

**Attention
All Providers**

Official Prescription Program

You were notified in the May 2006 *Medicaid Update*, that:

The new Public Health Law designed to combat prescription fraud went into full effect on **April 19, 2006**, when all prescriptions written in New York State--for both controlled and non-controlled substances--**must** be written on an official New York State prescription.

- New York State hospitals, and their affiliated clinics, are exempt from the requirement for their staff practitioners to prescribe on official prescriptions until April 19, 2007. The exemption applies only to the prescribing of non-controlled substances.
- Official prescriptions generated by practitioners using printers in an electronic medical record system (EMR) will contain a variety of different formats and fonts. All are valid for dispensing if they contain all information required by New York law.
- As of April 19, 2006, pharmacists may fill non-official prescriptions from New York State practitioners for non-controlled substances until October 19, 2006.
- Pharmacists may continue to fill non-official prescriptions issued by out-of-state practitioners if the prescriptions contain all information required by New York State law.
- Pharmacies may dispense (until May 19, 2007) all prescriptions for non-controlled substances issued on prescriptions issued in the name of the following comprehensive voluntary non-profit diagnostic and Treatment Centers:
 1. Brownsville Multi-Service Family Health Center
 2. Callen Lorde Community Health Center
 3. Charles B. Wang Community Health Center
 4. Community Health Center of Buffalo
 5. Cumberland Diagnostic & Treatment Center
 6. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Health Center
 7. East New York Diagnostic & Treatment Center
 8. Gouverneur Healthcare Services
 9. Hudson River Community Health Care
 10. Institute for Urban Family Health
 11. Joseph P. Addabo Community Health Center
 12. Morris Heights Health Center
 13. Morrisania Diagnostic & Treatment center

14. Renaissance Health Care Network Diagnostic & Treatment Center
15. Segundo Ruiz Belvis Diagnostic & Treatment Center
16. Urban Health Plan.

Please take note: On **October 19, 2006**, *an edit will be implemented* at Computer Sciences Corporation that will deny all claims for prescriptions written by solo practitioners and non-affiliated clinics (other than those listed above) that are not written on *Official Prescription forms*.

As a requirement of submitting a valid claim and receiving payment, all claims for such prescriptions must contain the prescription serial number preprinted on the Official Prescription form.

As indicated above, some valid prescriptions can be dispensed when not written on Official Prescription forms. These include:

- Prescriptions on hospital or clinic prescription pads that are not on Official Prescription forms. If you claim for medications prescribed on such forms, use HHHHHHHH in lieu of the prescription serial number.
- Prescriptions written by Out-of-State prescribers can be identified by use of ZZZZZZZZ in lieu of a serial number.
- Prescriptions submitted via fax or electronically should be identified via EEEEEEEE in lieu of a serial number.
- Oral prescriptions should be identified via use of 99999999.
- For patient specific orders to a vendor pharmacy for carve-out drugs for nursing home patients, use NNNNNNNN in lieu of serial numbers.

Questions? Please call the Office of the Medicaid Inspector General, Information Technology & Fraud Detection Systems at (518) 474-2239.