

To: Ellyn Wilbur, Executive Director
Tennessee Association of Mental Health Organizations
From: Keith Gaither, Director Managed Care Operations *KWG*
CC: Tammy Gennari, Floyd Price, Mary Shelton, Shawn Smith, Chris Morant, TennCare MCOs
Date: July 11, 2016
Subject: National Provider Identifier Usage for Licensed and Non-licensed Clinicians

In an effort to clarify TennCare's requirements regarding the usage of provider identification numbers, specifically the National Provider Identifier (NPI) when billing for behavioral health professional services, please be advised of the following information:

- All independently licensed clinicians rendering care to TennCare enrollees must have a unique NPI and Medicaid ID number for the purposes of TennCare billing and payments.
- TennCare providers are required to show and identify the licensed rendering provider when billing for professional services that are performed by an independently licensed clinician, as evidenced by the National Provider Identifier (NPI) in field 24j on the CMS 1500.
- When the rendering provider is a master's level (but not independently licensed) employee of a Mental Health Outpatient Facility, the NPI of the supervising professional must instead be reported when billing for the services performed by the non-licensed master's level individual. **It is not appropriate to list the Billing entity's NPI, as the rendering provider, when the rendering provider is a non-licensed master's level individual.**

In cases where the Billing entity and Rendering provider are the same (i.e., when billing for **non-professional services** such as psychosocial rehabilitation, supported housing, IMR, etc.), the rendering provider should not be reported in field 24j on the CMS 1500.

In order to facilitate quality and uniformity of claims adjudication, all TennCare providers must complete the claim form as outlined above and in accordance with TennCare's Information Systems (IS) Policy titled *Provider Identification Usage on Submitted Transactions* (See Attachment). Additionally, this information has been communicated to all of the TennCare MCOs to ensure their billing/claim policies and procedures are aligned accordingly.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding this information, please contact Shawn Smith at shawn.smith@tn.gov or 615-507-6865.

Attachment: TennCare Information Systems Policy