UniCare Health Plan of West Virginia, Inc. (UniCare) NPI requirements when filing a CMS-1500 Form

UniCare appreciates the compassion and dedication with which you care for your patients and our members. High-quality and timely health services for UniCare members requires successful collaboration with you, the professionals who care for them. Because timely notifications and detailed information are an important part of successful collaboration, we encourage you to review the following information.

The NPI is a 10-digit, all-numeric identifier. NPIs are issued only to providers of health services and supplies. As a provision of HIPAA, the NPI is used to improve efficiency and reduce fraud and abuse.

There are two types of NPIs:
- Type 1: individual providers, including physicians, dentists and chiropractors
- Type 2: hospitals and medical groups, including group practices, federally qualified health centers and rural health clinics

For billing purposes, NPIs use the following guidelines:
File claims on a CMS-1500 Form with the appropriate billing, rendering and referring NPI for:
- Billing (block 33a).
- Rendering (block 24j).

The NPI must be attested with the West Virginia Bureau for Medical Services in the same manner as with UniCare, including the effective dates for individual providers within groups.

Who is affected?
All type 2 enumerated providers and sole proprietors who have enumerated as a type 2 (group) are affected.

What is the impact?
There may be payment delays when the NPI is not properly submitted. Claims received by UniCare will be returned if billing or rendering NPI is incorrect.

What if I need assistance?
If you have questions about this communication, received it in error or need assistance with any other item, please contact our Provider Services department at 1-800-782-0095.