# Spring, 2007 Emergency Medical Services for Aliens

Presented by

New Mexico Medicaid Utilization Review

Blue Cross Blue Shield of New Mexico



### Sending Prior Authorization Requests



#### US Mail

P.O. Box 27950
 Albuquerque 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



### Eligibility

- Medicaid Utilization Review does not provide eligibility information.
- ♦ Eligibility is provided through the local county ISD office.
  - Refer to Medicaid Eligibility Manual, Category 85.
  - Verify the recipient ID number on the claim to the recipient ID number on the MAD 310.



### Required Documentation



- ♦ The provider supplies:
  - > MAD-310 form (from the ISD Office)
  - > Appropriate billing forms (i.e. CMS-1500, UB-04)
  - Pertinent medical records for the service in question (usually the complete hospital medical record or emergency room record)



## 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.



# Required Documentation for a Successful Review

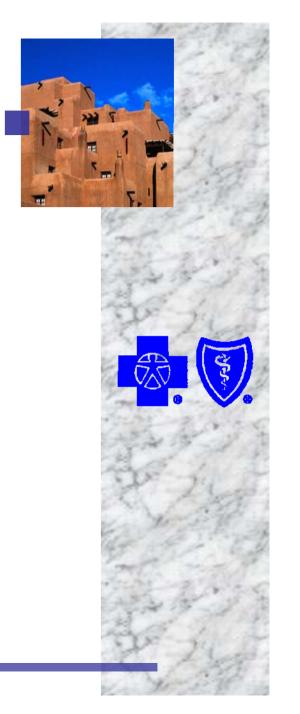


- Labor and delivery records must be complete records (for example, from the time they arrive at the hospital to discharge).
- > Delivery notes, alone, are insufficient.



### Definition of Emergency

◆ "A medical condition, including emergency labor and delivery, manifesting acute symptoms of sufficient severity such that the absence of immediate medical attention could reasonably be expected to result in one of the following:



### Definition of Emergency



- > Individual's death
- Placement of the individual's health in serious jeopardy
- > Serious impairment of bodily functions; or
- Serious dysfunction of any bodily organ or part (MAD Program manual 8.325.10.13)"
- ♦ Scheduled and elective services do not meet the definition of emergency services.



### Non-Covered Services

- Medicaid does not cover the following specific services (MAD Program Manual 8.325.10.15)
  - Long term care
  - Organ transplants
  - > Rehabilitation services
  - Surgical services including scheduled Csections, other than unscheduled emergency procedures
  - > Psychiatric or psychological services



### Non-Covered Services

- > Durable medical equipment or supplies
- > Eyeglasses
- > Hearing aids
- > Outpatient prescriptions
- > Podiatry Services
- > Prenatal care
- > Well child care
- > Routine dental care



### Non-Covered Services

- > Routine dialysis services
- Any medical service furnished by a border or out-of-state provider
- > Non-emergency transportation
- > Preventive care



### 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 and other appropriate clinical professionals.





### Approval Processing

- ◆ Approved reviews are entered into the Medicaid Utilization Review system.
- ♦ A MAD-311 indicating the approval and claim's submission are delivered to ACS for processing.





### Denial of Services

◆ If services do not meet the definition of a medical emergency and they are denied by the peer consultant, due process letters are sent to the provider and the recipient of services.



#### 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.



#### Reconsideration Process

- ♦ The request must be received within 30 calendar days from the date of the re-review 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).



#### Customer Service

- ♦ 800-392-9019 (number is valid both in- and 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 also be contacted via the Internet.





### 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 received).



### Corrected Submissions



- ◆ If a procedure code needs to be added for billing on a previously submitted request, do the following:
  - Make sure all of the information is correct.
  - Submit the corrected submission request with an explanation on the cover sheet as to why the abstract is being re-submitted (i.e. new procedure code).



### Corrected Submissions



- > Do not write on the request.
- Do not submit request more than once. This slows down the process and leaves room for error.
- If your request is denied and you submit the same information it will still be denied. Follow the directions on the denial letter.
- Do call Customer Service if you have questions on the status of your request.



