



MEDICAL ASSISTANCE BULLETIN

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA • DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WELFARE

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SUBJECT
Accurate Billing for Units of
Service Based on Periods of Time

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PURPOSE:

The purpose of this bulletin is to exempt additional providers from the Department's procedure for billing for units of service based on incremental periods of time.

SCOPE:

This bulletin applies to all providers enrolled in the Medical Assistance (MA) Program under the Fee-For-Service payment system.

BACKGROUND:

Departmental reviews revealed that many providers who bill MA for units of services based on incremental time-specific units, are not always providing full units of service and are rounding up and submitting claims for the next full unit of service. On September 17, 1997, the Department issued MA Bulletin 99-97-06 that reinforced the Department's procedure for accurately reporting units of service based on incremental periods of time. This bulletin applied to all providers except Intensive Case Management and Resource Coordination Programs. Also, exempt from this procedure was repair services billed for durable medical equipment, orthotics, and prosthetics and medical case management were exempt from the procedure for accurately billing for units based on incremental periods of time.

DISCUSSION:

Since the release of MA Bulletin 99-97-06, the Department determined that the following providers are also exempt from reporting full units of time:

Office of Mental Retardation

- Targeted Service Management (TSM)
- Early Intervention Service Coordination

Office of Social Programs

- Attendant Care Program (ACP)
- Community Services Programs for Persons with Physical Disabilities (CSPPD)

COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS BULLETIN SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO:

Bureau of Policy, Budget and Planning

P.O. Box 8043

Harrisburg, PA 17105

-or-

call the appropriate toll-free number for your provider type.

Office of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services

- Family-Based Mental Health Rehabilitation Services
- Mental Health Crisis Intervention

Because of the uniqueness of each service, the providers who are eligible to render the above services should follow the billing instructions in their respective handbooks or the billing instructions provided by their respective Offices when billing for services.