## 2009 Provider Training Sessions

# Presented by New Mexico Medicaid Utilization Review Blue Cross Blue Shield of New Mexico



#### Medicaid Utilization Review

- Blue Cross Blue Shield of New Mexico (BCBSNM) is contracted by HSD/MAD to review prior authorization requests for recipients who are not enrolled in managed care.
- The department responsible is known as New Mexico Medicaid Utilization Review (MUR)



#### Medicaid Utilization Review

- Services reviewed include (but are not limited to:
  - Nursing Facility/Long-Term Care
  - Durable Medical Equipment
  - Emergency Medical Services for Aliens
  - Inpatient Rehabilitation
  - DD and D&E Waivers



#### Medicaid Utilization Review

- MUR works closely with other state agencies, including the Department of Health and the Aging and Long-Term Services Department.
- MUR also works closely with ACS, the Medicaid fiscal agent.





#### **US Mail**

P.O. Box 27950Albuquerque NM 87125-7950

#### Delivery services (e.g., FedEx)

 4373 Alexander Boulevard NE Albuquerque NM 87107

#### Hand-Carried and Drop Box Submissions

 4373 Alexander Boulevard NE Albuquerque NM 87107



## Sending Prior Authorization Requests

- Hand-Carried Reviews
  - If you wish to personally deliver reviews, take them to:
  - > 4373 Alexander Boulevard NE
  - (Located just to the southwest of I-25 and Montano)
  - Signature receipts are available between 6:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday



## Sending Prior Authorization Requests

#### Drop Box

- Also located at the Alexander Boulevard address.
- Available 24-hours a day/seven days a week.
- Signature is not available at the drop box.



## Sending Prior Authorization Requests

- Fax Server 800-746-7292
  - Fax-driven database that can accept requests for:
    - DME
    - Home Health
    - Hearing Aids
    - Contact Lenses
    - Physical, Speech and Occupational Therapies



## Eligibility

- Medicaid Utilization Review does not provide eligibility information.
- It is the provider's responsibility to verify eligibility.
  - Refer to Medical Assistance Division
     Program Policy manual Section
     8.302.1.11.A.



#### **Review Process**

- Abstracts are reviewed by clinical reviewers:
  - Nurses
  - Peer Consultants



#### Clinical Reviewers

- Nurse reviewers can approve reviews; however, all potential denials must be referred to a peer consultant.
- Peer consultants include:
  - Medical Doctors
  - Physical and Speech Therapists
  - Audiologists
  - Dentists



## Required Documentation for a Successful Review

- Objective clinical/medical documentation is needed to justify services
  - Each review must stand on its own
  - Diagnosis alone does not establish medical necessity
  - "Paint the picture!" by clearly illustrating why the client needs the services



# Avoiding Requests for Information (RFI's)

- Submit mandatory forms and documentation for your request:
- Completed request form (e.g., ISD-379, ISD-303, ISD-301)
- Appropriate documentation, based on the review type. Among other things, this may include:
  - History and Physical
  - Signed physician orders
  - · CIA



- Fill in all the blanks
- Be sure that the submitted Medicaid number is correct on ALL forms.
  - TIP--verify the Medicaid or SSN of the recipient
- Be sure that the correct procedure/provider codes is present on ALL forms.
  - > TIP--<u>verify</u> the provider number





- Ensure all required signatures and dates are submitted. For example:
  - Current History and Physical
  - Level of Care orders with dates must be present on the ISD-379 or ISD-378 and relevant to the time frame requested
  - Physician's signature must be submitted with the ISD-303



- Re-check entire document and double check any submitted mathematical calculations. For example:
  - Homemaker Assessment score
  - MAD-046 units/hours
  - ISD-378 assessment score



- Understand the criteria for the requested services. For example:
  - To be eligible for the Disabled and Elderly Waiver program, the client must meet criteria for placement in a nursing facility.
  - DD Waiver clients must meet criteria for ICF-MR placement.





