

Date: February 6, 2007

Subject: National Provider Identifier (NPI) Collection process from Medicaid providers

To: Medicaid Providers

The Bureau of TennCare (TennCare) is ensuring compliance with the federal regulation 45 CFR 162 that states that healthcare providers obtain a unique and permanent provider identifier by May 23, 2007.

TennCare is urging providers to obtain their NPI as quickly as possible. The timely collection of NPIs for Medicaid providers will ensure the ease of claims payment after the May 23, 2007 CMS deadline. Therefore, the delay in obtaining your NPI **may hinder a timely claims payment** process.

Your current provider number cannot be used after May 23, 2007 for payment. TennCare policy requires the use of NPI on all electronic and paper transactions (UB-04, CMS 1500 and Dental) and will follow the proposed Medicare implementation timeline.

**How is an NPI obtained?**

- National Plan and Provider Enumeration System (NPPES)
  - On-line: <https://nppes.cms.hhs.gov/>
  - By phone: 1-800-465-3203