

CSHCS ALERT #10-2013 - Change of procedure re: Nurse Practitioners
Mon 9/30/2013

CSHCS has to make a change with regard to Nurse Practitioners (NP). CSHCS has paid for NP services for many years because of the way specialist offices work and the fact that NP services were billed through their supervising physician. This is very common practice.

As a result of the ACA, NPs must now bill directly for their services, and they are no longer able to bill under the NPI of a supervising physician. Therefore, CSHCS will now authorize NPs when the NP is supervised by the client's authorized specialist and a request is made to add the NP to the client's authorized provider list. Thus far, CSHCS has only seen one case of an NP billing for the services provided to a CSHCS only child. This suggests that we can anticipate a small number of times that an adjustment will need to be made.

This change in procedure is expected to be temporary. We have submitted a request to adjust CHAMPS to recognize the supervising physician as authorized and therefore pay the NP claim without CSHCS having to authorize the specific NP. This revision is expected to take approximately a year to put into place as it works its way up the priority listing for CHAMPS revisions.

LHD staff will need to assure that a request for NP authorization is for an NP that works under the specialist who is authorized for the client. This information will need to be included with a request to add the NP to the authorized list. NPs not practicing under an authorized supervising specialist are not to be authorized.

If you have any questions, please contact your CSHCS CSS analyst.

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