- Submit all supporting documentation, but:
  - Ensure that the submitted information is consistent, sufficient and <u>relevant</u> to the specific request
  - Do not submit unnecessary and excessive documentation (it can actually cause a delay in the review of the request)



- Clarify your request
  - Is this request a(n):
    - Initial
    - Annual Reassessment
    - Readmission
    - Revision
    - Re-Review
    - Reconsideration



In the event you do receive a RFI, be sure to return ALL requested information and documentation with your response. This will avoid subsequent RFI's.



# Avoiding RFI's Last, But Not Least...

- If a request is unclear, please call customer service at 800-392-9019.
  - They will obtain the needed clarification and call you back.



#### Time Frames

- The current contract with HSD/MAD requires that reviews be completed by BCBSNM/MUR within 8 business days.
- Those days begin on the date that it is received my MUR (all abstracts are datestamped on the day received).



#### Time Frames

• If a review is returned to the provider for clarification or requesting additional documentation (RFI), the 8-day time frame starts again with MUR's receipt of the requested information.



### The Appeal Process

- The Appeal Process consists of several possible steps:
  - Re-review
  - Reconsideration
  - Fair Hearing



#### Re-Review Process

- Based on MAD regulations, the written request must be received within 10 calendar days from the date of the denial letter.
  - Requests will be processed within 15 calendar days of receipt.
  - The abstract should be marked "RE-REVIEW" at the top.



#### Re-Review Process

The re-review request must include additional medical/clinical information (in addition to the initial information submitted) in order to meet the requirements for the re-review process.





- The request must be received within 30 calendar days from the date of the rereview denial.
- This request must include additional medical/clinical information (in addition to the initial and re-review information submitted) in order to meet the requirements for the reconsideration process.



#### **Reconsideration Process**

- If a re-review is unable to be requested within the mandated 10-days, a request may be made for a reconsideration (without benefit of a re-review).
- The request must be received within 30 days of the date of the <u>original</u> denial letter.
- "Reconsideration" should be indicated on the request.



### The Fair Hearing Process

- Requests for Fair Hearings are administered through the Administrative Hearings Bureau.
- A Fair Hearing request can be initiated by either the recipient or provider. (Sections 8.352.2 and 8.353.2 of the Program Manual).



## Data Entry

 All review-related information is entered into the Medicaid Utilization Review system and transmitted daily to ACS.



#### **Customer Service**

- Recipient calls regarding denial/ reduction/modification letters
  - Recipients are encouraged to contact their providers.
  - Providers are encouraged to assist their clients by discussing the availability of re-reviews and reconsideration requests.





- 800-392-9019 (number is valid both inand out-of-state)
- Customer Service hours are 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday-Friday.
- ACD (Automatic Call Distribution) allows calls to be handled in the order received.
- MUR may be contacted via the Internet at

of New Mexico

### Help Us Help You!

- Have this information ready:
  - > Recipient number
  - Recipient name
  - Recipient date of birth
  - Provider number
  - Provider name
  - Date request was sent to MUR
  - Item(s) or service(s) requested



# Following up on Submissions

- Please allow time for review to reach MUR before calling to ask if it has been completed.
  - MUR has 8 business days to complete reviews (per the HSD/MAD contract).
- MUR's imaging system allows the Customer Service representatives to view where the review is in the process (and when it was re

