

**ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF HEALTHCARE and FAMILY SERVICES (HFS)
PROVIDER RELEASES SUMMARY
AUGUST, SEPTEMBER and OCTOBER 2009**

Illinois Health Connect Referral System Implementation – Phase I, August 3, 2009

The Department of Healthcare and Family Services and Illinois Health Connect are announcing the Implementation of Phase 1 of the Illinois Health Connect Referral System. Primary Care Providers (PCP) seeing patients enrolled in Illinois Health Connect but not enrolled on their panel, must obtain a referral from the patient's PCP in order to be reimbursed by HFS for the services provided. This is being phased in statewide from October 1, 2009 through April 1, 2010. Please see the [notice](#) for further detail.

Prior Approval for Atypical Antipsychotics and ADHD Medications for Young Children, August 3, 2009

Effective August 24, 2009, the Department of Healthcare and Family Services will require prior approval for all Attention Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) medications for children under the age of 6, and for all Atypical Antipsychotics for children under the age of 8. The department **encourages providers and discharge planners to request prior approval as part of the discharge planning process for hospitalized or institutionalized patients**. Requests for prior approval should be initiated prior to discharge in order to ensure a smooth transition into the community. Please see the [notice](#) for further detail.

Cost outlier Payment Calculation – Change to Children's Hospital Eligibility, August 18, 2009

The Department of Healthcare and Family Services has new policy regarding outlier payments to children's hospitals, effective with admissions dates beginning with July 1, 2009. Children's hospitals, as defined in Illinois Administrative Code Section 149.50(c)(3)(B), are now eligible to receive outliers on claims for children through the age of 18. See the [notice](#) for further detail.

Payment Error Rate Measure (PERM) Audit, August 26, 2009

The Department of Healthcare and Family Services issued two informational notices regarding the payment error rate measurement (PERM) audits. The first [notice](#) advises hospitals that after collection and review of sample hospital services paid by HFS, PERM auditors noted two specific areas of concern in the selected cases which include incorrect coding of diagnosis codes and unnecessary inpatient admissions. The second [notice](#) is a reminder that outlines the maintenance of record requirements.

Illinois Health Connect Referral System Implementation and Direct Access Service Billing Requirements, September 4, 2009

The Department of Healthcare and Family Services and Illinois Health Connect are announcing the Implementation of Phase 1 of the Illinois Health Connect Referral System in the northwest counties effective October 1, 2009. Under Phase I of the Illinois Health

Connect Referral System, PCPs who provide direct access services as outlined in the [notice](#) will not need a referral from a participants PCP at this time.

Revisions to DME Questionnaires and Prior Approval Form, September 11, 2009

The Department of Healthcare and Family Services has recently made the following form [changes](#) impacting DME providers.

Reimbursement for the H1N1 Vaccination, October 1, 2009

Effective October 1, 2009, providers will be reimbursed for the administration of the new FDA-approved H1N1 vaccines to participants enrolled in any of the Department of Healthcare and Family Services (HFS) Medical Programs. HFS will reimburse providers for the administration of the H1N1 vaccine during the 2009-2010 influenza season. Please refer to the [notice](#) for billing instructions.