This Computes!

Department of Health Care Services
Children's Medical Services Network
(CMS Net) - Information Bulletin #275

National Drug Codes (NDCs) Not in CMSNet – Revised

Children's Medical Services Branch receives weekly data downloads of the Medi-Cal Drug Database from EDS to update the NDCs in CMSNet. When a NDC is not found in CMSNet, there may be circumstances to explain this. Manually inputting an NDC into a SAR may not be the best course of action to take.

NDCs will not appear in CMSNet when the:

- NDC is not a restricted drug (separate SAR not needed)
- NDC is not a Medi-Cal benefit (TAR indicator = 2)
- NDC is not yet in the Medi-Cal Drug database (NDC Record Not Found)
- NDC has been manually "turned off" to not appear in CMSNET as requested by CMS Branch, (in most cases, the NDC is obsolete)

When a NDC is manually inputted into a SAR and the NDC(s) fall into any of the last three conditions listed above, claims against the SAR will deny payment. An approved SAR cannot over-ride non benefit status, no record of, or obsolete status of an NDC in the Medi-Cal Drug Database. The Provider will not be paid.

CCS Counties and Regional Office should first confirm if the drug is restricted by determining if the brand/generic name or drug category falls within the restricted drug list found on Page 7 of Medi-Cal Provider Manual Section titled California Children's Services (CCS) Program Service Authorization Request (SAR): http://files.medi-cal.ca.gov/pubsdoco/publications/masters-mtp/part2/calchildsar_m00i00o03o04o07o09o11a02a04a05a06a07a08p00v00.doc

NDCs that are restricted require a separate SAR while non-restricted NDCs can be billed using Service Code Grouping SARs.

If a NDC does not show in CMSNET, CCS Counties should determine if the NDC meets conditions listed above, before manually inputting an NDC into a SAR.

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CCS counties can still issue a brand name over-ride SAR by manually inputting an NDC into a SAR.

If the drug is or should be restricted but it does not appear in CMSNET or when in doubt, contact:

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