of New Mexico

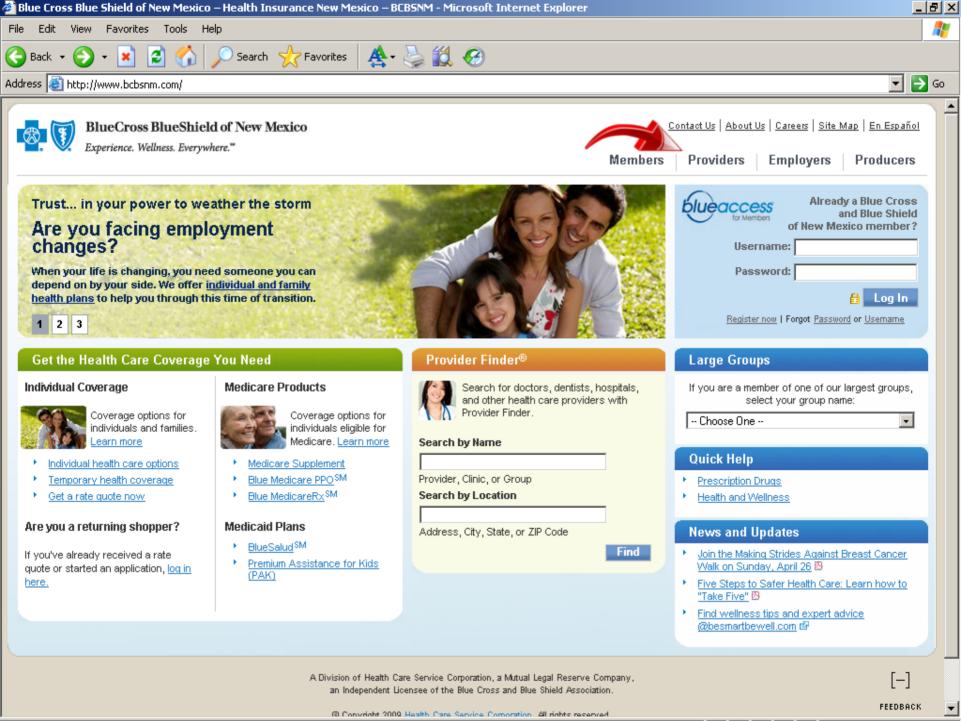


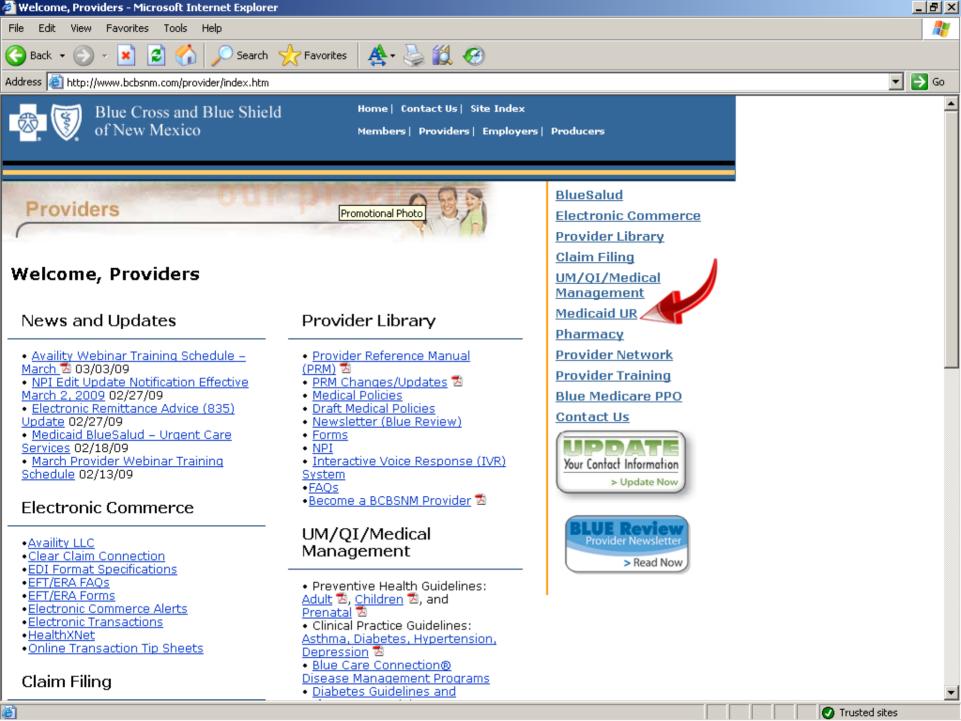
