AmeriHealth MERCY

A Program of AmeriHealth First and Mercy Health Plan

January 23, 2012

Important HIPAA 5010 Update and POA Billing Information

Dear AmeriHealth Mercy Provider,

AmeriHealth Mercy has acknowledged the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services' Office of E-Health Standards and Services (OESS) 90-day extension for enforcement of 5010 standards compliance. Although the compliance date was January 1, 2012, OESS has recognized that many covered entities and their trading partners were not able to meet that compliance date.

Providers that are not ready and still submitting a 4010 version should aggressively use this 90-day extension to work with their trading partners to become 5010 compliant.

AmeriHealth Mercy, however, is completely ready to receive and transmit 5010 transactions.

We realize that the enforcement extension has created some confusion about Present on Admission (POA) reporting and would like to clarify our POA billing instructions. **Effective immediately, all providers, whether submitting a claim via EDI or paper must use the following guidelines when submitting POA:**

POA Indicators	Indicator Definition
Y	Yes – Present at the time of inpatient admission
N	No – Not present at the time of inpatient admission
U	Unknown – Documentation is insufficient to determine if condition is present at the time of inpatient admission
W	Clinically undetermined – Provider is unable to clinically determine whether condition was present at the time of inpatient admission or not
Null Value – leave the POA field blank ***Important note – a "1" is no longer a valid indicator and will be rejected**	Exempt provider/diagnosis

If you have any questions, please contact your Provider Contracting Representative or Provider Services at 800-521-6007. We will continue to keep you updated on any further changes and important information regarding HIPAA 5010 via our HIPAA 5010 resource center at www.amerihealthmercyhp.com.

Sincerely,

Stephen Orndorff
Associate Vice President, Provider & Community Affairs

AmeriHealth Mercy Health Plan
8040 Carlson Road · Suite 500 · Harrisburg, PA 17112 · 717-651-3540 · www.amerihealthmercyhp.com