.