#### Medicaid UR Website

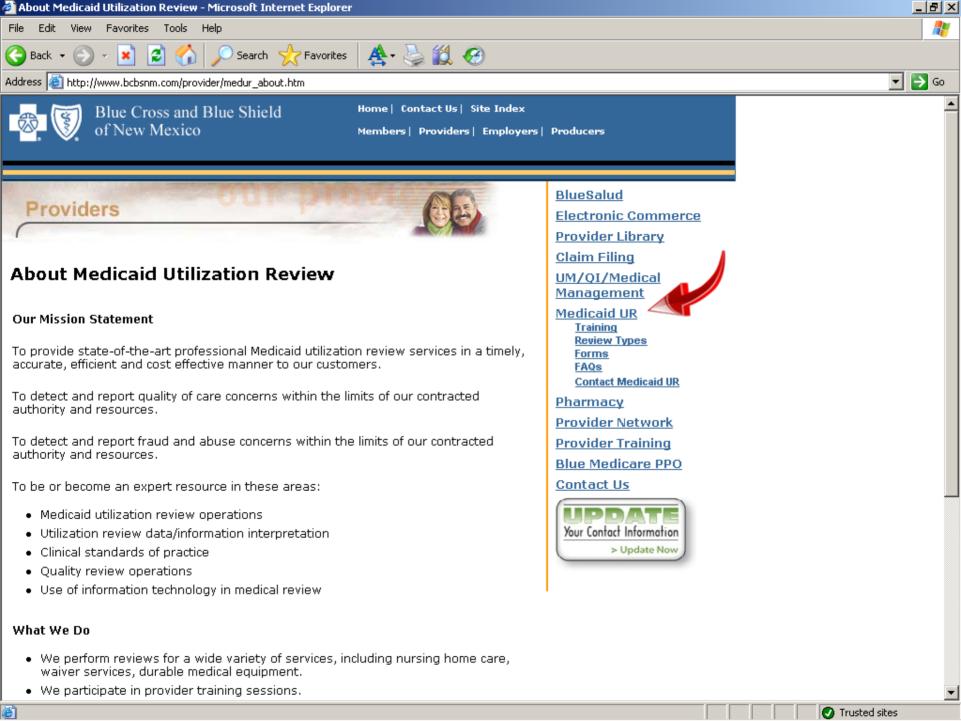
The Medicaid UR website is located at:

