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MEMORANDUM

To: Alliance Providers
From: Ann Kern, Provider Services Network Manager
Date: January 10, 2013
Subject: Change in Authorization Requirements for Unclassified Drugs J3490 and J3590

Effective January 1, 2013, the Medi-Cal Benefits Division (MBD) has changed the authorization requirement for unclassified drugs billed with J3490 and J3590 to remove the requirement of an invoice and instead require a National Drug Code (NDC) for each specific drug billed. This change is intended to expedite claim processing.

Specific information on the claim form will be required in the Remarks field (Box 80)/Reserved for Local Use field (Box 19) as follows:

J3490

ICD-9-CM diagnosis code
Name and strength of drug administered
Amount given
Actual acquisition cost
National Drug Code (NDC)
(Medical necessity for using the drug no longer exists)

J3590

Name and strength of drug administered
Amount given
Actual acquisition cost
National Drug Code (NDC)

J3590 continues to require an approved TAR for reimbursement. The TAR should be submitted with the following information:

- Medical necessity for using the drug
- Name, strength and dosage of the drug

Providers should use codes J3490 and J3590 only if an appropriate injection code is not found. If you have any questions or concerns regarding this change in Medi-Cal policy, please contact your Provider Services Representative with any questions at (831) 430-5504 or 1-800-700-3874, ext. 5504.