

April 10, 2007, First Health began its test period for accepting the dispensing pharmacy's National Provider Identifier (NPI) on Point of Sale (POS) pharmacy claims. We encouraged Oregon Health Plan (OHP) pharmacy providers to take appropriate steps to ensure a satisfactory transition by the national NPI implementation date of May 23, 2007.

However, not all OHP pharmacy providers have the appropriate software updates yet to accommodate the 10-digit NPI. **First Health will extend its final NPI change-over requirement date for pharmacy POS transactions until August 1, 2007.** If you have an NPI and your software accommodates NPI, use it! However, the POS system will continue to accept NABP/NCPDP numbers as the provider ID through July 31, 2007.

First Health has extended the transition period to allow OHP Pharmacy Services providers sufficient time to apply all necessary NPI-associated software updates to POS systems prior to August 1. Please contact your software vendor immediately in order to ensure that you will be able to submit your claims utilizing the NPI by then.

Pharmacy providers should submit the pharmacy's NPI in the service provider ID field (NCPDP field number 201-B1) on pharmacy claims. When submitting claims using the NPI, use the Service Provider ID qualifier of "01" in NCPDP field number 202-B2.

Effective August 1, 2007, providers must submit only the pharmacy's NPI (*not* NABP/NCPDP numbers) in the service provider ID field. Pharmacy claims with adjudication dates on or after August 1, 2007, will reject if you don't submit the service provider's NPI. First Health will allow no overrides for claims that reject due to non-use of the NPI.

NCPDP Fields that require updates:

NCPDP field	Current value	New value	Effective date
Service provider ID (NCPDP field 201-B1)	NABP/NCPDP ID	NPI	April 10, 2007
Service provider ID qualifier (NCPDP field 202-B2)	05	01	April 10, 2007
Prescriber ID (NCPDP field 411-DB)	Medicaid ID	NPI	April 10, 2007
Prescriber ID qualifier (NCPDP field 466-EZ)	05	01	April 10, 2007

Questions?

If your POS claims do not process, contact the First Health claims technical help desk at 1-800-884-7387. Other OHP billing problems can always be addressed at DMAP.providerservices@state.or.us or 1-800-336-6016.

For information on the NCPDP standards, refer to their Web site at:

<http://www.ncpdp.org/frame_news_npi-info.htm>.

