

## Discussion underway with stakeholders to find solution



### Medicaid working to address changes to the ordering of medical supplies, equipment and appliances

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) has recently required that the Mississippi Division of Medicaid (DOM) update its 2006 state plan language to comport with 42 C.F.R. § 440.70, which explicitly permits only a physician to order medical equipment, supplies and appliances. In May pursuant to the CMS communication, DOM announced that it will no longer cover medical supplies, equipment and appliances ordered by non-physician practitioners effective Sept. 1, 2018.

DOM shares the concerns of providers who believe this interpretation of the CFR poses an additional barrier to needed services and care. The agency is actively working with CMS and other stakeholders to address compliance with 42 C.F.R. § 440.70 while ensuring that non-physician providers continue to serve as a vital access point for patients enrolled in the Mississippi Medicaid program. To that end, DOM is in discussions with the Mississippi Board of Nursing, the Mississippi Nurses Association, the Mississippi State Board of Medical Licensure, and the Mississippi Academy of Physician Assistants on how compliance might be achieved through collaborative agreements and/or standing orders between non-physician providers and physician providers.

For more information regarding the ordering requirements of medical supplies, equipment and appliances, please contact the Office of Medical Services at (601) 359-6150.

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Please forward this message to colleagues who might be interested. If you wish to be removed from this list or know of a colleague to add, send an email message to: [matt.westerfield@medicaid.ms.gov](mailto:matt.westerfield@medicaid.ms.gov).

#### **About Mississippi Division of Medicaid**

Medicaid is a state and federal program created by the Social Security Amendments of 1965, authorized by Title XIX of the Social Security Act, to provide health coverage for eligible, low income populations. In 1969, Medicaid was enacted by the Mississippi Legislature. All 50 states, five territories of the United States and District of Columbia participate in this voluntary matching program. The mission of the Mississippi Division of Medicaid is to responsibly provide access to quality health coverage for vulnerable Mississippians, by conducting operations with accountability, consistency and respect.