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MEDICAID INFORMATION RELEASE MA08-09

To: Hospital Outpatient Departments, Therapy Provider Groups, Developmental Disability Agencies, Independent Physical Therapists, Home Health Agencies, Physicians, Midlevel Practitioners

From: Leslie M. Clement, Administrator
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Subject: Change in Administrative Rules for Therapy Services (*IDAPA 16.03.09.730*)

On June 1, 2008, the Idaho Department of Health and Welfare (IDHW) will implement new administrative rules regarding therapy services that were passed during the 2008 legislative session. In accordance with these rules, IDHW will:

- Enroll individual occupational therapists (OT) and speech-language pathologists (SLP) as providers.
- Prior authorize OT and SLP services based on limitations defined in the rule.
- Reimburse home health agencies for SLP services.

Important provisions of the new therapy rules include:

- OT is limited to 25 visits per calendar year before prior authorization is necessary.
- SLP services are limited to 40 visits per calendar year before prior authorization is necessary.
- Expectations for supervision are defined.

Provider Enrollment

A licensed therapist who wants to be an independent provider will need to obtain a National Provider Identifier (NPI) number and complete the Medicaid enrollment process.

Important Information for New Providers

- New therapy rules (*IDAPA 16.03.09.730*) are accessible through the state of Idaho Web site at: **http://adm.idaho.gov/adminrules/**.
- Copies of pertinent sections of the provider handbook can be found on the therapy page on IDHW's Web site. The finalized version will be available after July 1, 2008.
- Handbooks, frequently asked questions, provider enrollment application/agreement, and other provider information can be accessed at: **http://www.healthandwelfare.idaho.gov/site/3348/default.aspx**.

If you need further clarification, please contact the Medical Care Unit at: (208) 364-1897 or (208) 364-1835. Thank you for your continued participation in the Idaho Medicaid Program.