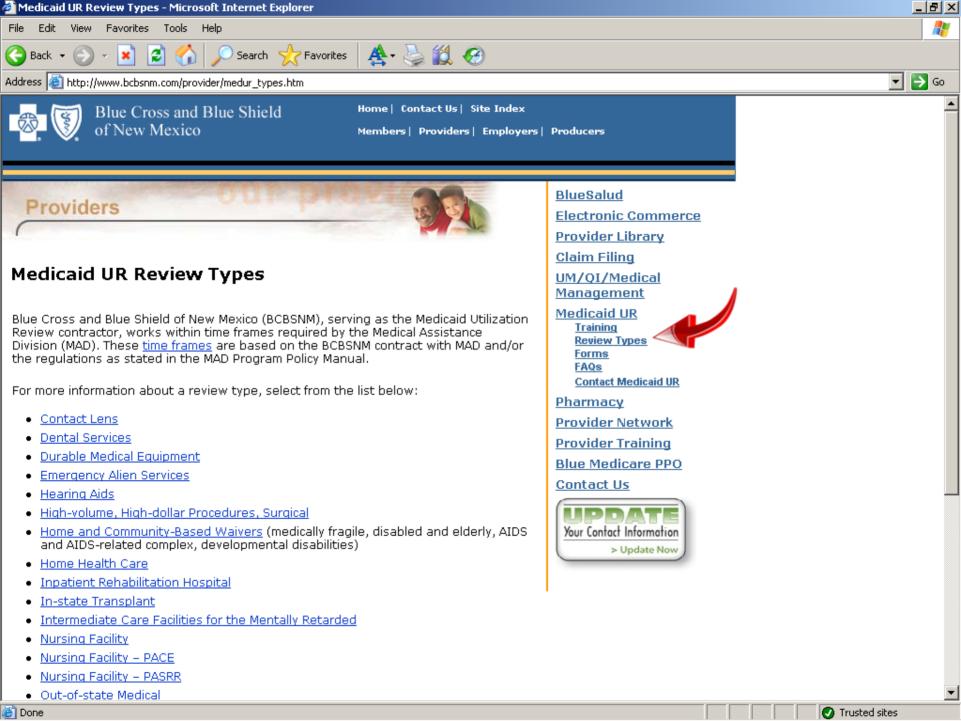
http://bcbsnm.com



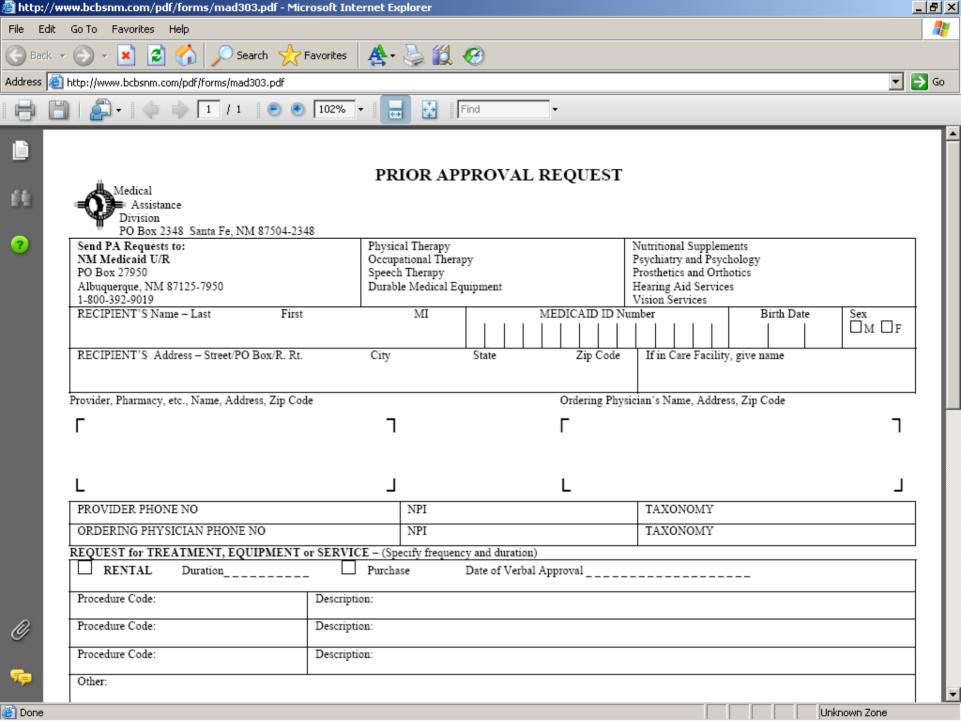


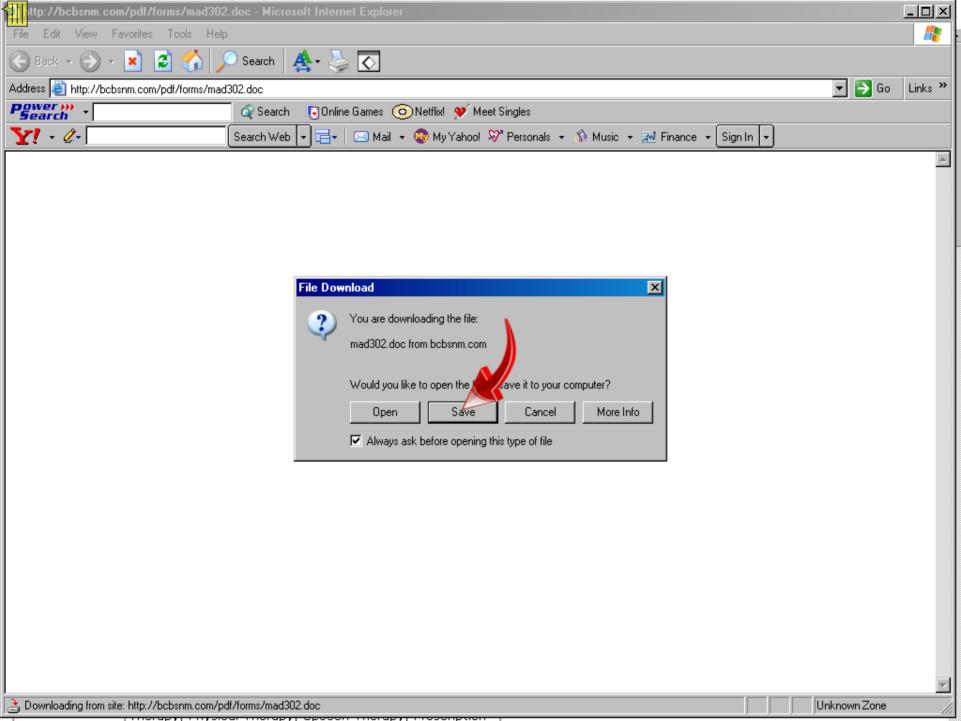


