



Iowa Department of Human Services

Terry E. Branstad
Governor

Kim Reynolds
Lt. Governor

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Director

INFORMATIONAL LETTER NO.1215

DATE: February 6, 2013

TO: Iowa Medicaid Case Managers, Targeted Case Managers, Department of Human Services (DHS) Service Workers, Service Supervisors, Service Area Administrators (SAMS), Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) Providers, Child Health Specialty Clinics (CHSC) and County Central Point of Coordination (CPCs)

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

RE: Update on the Atypical Code Conversion Project

EFFECTIVE: July 1, 2013

Last year the IME announced a major undertaking that would affect all HCBS providers. In accordance with directives from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), all billing codes that begin with a "W" will be changed to standardized codes. The "W" codes are considered to be non-standard codes, sometimes referred to as local or atypical codes and must be converted to the national standardized codes. Please refer to Informational Letter No. [1007](#) dated May 9, 2011, for more details.

At the beginning of this project, the IME anticipated implementation dates during 2012. Due to the complexity of the transition, the implementation was delayed to allow additional time to prepare the rules and policies. We are pleased to announce this project is moving forward with an implementation date of July 1, 2013. Iowa Administrative Code rules required to implement this change are moving through the DHS Administrative Rules Process.

This letter is intended to ensure that everyone is prepared for implementation of the atypical conversion on July 1, 2013. Over the next several months, a series of informational letters will be sent to address a variety of issues such as:

- How service plans will be changed in ISIS
- Timelines for service plan changes
- Responsibilities of case managers and service workers
- How providers will be updated on the new atypical code conversion

The IME will be hosting a webinar to more fully explain the implementation process involved with the Atypical Conversion. Providers, case managers, and service workers are invited to participate in this webinar. If you have specific issues that you would like to see included in this webinar, please send them to howlan@dhs.state.ia.us. The webinar is scheduled for the following time:

Date: March 27, 2013

Time: 1:00-3:00 PM

Reserve your Webinar seat now at: <https://www2.gotomeeting.com/register/563026946>.

After registering you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the Webinar.

The website which contains the atypical codes and their conversion codes is located at <http://www.ime.state.ia.us/Providers/AtypicalCode.html>.

If you have any questions or suggestions for items to be addressed in future informational letters or the webinar, please contact Le Howland at lhowlan@dhs.state.ia.us.