STATE OF CALIFORNIA—HEALTH AND WELFARE AGENCY

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March 8, 1994

TO: All County Welfare Directors
All County Administrative Officers
All County Medi-Cal Program Specialists/Liaisons
All County MEDS Liaisons

Letter No.: 94-27

BENEFICIARY NAME/DATE OF BIRTH MATCH

Ref.: All County Welfare Directors Letter (ACWDL) 87-15

County welfare departments were sent a copy of the Beneficiary Name/Date of Birth (DOB) Match Report February 4, 1994. This ACWDL will explain how to use this report to identify possible duplicate program participation and assist counties in detecting potential program abuse. It also serves to identify duplicate records which were added to MEDS erroneously so that counties can link the records via an EW11 transaction.

Selection of Potential Duplicate Records

The match to identify potential duplicates looked only at currently active Primary, Special Program or Food Stamp records, bypassing any records identified as Minor Consent. Potential duplicates were then identified based on an exact match on first and last name and month and year of birth.

Once potential duplicates were identified, additional screening was done to eliminate records that appeared not to be duplicates. If potential duplicate records both had A or J verified Social Security numbers (SSNs), they were eliminated. The MEDS County ID Cross Reference File was used to identify additional individuals who either are currently or were previously members of the case for each of the potential duplicates. If both of the potential duplicates had additional case members and none of those case members matched on name and birthdate, the potential duplicates were eliminated.

Identification of Actual Duplicate Records

Here are some things to look for in determining which potential duplicates warrant further investigation:

1) Very Likely Duplicates:

- Two SSNs with possible transposition or transcription errors (i.e., two SSNs with almost identical digits).

2) Definitely worthy of further review:

- SSN versus pseudo MEDS-ID;
- Two pseudo MEDS-IDs;
- One of the records is Presumptive Eligibility (aid code 7F or 7G);
- One of the records is Edwards (aid code 38), especially when the potential match is a foster care aid code;
- One of the records has a Last MC/CP Change Date on MEDS that is over three years old; or
- SSN verification code on MEDS is a P,Q, R, T, U, V, or Z.

3) Probably worthy of further review:

- One or both of the records are foster care aid codes;
- The matches include unusual names as opposed to more common names;
- One of the records has a Last MC/CP change Date on MEDS that is over one year old; or
- SSN verification code on MEDS is W,X, or Y.

4) Probably not duplicates:

- J verified SSN versus sight verified SSN with very different SSNs and different day of birth.

How to Correct Actual Duplicate Records

If both records have SSNs, you will need to determine which SSN is the correct one (sources include a copy of the Social Security card from the case folder, use of IEVS Applicant Inquiry or use of the SSA referral form to request information from Social Security).

Before an EW11 can be done to link duplicate records, one of the records must have termination dates on all active segments (i.e., Primary, Special Programs and Food Stamps). The termination dates must be prior to the calendar date on which the EW11 is to be done (i.e., a termination date of February 28, 1994 will require that you wait until March to do the EW11, whereas a termination date of February 8, 1994 would allow the EW11 to be done the day after the termination is submitted).

If one record is Edwards and there is no current Primary segment eligibility on the other record, coordination will be needed with the Edwards county to post an Edwards termination reason so that Edwards eligibility does not continue after the records are linked.

When doing the EW11, if both records have pseudo MEDS-IDs, the MEDS-ID on the record that has been terminated should be identified as the "MEDS-ID Currently Used" on the EW11.

If one of the records is active Supplemental Security Income/State Supplementary Payment with no Food Stamp segment and the other record has a Food Stamp segment, you will need to contact the MEDS Hotline and request that they remove the Food Stamp segment before you do the EW11. Otherwise the EW11 will not work. This is a problem even when the Food Stamp segment does not show any current eligibility.

If you are dealing with a record that has a Last MC/CP Change Date more than two years old, it is possible that there is a problem with the County ID related to some MEDS update logic problems that have since been corrected. You may find that the County ID on the MEDS record is not on the County ID Cross Reference file or is on the County ID Cross Reference file but points to another MEDS-ID (most likely your potential duplicate record). There are very few of these and the resolution varies and is difficult to explain without having samples of the different circumstances, so if you encounter one of these records, send an EMC2 to BKINKADE@HW1 identifying the MEDS-ID and we will coordinate with you on resolving the problem.

If one record is Edwards and the Edwards County ID is not on the County ID Cross Reference file with a 3X aid code (because the record was a foster care record where MEDS established the Edwards eligibility), an EW20 with an ESAC 7 will need to be used to terminate Edwards and post the Edwards County ID to the Cross Reference File so that the EW11 will work. If the MEDS-ID on the Edwards record is a pseudo MEDS-ID, the Edwards County ID must also be entered in the Alternate County ID field on the EW20 in order to pass MEDS edits on interprogram transfer ESACs.

Currently, denials reported to MEDS do not immediately establish a termination date for Presumptive Eligibility (PE); instead Renewal will roll the PE into a hold status so that a County can reactivate the PE when, for example, Aid to Families with Dependent Children has been denied and a Medi-Cal application is being processed. Until a change is made to MEDS to immediately post a termination date when the denial reason indicates duplicate records, send an EMC2 to BKINKADE@HW1 identifying the MEDS-ID and we will submit a file fix to terminate the Presumptive Eligibility and then notify you so that an EW11 can be submitted.

If you have any questions/suggestions about the format of the Name/DOB Reports, please send comments to HS.DSB.Lisa.Murphy on EMC2. If you have any questions on resolving name/date of birth problems, please contact Bonnie Kinkade via EMC2 (BKINKADE@HW1). Please include the MEDS-ID's in the E-Mail so that advance preparations can be made to answer your question.

Sincerely,

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY

Frank S. Martucci, Chief
Medi-Cal Eligibility Branch