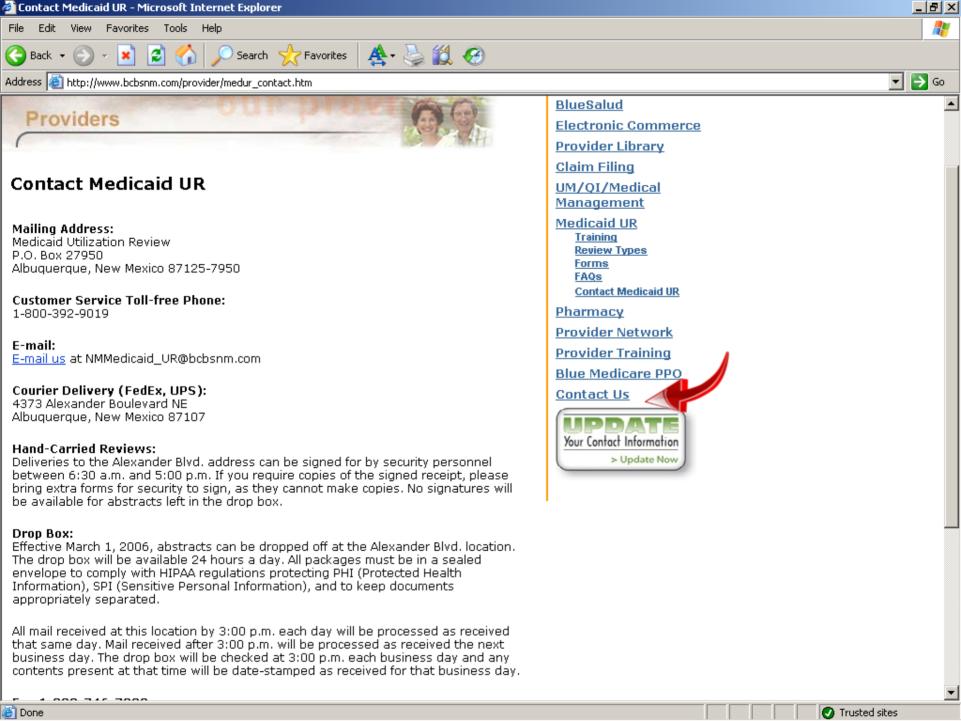












#### Time for Questions

THANK YOU for your time and attention!

