



Iowa Department of Human Services

Terry E. Branstad
Governor

Kim Reynolds
Lt. Governor

Charles M. Palmer
Director

INFORMATIONAL LETTER NO.1151

DATE: July 10, 2012

TO: Iowa Medicaid Hospital, Physician, Pharmacy, Nurse Practitioners, Screening Centers, Family Planning Clinics, Maternal Health Centers or other Providers Billing on the Professional Claim Form (CMS1500)

ISSUED BY: Iowa Department of Human Services, Iowa Medicaid Enterprise (IME)

SUBJECT: Use of the "U8" Modifier – State Supplied Vaccines

EFFECTIVE: June 1, 2012

All providers are required to participate in the Vaccines for Children (VFC) program in order to bill vaccine administration for covered vaccines. There are situations when there is a state wide shortage of an individual vaccine. In those situations the IME now has the authority to reimburse providers who are enrolled in the VFC program for vaccines administered when the Iowa Department of Public Health (IDPH) stock is depleted without an exception to policy. The IDPH will notify the IME when this situation occurs and the IME will notify providers via an Informational Letter. Reimbursement will be made at the currently published fee schedule rate. The current fee schedule rates are available at:

http://www.ime.state.ia.us/Reports_Publications/FeeSchedule.html .

BILLING:

In the situation outlined above providers will be instructed to append the "U8" modifier when billing children's vaccine codes, only **after** the date provided by IDPH that the statewide stock is depleted. The "U8" modifier is to be appended **only** to indicate that the vaccine administered is from the provider's private stock after the IDPH stock is depleted and is not to be used for any other purpose. When billing with the "U8" modifier, the claim must be:

1. Submitted with the "U8" modifier appended to the appropriate CPT/HCPCS code(s).
2. Include sub-charges for each line item / vaccine code billed. Reimbursement at the fee schedule rate will only occur when line item sub-charges are equal to or greater than the IME fee-schedule rate.

Claims submitted after the IDPH stock is depleted without the "U8" modifier appended will result in non-payment of the vaccine codes billed.

If you have any questions please contact the IME Provider Services Unit at 1-800-338-7909, or locally in Des Moines at 515-256-4609 or email at imeproviderservices@dhs.state.ia.us.