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STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES  
Med-QUEST Division  
Clinical Standards Office  
P. O. Box 700190  
Kapolei, Hawaii 96709-0190

May 4, 2010

MEMORANDUM

MEMO NOS.  
ADM-1007  
ADMX-1006

TO: QUEST and QUEST Expanded Access (QExA) Health Plans  
Medicaid Providers

FROM: Kenneth S. Fink, MD, MGA, MPH **KF**  
Med-QUEST Division Administrator

SUBJECT: CLARIFICATION ON CONSULTATION CODES

The Med-QUEST Division (MQD) issues this memo to inform providers that Medicaid Fee-For-Service (FFS) is following Medicare policies and will no longer be covering certain consultation codes. For date of service on or after July 1, 2010, the Evaluation and Management (E&M) codes for consultations, 99241-99245 (outpatient/office settings) and 99251-99255 (inpatient settings), will no longer be reimbursed. FFS reimbursement for other E&M codes will not be affected.

Instead, providers should bill the E&M codes 99201-99205 (outpatient/office new patient), 99211-99215 (outpatient/office established patient), 99221-99233 (inpatient hospital), 99304-99340 (Skilled Nursing Facility, Intermediate Care Facility, care home), 99341-99350 (home), 99281-99285 (emergency room), or when appropriate, critical care codes 99291-99292, 99468-99476, 99477-99480.

To expedite the processing of claims from specialists who provide services upon the request of another physician, the specialist should indicate the name of the referring physician in Form Locator block (FL) 17, and either the referring physician's Medicaid provider ID number in FL 17a, or his/her National Provider Identification (NPI) number in FL 17b.

If a physician submits a claim for an E&M service that has been either denied because the service was provided by another physician or reimbursed at \$0, MQD will correct the claim if documentation shows the service as medically necessary. The physician should submit the

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claim as a "Request for Reconsideration" (Form 240) with clinical notes documenting the medical necessity to the MQD fiscal agent, Affiliated Computer Services (ACS):

ACS Written Correspondence  
1440 Kapiolani Boulevard, Suite 1400  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96814  
Fax: 952-5595 (Neighbor Islands: 800-246-8197)

Each QUEST/QExA health plan will set its own policy regarding consultation codes. The health plans are not being mandated by MQD to adopt any change related to consultation or other E&M code reimbursement, and their respective capitation payments are not being adjusted to reflect the change that MQD is implementing in its FFS program. Please contact each health plan for more specific information.