State of California—Health and Human Services Agency
Department of Health Care Services

JENNIFER KENT
*DIRECTOR*

EDMUND G. BROWN JR.
*GOVERNOR*

DATE: April 26, 2016

MHSUDS INFORMATION NOTICE NO.: 16-017

TO: COUNTY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH DIRECTORS
COUNTY DRUG & ALCOHOL ADMINISTRATORS
COUNTY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH DIRECTORS ASSOCIATION OF CALIFORNIA
CALIFORNIA COUNCIL OF COMMUNITY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AGENCIES
COALITION OF ALCOHOL AND DRUG ASSOCIATIONS
CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF ALCOHOL & DRUG PROGRAM EXECUTIVES, INC.

SUBJECT: COORDINATION ON THE USE OF NATIONAL PROVIDER IDENTIFIER NUMBERS FOR SERVICE FACILITY LOCATIONS

## PURPOSE

The Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) requests counties and direct providers cooperation in obtaining unique National Provider Identifier (NPI) numbers for each Service Facility Location (SFL).

## BACKGROUND

Prior to the Department of Alcohol and Drug Programs (ADP) transition to DHCS, providers were required to obtain a unique SFL NPI for the location/facility where services are to be rendered. DHCS recognizes that requiring all Drug Medi-Cal (DMC) providers to obtain a unique SFL NPI per location/facility cannot be enforced (Title 45 CFR part 162.412 Implementation Specifications: Health Plans).

## DISCUSSION

Currently, the SFL NPI is the provider's sole unique identifier for DMC adjudication in the Short Doyle Medi-Cal (SDMC) system. SDMC currently approves or denies claims for a facility based on that unique NPI submitted on the claim. Without a unique SFL NPI, the system is unable to determine where the services are rendered. As a result, there are several impacts to the accuracy of the data. Another major impact is that the payment information cannot be uniquely identified, therefore the State Controller's

Office will reject the claim schedule and payments cannot be made. DHCS is currently working on a resolution, affecting multiple systems, to address this issue.

## CONCLUSION

DHCS is requesting all providers, including direct providers to obtain a unique SFL NPI to facilitate timely adjudication and payments to counties and direct providers until our systems are updated to address this issue. If you make changes to the NPI currently associated with a certified location, you must submit a Medi-Cal Supplemental Change Form (DHCS 6209) to update the information. If you have any questions regarding the Supplemental Change Form, please contact the DHCS Provider Enrollment Division, at (916) 323-1945.

## QUESTIONS

Questions regarding this notice may be directed to DHCSMPF@dhcs.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

Original signed by

Karen Baylor, Ph.D., LMFT, Deputy Director
Mental Health & Substance Use Disorder Services