### Getting It Right

- ♦ Check Provider numbers, making sure they are correct as incorrect provider numbers cause payment denials.
- Check Medicaid ID numbers for recipients.
- ◆ Do not submit a duplicate request that has NO changes; call customer service to verify authorization.



### Getting it Right

- ♦ If you receive a conflict of information form, check with the ISD office to resolve the conflict (which is usually stated on the form) prior to re-submission.
- ◆ After verifying MUR received and processed your request, DO call ACS with any questions concerning payment issues.



### Medicaid UR Website

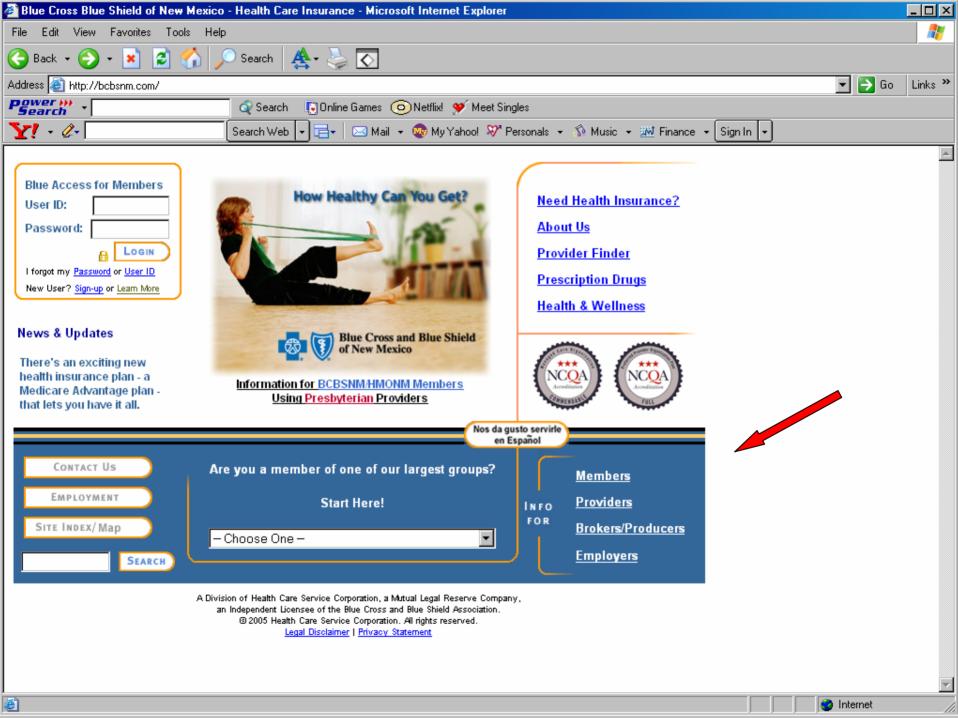
The Medicaid UR website is located at:

http://bcbsnm.com















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#### **Providers**

#### Welcome, Providers

#### News

- Physician's Guide to Radiology Quality Initiative
- Free Blood Glucose Meter Available to Newly Diagnosed BCBSNM/HMONM Members
- Comprehensive Diabetes Resource Available from NMHCTOD
- . Conversion from Social Security Numbers to Unique Identifiers
- <u>BlueLINK telephone referral system</u>
- Information for BCBSNM/HMONM Members Using Presbyterian Providers

#### **Electronic Commerce**

- Electronic Claim Filing
- THIN (The Health Information
- Network) Web Site
- HealthxNet Web Site

#### Claim Filing

- · Claim Filing instructions
- Timely Claim Filing guidelines
- BlueCard Claim Filing instructions
- Appeals Process information

#### Pharmacy

- Drug List Alphabetic
- Drug List Therapeutic Class
- <u>Drug List Limitations, Exclusions, and</u>
   Prior Authorization Criteria
- New Mexico Comparative Formulary

#### **Provider Library**

- Provider Reference Manual
- Medical Policies
- Provider Newsletter
- Forms

#### UM/QI/Medical Management

- Preventive Health Guidelines:
- Adult, Children, and Prenatal
- Clinical Practice Guidelines: <u>Asthma, Diabetes, Hypertension,</u> Depression
- Blue Care Connection<sup>SM</sup>
  Disease Management Programs
- Diabetes Guidelines and Reference
  Materials
- Prior Authorization/Approval
- Case Management Services

