

GMDEC Reviewed: August 2008

GMDEC Approved: August 2008

Policy on National Provider Information Number

CMS requires (effective 5/23/08) the use of a standard unique identifier-or National Provider Identifier (NPI) for health care professionals. Although residents do not bill for their services, they should get an NPI because they are often considered the referring physician for consultation requests and orders.

Residents must have a NPI number because Medicare will no longer accept a generic resident claim from a consulting physician. Medicare wants to know which particular resident is the referring physician for a consultation by an attending physician, and will need an NPI to identify these residents individually. The end result is that physicians will have a hard time getting paid if residents do not have NPI numbers.

New residents will register themselves on line for an NPI number during orientation to the computer system. Existing or transferring residents should register on line or the program coordinator can register them. Program coordinators should ensure that their program trainees have an NPI number recorded in New Innovations.

<https://nppes.cms.hhs.gov/NPPES/Welcome.do>

GMDEC Reviewed/Approved: 8/14/2008