

## **RMD Bulletin**

*Knowledge is power...*



# Use of Late Code 3 **EXTENDED** Thru June 30th



The State Department of Health Care Services - Mental Health (DHCS-MH or State) is allowing mental health providers throughout California to continue using Late Code 3 on claims received by the State through June 30, 2012. Late Code 3 is only to be used when submitting original or replacement claims for Medi/Medi clients where the delay was a result of implementation of new State edits for Medi/Medi billing. Replacement claims with late code 3 are exempt from time limits on replacements.

Late code 3 is **available for use now** and only applies to services to Medi/Medi clients where the State changed the requirement to have Medicare adjudicate the claim prior to billing Medi-Cal. For Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health (DMH) providers, Late Code 3 should be used on claims that were delayed because of the taxonomy of the rendering provider, the place of service was school, or because the procedure code is not billable to Medicare and only when the following conditions are true:

- \* The claim is billable to Medi-Cal (i.e., Medi-Cal is a payer on the claim);
- \* Your client has a Medicare number on the Financial tab; and
- \* The claim is late because of a change in the State's billing rules.

**Important note:** The State has reinstated the rule prohibiting providers from using a different late code on the replacement than was used on the original claim. Remember, if your claim was received by the State within six months from the month of service, then you do not need to add a late code to the replacement; if your original claim was received by the State between six and twelve months from the month of service and included the appropriate valid late code, then you should not change the late code when submitting the replacement.

**We're here to help you...**

If you have any questions or require further information, please do not hesitate to contact RMD at (213) 480-3444 or [RevenueManagement@dmh.lacounty.gov](mailto:RevenueManagement@dmh.lacounty.gov).