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#### **About Medicaid Utilization Review**

Since 1993, Blue Cross and Blue Shield of New Mexico (BCBSNM) has provided focused and expert Utilization Review services to the Human Services Department (HSD) and the Medical Assistance Division (MAD) under a Professional Services Agreement. We work closely with HSD/MAD to provide Medicaid providers with appropriate fee-for-service authorizations for recipients in a timely manner, demonstrating our unwavering commitment to customer service.

We perform reviews for a wide variety of services, including nursing home care, waiver services, durable medical equipment, various therapy services, and dental services. We participate in provider training sessions, offer customer service assistance, participate in development of clinically-based criteria, make recommendations to HSD/MAD for enhancements to programs, and serve as a resource to providers throughout New Mexico.

We recognize the importance of providing timely service to fee-for-service recipients who are often the most fragile of the Medicaid recipients. We remain flexible, adapting to the evolving needs of HSD/MAD, providers, and recipients. We are committed to providing a responsive, knowledgeable work force ready to assist providers with prior approval requests for services. We understand that providers are working closely with recipients to ensure the best service possible, and we are proud to be a member of that partnership.

We are part of Blue Cross and Blue Shield of New Mexico, a company that has been serving New Mexicans for nearly 65 years. BCBSNM is a division of Health Care Service Corporation (HCSC), a Mutual Legal Reserve Company, an Independent Licensee of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association. HCSC has provided us with increased abilities to meet the demands of our customers. Our company has a proud tradition of enhancing New Mexico's quality of life through investment in our community. We have a deep-seated and long-standing commitment to numerous community assistance programs.

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Medicaid UR

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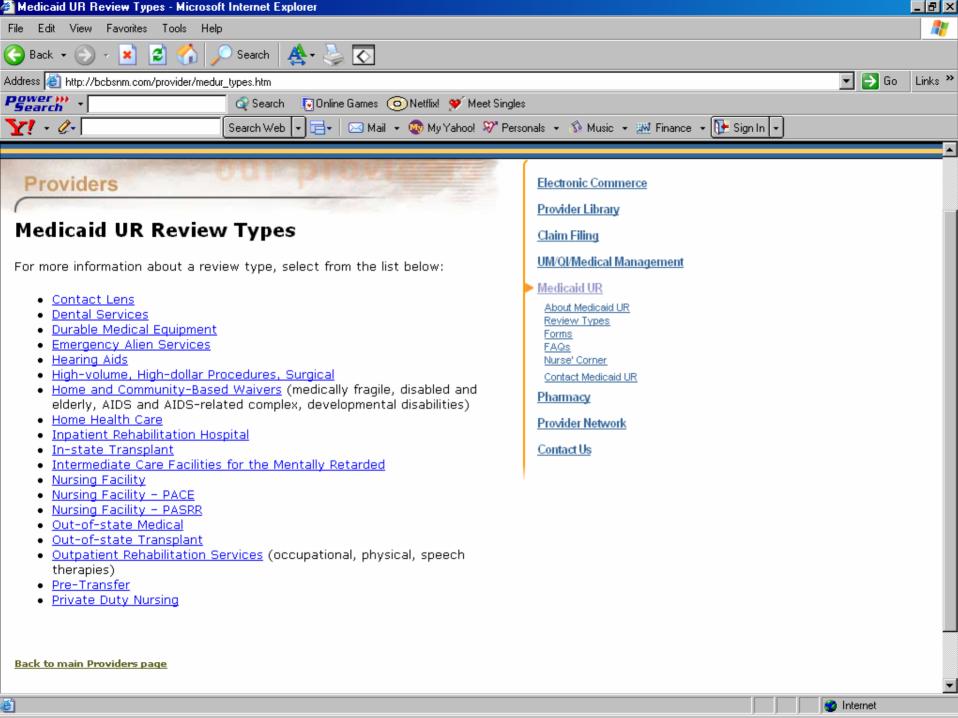
Contact Medicaid UR

