



Letter from the Director

My colleagues and I at the ODJFS Office of Ohio Health Plans extend our greetings of the season for this December edition of the MITS News. December holidays and preparation for a new year are typically times when we communicate with acquaintances, friends and family members. Unlike years past, holiday greetings are no longer limited to receiving a card or package in the mail. Gone are the days when we were limited to standing in line at the post office with packages and cards in hand. Technological advances such as electronic greeting cards, photo sharing, and Internet shopping have allowed many of us to use paperless methods to send greetings and gifts to friends and family.

In keeping with this trend, the ODJFS MITS project will offer many opportunities to reduce paper transactions and increase many processes that are currently manually intensive. The following article offers more specifics about the ways in which MITS will help reduce processes that are currently paper intensive. I hope you find it informative.

-John Corlett, Ohio Medicaid Director

MIT'S Offers Opportunities to Reduce Paper Transactions

Many Medicaid service providers have already moved to submitting their Medicaid claims in an electronic format via electronic data interchange (EDI). But despite the recent growth in the use of EDI transactions, many aspects of the Ohio Medicaid program still rely on paper being sent to and from the state, Medicaid providers and consumers. A large part of the rationale for developing the Medicaid Information Technology System (MITS) was to reduce or eliminate manual and other paper intensive processes. Consequently, many MITS business requirements focus on these goals.

Certain paper processes have already been converted to electronic means including using the existing Medicaid Web portal to directly enter and submit claims and check Medicaid eligibility for consumers. In addition, since July 2007, providers have been able to access Medicaid remittance advice online through

the Ohio Medicaid Web portal at the following internet address: <https://medicaidremit.ohio.gov/default/home.jsf>.

Once fully implemented, MITS will offer additional opportunities for the Medicaid program to reduce, or in some instances, completely eliminate paper processes. Although MITS will not completely eliminate paper transactions, it will offer opportunities to progress to electronic alternatives. The chart below lists business functions aimed at paper reduction that are currently available, will be expanded, or will be newly available with the implementation of MITS. Some functions will only be available via the secure password protected section of the Medicaid web portal while others will be available to the general public including Medicaid consumers.

Medicaid Web Portal Opportunities to Reduce Paper and Manual Processes

Medicaid Business Function	Secure Password Protected Section of Medicaid Web Portal	Public Section of Medicaid Web Portal
Provider Claims Submission Using the current Medicaid web portal (see address above) Medicaid providers using professional claims (on form HCFA 1500) can submit them via direct data entry. Once implemented, MITS will expand this capability to Medicaid claims including additional professional, dental and limited institutional claims.	X	
Claims Status & Adjustments / Resubmissions With MITS implementation, Medicaid providers may check the status of any claim(s) they have submitted regardless of how they were submitted (paper, web portal, EDI, etc.). Providers may also submit claims adjustments or resubmit corrected claims.	X	
Electronic Provider Payments By completing the form at this internet web site http://jfs.ohio.gov/OHP/OHP_DirectDeposit.pdf Medicaid providers will be able to receive payment for services via an electronic funds transfer (EFT) rather than receiving a paper check in the mail. EFT offers many benefits including being much faster than processing and mailing a paper check and increased security in the transmission of the payment. Providers need not wait until MITS implementation to apply for EFT since it is a service that is currently available.	X	
Prior Approval for Medical Services and Equipment With MITS implementation, requests for Medicaid prior approval can be submitted electronically using the Medicaid web portal. The only PAs requiring documentation in addition to the online submission will be those requiring submission of a study model or physical exhibit that cannot be submitted in an electronic format.	X	
Submission and Renewal of Provider Applications Medical service providers seeking to participate in the Ohio Medicaid program will be able to complete and submit a provider application on line using the Medicaid web portal. Existing providers whose provider agreements are expiring may also submit application renewals. Independent providers serving Medicaid consumers enrolled in waiver programs will be able to submit their required annual background checks.	X	X
Confirming Medicaid Eligibility and Obtaining Remittance Advice These functions are currently available via the Medicaid web portal and will continue to be available with MITS implementation.	X	
Links to Medicaid Policy Transmittal Letters and Medicaid sections of the Ohio Administrative Code will be available via the Medicaid web portal.		X
Medicaid Provider Locator Service (including search capability by geographic location and medical practice)		X
Links to Medicaid fact sheets, brochures, and programmatic information		X

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for more?**

For past newsletter issues, FAQs, and more information about the Medicaid Information Technology System, log on to the ODJFS Web site: <http://jfs.ohio.gov/mits/info.stm>