

Public Health Billing

December 21, 2023

Welcome to the December 2023 Billing Digest!

The IPHA Third-Party Billing project team is pleased to announce the achievement of another major milestone: As of November 30, 2023, the Illinois local health departments that have been contracted with CDP and ezEMRx, IPHA's endorsed vendors for electronic health records (EHR) and third-party billing services, have received **more than \$36 million in paid claims!** In the month of November alone, paid claims revenue was **\$1,154,260.31** - the highest month for paid claims revenue since the inception of this program!



IPHA's partnership with CDP and ezEMRx commenced in July 2015. There are currently 32 public health departments, ***one-third of all the public health departments in Illinois***, using CDP and ezEMRx for EHR and/or billing services.

We are also proud to report that this program is rapidly growing. In May 2023, IPHA was awarded a contract by the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) to help local health departments, community-based organizations, and other healthcare providers build and enhance their capacity to bill Medicaid, Medicare, and private insurance. The goal of this project is to develop, or enhance, third-party billing capacity through infrastructure development and technical assistance. **One of the primary objectives of this project is to expand the use of EHRs by health departments and other community-based healthcare providers. To help achieve this, project funds are currently available to qualified health care providers for the implementation of CDP and ezEMRx for EHR, billing, and RCM services.** These funds will cover most, if not all, of the costs associated with implementation and training for most organizations.

This is an extraordinary opportunity for providers that do not currently have an EHR. To qualify for the funding, all health care providers funded by this project must provide and bill for HIV and/or STI services. If your organization does not currently provide or bill for HIV and/or STI services, you may still qualify. IPHA's HIV/STI prevention staff will provide guidance and assistance to help you implement these services at your facility.

Several health departments have already secured funding from this project and have begun the implementation process. If you would like to secure funding for your organization, please contact me soon, as project funds are limited.

Important HFS news

Important news



The Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services (HFS) is now providing a statewide data exchange platform that delivers vital information to Illinois Medicaid providers in a timely and secure manner, using PointClickCare's Care Coordination Network. **All hospitals, skilled nursing facilities (SNFs), and now federally qualified health centers (FQHCs) and mental and behavioral health providers are**

required by HFS to join the network, or notify HFS by December 31, 2023 of the reason they are unable to.

Many Illinois public health departments are already on the network and getting great benefit from it. This network allows providers to not only receive real time alerts when their patient presents for care, but also visibility into over two years of health history, Continuity of Care Documents, care team information, and care Insights, along with enhanced patient information sharing that helps ensure smooth care transitions and follow-ups. The result is improved care coordination, higher quality care, and more successful outcomes. A list of all providers on the network can be viewed [here](#).

This offering is entirely sponsored by HFS at no cost to the provider. Completion of the initial survey for this requirement is to be completed by December 31, 2023. The survey can be found [here](#). To view additional information about the program, click [here](#).

This month's Most Valuable Resource

Each month, we will highlight a **Most Valuable Resource (MVR)** that you can use to make billing and revenue cycle management a little easier.

This month, we are featuring the **Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP), Post-Exposure Prophylaxis (PEP), and Other HIV Prevention Strategies: Billing and Coding Guide**. This helpful billing guide was recently published by NASTAD (National Alliance of State and Territorial AIDS Directors). The goal of this guide is to provide up-to-date information and best practices for coding, billing, and denial resolution for PrEP and PEP services. NASTAD developed this guide with funding from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). To learn more about this billing guide and to download a copy, please see: <https://nastad.org/resources/billing-coding-guide-hiv-prevention>. There is also an informative video on the website that discusses much of the material in the guide.



Did you Notice?

HFS has recently issued several important Provider Notices:

An updated Practitioner Fee Schedule was issued on December 15th :
<https://bit.ly/479ZN2O>

Beyfortus (nirsevimab-alip) RSV Vaccine: <https://bit.ly/3GLPg3h>

Abrysvo RSV Vaccine for Pregnant Illinois Medicaid Customers:

<https://bit.ly/41uOnFR>

Arexvy RSV Vaccine: <https://bit.ly/471MX6F>

HealthChoice Illinois Admissions, Discharges, and Transfers (ADT) Technology Platform Participation as Required by Federal CMS: <https://bit.ly/3NzM8ey>

UPDATE: New Sections Published under the Comprehensive Billing Guide for Medicaid Managed Care Services: <https://bit.ly/3TBakBb>

Public Health Registered Nurse Services During the Postpartum Period per Public Act 102-0665:
<https://bit.ly/3RNOjh0>

If you have not already subscribed to receive email notifications from HFS when new Provider Notices are posted, you may subscribe here: <https://bit.ly/474dSPe>

To learn more about the many helpful resources available to healthcare providers, please visit the HFS Provider website: <https://hfs.illinois.gov/medicalproviders.html>

In Case You Missed It

On Monday, December 18, IPHA's Assistant Director for HIV Programs, Melissa Graven, RN, BSN, provided an informative webinar entitled, **Third-Party Billing for HIV-STI and Other Public Health Services**. This webinar discussed the important role of third-party billing in sustaining and expanding vital public health services. To view the recording of the webinar, please visit: <https://ipha.com/programs-and-services/healthcare-billing>.



If you ever have any questions or need any advice, don't hesitate to touch base with me.

Sincerely,

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IPHA | **3rd PARTY BILLING**



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