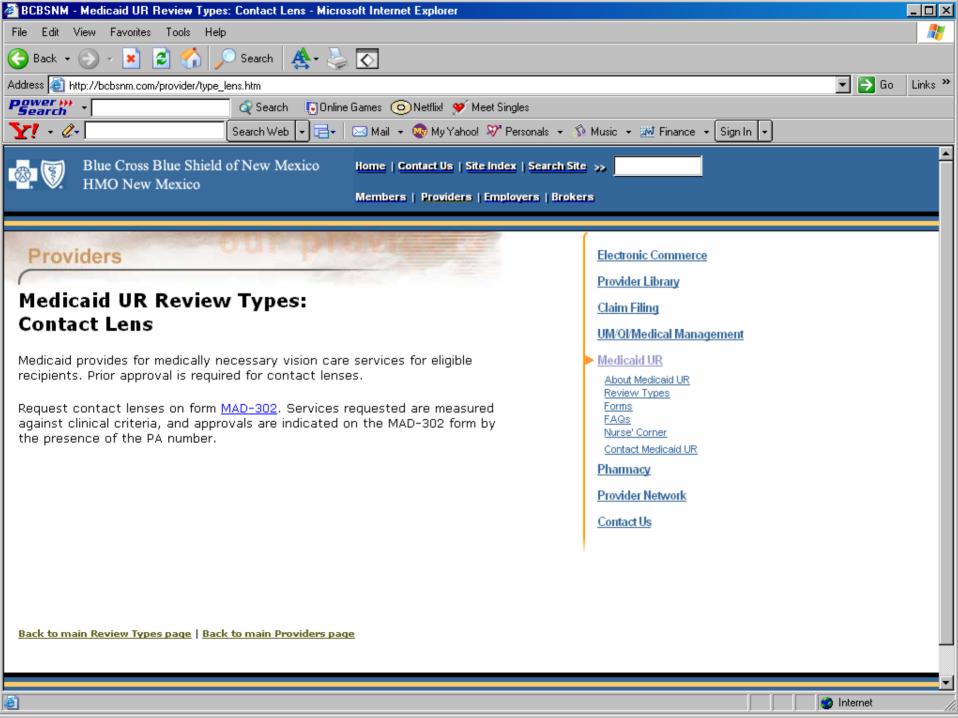
Provider Network

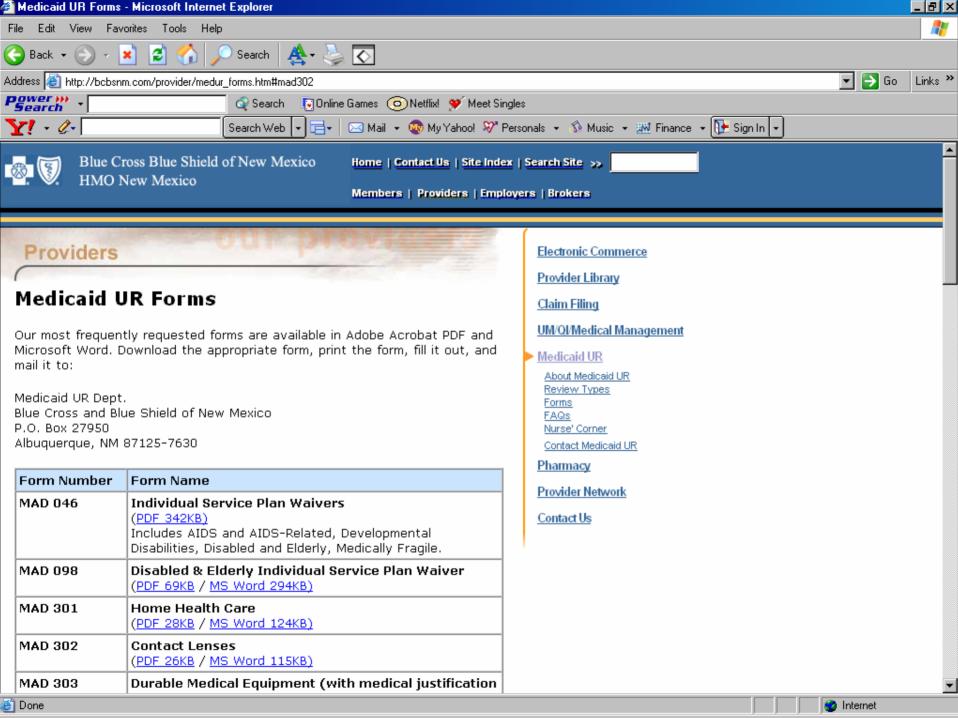
