



Quality Assurance Bulletin

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Program Support Bureau

County of Los Angeles - Department of Mental Health
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STAFF TAXONOMY UPDATES

Quality Assurance issued a revised Taxonomy Memo on May 9th, 2011. Since then, Quality Assurance (QA) staff have been reviewing all Provider Taxonomy Reports (Reports) sent to QA in January as a result of the original Staff Taxonomy Memo on January 24th, 2011 and updating them according to the May 9th Memo. As of today, QA has submitted all of the Reports to Chief Information Office Bureau (CIOB) for processing in the Integrated System (IS).

DDE Providers

CIOB staff have started updating the Direct Data Entry (DDE) Provider taxonomies in the IS according to the Reports submitted to and processed by QA. It is expected that all rendering providers' staff taxonomies will be updated in the IS for DDE providers by July 11th, 2011.

EDI Providers

CIOB will begin updating the Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) Provider taxonomies in the IS once all of the DDE Provider Reports have been completed. It is expected that all rendering providers' staff taxonomies will be updated in the IS for EDI providers by July 11th, 2011. Please remember that these updates in the IS will not determine what staff taxonomy is included on EDI claims sent to Medi-Cal. The taxonomy submitted on EDI claims will be accepted by the IS and used on the EDI claim to Medi-Cal so long as the staff taxonomy submitted is a taxonomy code recognized by the Los Angeles Department of Mental Health (DMH). Please see the IS Codes Manual for a list of taxonomy codes accepted by DMH

Actions for All Providers

A Provider will know if their Provider Taxonomies have been updated in the IS if there are several Rendering Providers with two (2) taxonomies on the IS 280 Report. If there are 2 taxonomies for several Rendering Providers, Providers should review the IS 280 Report for the following elements and submit Rendering Provider corrections to CIOB immediately:

1. Staff are on the correct staff taxonomy
 - a. A complete list of current staff taxonomies and any requirements regarding the license, registration, certification, or DEA associated with the staff taxonomy can be found in the IS Codes Manual at <http://lacdmh.lacounty.gov/hipaa/documents/CODESMANUAL-IS2Version4.2.pdf>
2. All license, registration, certification, DEA information is correct
 - a. If a license/registration/certification effective date was NOT listed on the Reports submitted, the date of the May 9th memo was put into the IS. Providers should update this information to the correct effective date for the license/registration/certification.
3. Only valid taxonomies are associated with the Rendering Provider
 - a. Providers may find that many staff are now associated to two staff taxonomy codes. This will allow Providers to choose the appropriate taxonomy for the

claim if a Rendering Provider moves from registered to licensed (for example) or if a Rendering Provider provides services under two different disciplines. However, if both staff taxonomies are not needed, please delete the staff taxonomy that will no longer be used by the Rendering Provider.

Please keep in mind that per the May 9th Memo, QA and CIOB did not take any action for the following staff unless specifically instructed by the Provider:

1. Social Workers (Registered)
2. Psychologists (Waivered)
3. Physician/Psychiatrist (Licensed, Resident)

Further, effective immediately, the mass updates or changes utilizing the Taxonomy Reports will no longer be accepted. Providers must utilize the standard procedure for updating a Rendering Provider's information (i.e., the rendering provider application or form). Please note that the on-line Rendering Provider Application has been updated with all taxonomy codes recognized by DMH per the IS Codes Manual.

Finally, beginning in mid July, staff taxonomy will be associated to the claim and will be utilized by Medi-Cal to determine the appropriate disposition of the claim. For this reason, it is important for the correct taxonomy to be associated with the Rendering Provider. DDE Providers must ensure that, for Rendering Providers who have more than one staff taxonomy, the Rendering Provider has a way of informing data entry staff which taxonomy to associate with the claim. This may be done on the Daily Service Log or through some other method.

An RMD Bulletin will be issued with more information regarding choosing the staff taxonomy for a claim and an IS Bulletin will be issued with more information regarding changes to the IS for taxonomy.

If you have questions regarding the information in this QA Bulletin, please contact your Service Area QA liaison.

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