

## **NEW CLAIMS EDITING & FRAUD, WASTE & ABUSE PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION**

June 29, 2011

Dear Care1st and ONECare Providers and Billing Staff:

As part of our ongoing effort to improve performance in claims processing and payment, Care1st & ONECare are implementing a new claims editing program that will ensure a more thorough and comprehensive review of all claims by promoting compliance with globally accepted guidelines, including CPT regulations as documented by the American Medical Association, and Correct Coding Initiative (CCI) and Post-Operative Period Guidelines as outlined by the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS).

The new editing program includes edits on Medicare status codes for all lines of business. Medicare establishes a coverage status for each procedure code. The coverage status indicates special coverage, handling, and/or pricing instructions. Examples of common Medicare status codes include:

- *Status B codes – Bundled codes.* Status B covered services are always bundled into payment for other services not specified.
  - Examples of status B codes are 99000 and 36416. These codes are included in the payment for ANY other services rendered on the same date of service.
- *Status T code – Injections.* Status T codes are paid only if there are no other services payable under the physician fee schedule billed on the same date by the same provider. If any other services payable under the physician fee schedule are billed on the same date by the same provider, these services are bundled into the physician services for which payment is made.
  - An example of a status T code is 94760. This service is included in the payment for ANY other services rendered on the same date of service.

In addition to the new claims editing program, Care1st & ONECare are also utilizing Emdeon Fraud Prevention and Investigative Services (in partnership with Sentinel) to identify claim aberrance prior to payment of the claim. In some instances, additional documentation will be requested up front to review billed services.

The new programs will be effective July 1, 2011.

Please contact Provider Network Operations if you have any questions.

***Thank you!***