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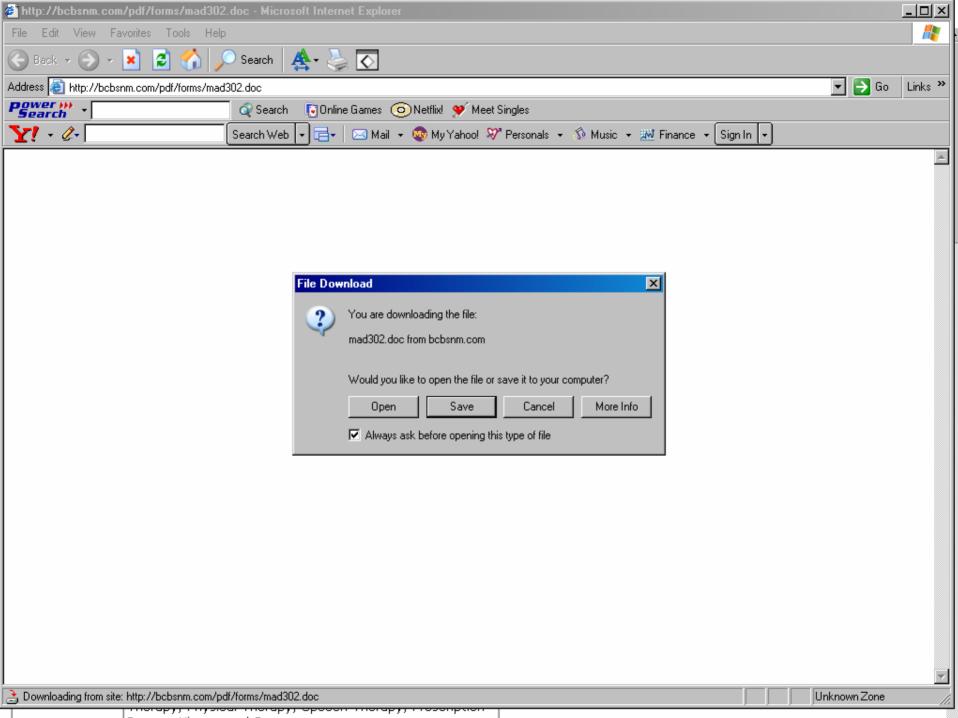
Pharmacy

