



THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

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HEALTH AFFAIRS

MAY 21 2007

MEMORANDUM FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF ARMY (M&RA)
ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE NAVY (M&RA)
ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE (M&RA)

SUBJECT Guidance for National Provider Identifier Enumeration of Military Health System Organizational (Type 2) Health Care Providers

This policy guidance provides further instructions for Health Affairs (HA) Policy 05-012, "The Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) National Provider Identifier (NPI) Enumeration Policy for Military Health System (MHS) Organizational (Type 2) Health Care Providers "

HA Policy 05-012 provided guidance for implementing a phased approach to NPI enumeration of MHS organizational health care providers, with the first phase focusing on enumeration of MHS pharmacy dispensing locations and military treatment facilities (MTFs) that do billing. This phase was completed in December 2006 and allows the MHS to use the NPI in pharmacy transactions and billing processes. HA Policy 05-012 indicated that implementation of subsequent phases of NPI enumeration was possible and should be anticipated as the MHS continues to identify the need for using the NPI in other business processes.

Since many providers and payers within industry are requiring Type 2 NPIs for some non-HIPAA transactions as well as for referrals, the next phase requires enumeration of those remaining MHS facilities that provide health care services. This will enable the MHS to use NPIs to identify MHS facilities in referrals, as well as other business processes such as enrollment, and will position the MHS for future and currently unforeseen use of the Type 2 NPI. It is critical for those facilities that do not already have an NPI, but generate or perform referrals, be enumerated by May 23, 2007.

Effective immediately, the Military Medical Departments should begin this second phase of NPI enumeration for MHS organizational providers. This phase includes NPI enumeration of MHS organizational providers (e.g., MTFs) that provide health care services such as all dental activities with separate Defense Medical Information System (DMIS) IDs. Determining which facilities to enumerate should be accomplished collaboratively with the NPI Integrated Project Team and according to the guidance found at attachment 1.

The Services are responsible for designating their entities that will be responsible for submitting initial NPI type 2 applications, any future NPI data updates to the National Plan and Provider Enumeration System, and submitting NPIs to the Defense Manpower Human Resources System-internet (DMHRSi)

Once the additional NPIs are obtained, TRICARE Management Activity will continue to work collaboratively with the Services to ensure NPIs are entered into the DMHRSi. The Military Medical Departments should complete this phase of enumeration no later than May 23, 2007. Enumeration of those facilities that need to be identified in MHS referral processes should be the first priority for completion.

My point of contact for this initiative is LTC Thomas Greig who may be reached at 703 681 1703 x5237 or *Thomas Greig@ha.osd.mil*



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Attachment
As stated

cc
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Surgeon General of the Army
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Director of Health and Safety of the U.S. Coast Guard