

National Provider Identifier (NPI) News - October 2006

New York State Medicaid will be collecting information from providers about their National Provider Identifiers NPI(s). Medicaid will utilize this information to create a crosswalk for use within the eMedNY system to process all electronic healthcare transactions. Currently, the federal mandate to use only the NPI for covered electronic healthcare transactions **begins May 23, 2007**.

Proprietary identifiers are not to be used in electronic healthcare transactions beginning on that date. Providers that do not qualify to obtain an NPI will continue to submit transactions using the eMedNY provider ID and locator.

NYS Medicaid will use the following method to collect NPI(s):

Providers may enter the information on the <http://www.eMedNY.org> website. Providers or their representatives will need to have the NPI(s) they've obtained along with their eMedNY provider ID(s) and Tax Identification Number (TIN). The TIN will be a social security number or an employer identification number, as appropriate.

The implementation of the NPI also requires each provider identified, or represented, in a covered healthcare transaction be identified by their NPI. This concerns all providers who perform services that require an ordering, referring or prescribing provider, especially true for lab, pharmacy and durable medical equipment providers. Providers should plan their data collection efforts to mitigate any negative impacts that may be caused by not having collected NPI information for all providers required in any electronic healthcare transactions.