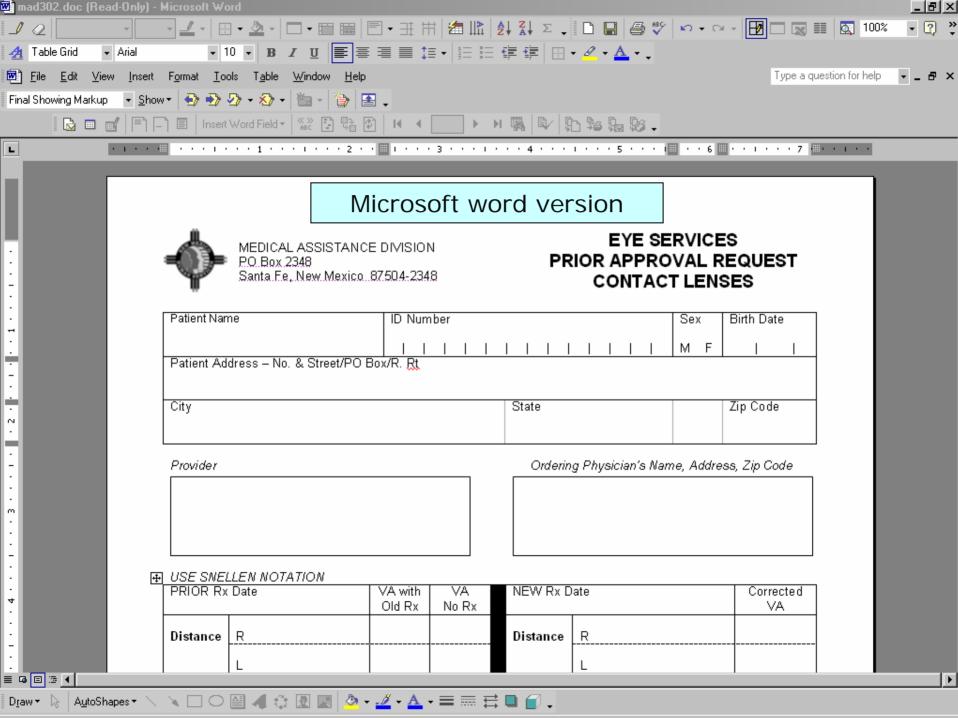


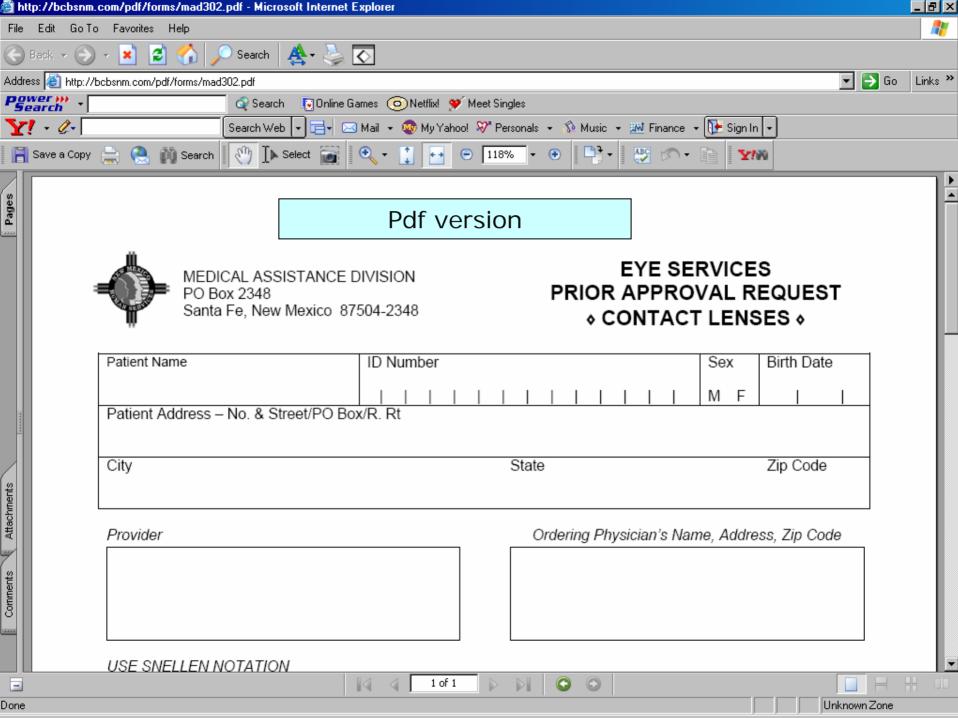














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#### **Providers**

#### **Medicaid UR Frequently Asked Questions**

- What hours can I call Medicaid UR customer service?
- What is the Medicaid UR fax number?

HMO New Mexico

- Can eligibility be verified through Medicaid UR customer service?
- <u>Do I need to notify Medicaid UR if we're under new ownership or if we</u> have a new provider number, or mailing address?
- How do I order a packet Medicaid UR forms?
- What information should I have ready when I call Medicaid UR
- customer service regarding status of a prior authorization request?
- What type of documentation is required for a successful review?
   How can I avoid "buck backs?"

#### What hours can I call Medicaid LIR customer service?

The customer service representatives are available to answer your calls from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Mountain Time, Monday through Friday.

