



Connections: Families First Annual Report 2010



Alaska Department of Health & Social Services • Sean Parnell, Governor • Bill Hogan, Commissioner

Health Care Services



William Streur,
Director

The Division of Health Care Services administers the core functions of the Alaska Medicaid, Denali KidCare, and Chronic and Acute Medical Assistance (CAMA) programs, ensuring access to quality and appropriate health care for more than 19 percent of Alaska's population.

The division oversees fiscal agent operations, ensures functionality of the current Medicaid Management Information System (MMIS), while managing the MMIS replacement efforts currently under way, and provides regulatory oversight and direct support to over 12,000 providers.

Accomplishments

- Adjudicated 6.7 million claims (13-percent increase over state fiscal year 2009) totaling almost \$1.2 billion (15-percent increase over state fiscal year 2009), for services provided to more than 134,500 Alaskans (5-percent increase over state fiscal year 2009).
- Adopted the Omnibus Medicaid Coverage and Payment Regulations, a multiyear, interdivisional regulations rewrite project.
- Expanded regulations to pay for provision and administration of adult vaccines including pneumococcal, meningococcal, and H1N1.
- Revised prior-authorization requirements for a medication that may prevent a viral infection in premature infants, reducing expenditures by more than \$2 million.

- Fully transitioned to processing claims with National Provider Identifiers only, in compliance with the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA).
- Adopted regulations allowing reimbursement to pharmacists for tobacco cessation counseling.
- Upgraded editing software to ClaimCheck 8.5® to ensure claims processing accuracy.
- Expanded availability of fluoride varnish treatment for children allowing physicians, nurse practitioners and physician assistants to be paid for provision of this preventive service.

Goals

- Incorporation and application of National Correct Coding Initiative (NCCI) edits.
- Adopt regulations allowing recipients to access two years of adult dental benefits for complete dentures coverage in a single year.
- Begin regulatory revision of payment methodologies for dialysis services and durable medical equipment.
- Continue efforts related to 2012 and 2013 compliance deadlines for HIPAA 5010 and ICD-10 code set, respectively.