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#### What is the Medicaid UR fax number?

The Medicaid UR fax number is 505-746-7292.

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#### Can eligibility be verified through Medicaid UR customer service?

Medicaid UR does not provide eligibility information. Please Contact ACS at 505-246-2056 or 1-800-705-4452 for eligibility information. Remember, it is the provider's responsibility to verify eligibility.

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#### Providers

#### Medicaid UR Nurses' Corner

Initially, the Nurses' Corner will feature helpful hints regarding the Nursing Facility review process; then it will address other reviews periodically.

In the ever-changing world of health care coupled with its financial

#### Review Type: Nursing Facility NF

challenges, we understand that nursing facilities can experience high turnover in staffing, and inadequate funds available for staff development. For some facilities, this turnover rate can often leave gaps in the knowledge base of the staff regarding required documentation for Utilization Review (UR) for Long Term Care (LTC) services. Other facilities just simply never received adequate training in the correct preparation and submission of the required documents/documentation for a successful utilization review outcome. Whatever the reason, BCBSNM has observed significant knowledge gaps across the board in the LTC setting regarding the submission of the appropriate documentation. We are here to help!

It is our hope that through this article, providers will receive some answers to questions about the LTC abstract process. The whole process is actually quite simple.

There are common errors among LTC facilities that have resulted in either a Request for Information (buck back) or a loss of billable days.

#### Tips

Be sure to clearly indicate what you are requesting (e.g., Initial, Continued Stay, Re-Review, Reconsideration, Readmit, Transfer, etc.).

First and foremost, nursing facilities should send in documentation that supports general eligibility for the level of care (LOC) requested. The resident must require assistance with two or more activities of daily living (ADL). The MDC and C.N.A. flow choose are excellent courses of supporting

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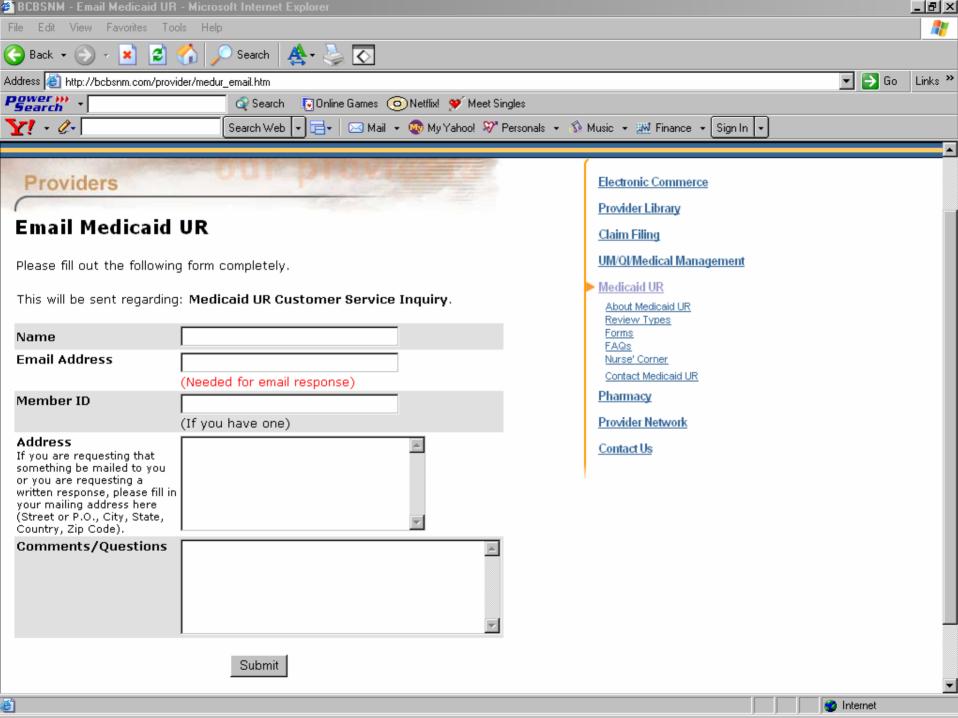
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### Time for Your Questions

♦ THANK YOU for your time and attention!

