

MEMORANDUM

TO: Developmental Services Directors and Billing Managers

FROM: Jessica Bernard, Deputy Director of Payment Reform, DAIL 

DATE: June 30, 2022

RE: Encounter Data

On March 23, 2021 Directors and Billing Managers of Developmental Services were notified via memo that they would be required to begin submitting encounter data as of July 1, 2021. Since that time, claims processing issues have been identified in the Medicaid Management Information System (MMIS). Therefore, DAIL would like to clarify to its provider network that although the submission of encounter claims is required, the Developmental Disabilities Services Division (DDSD) will not be using data from claims with a date of service corresponding with the state fiscal year (SFY) 2022 (July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022) for payment modeling or reconciliation purposes.

Encounter data for SFY 2023 (July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023) is expected to be timely, complete, and follow Medicaid billing guidelines. This data will be used for DS program management and quality oversight, as well as payment reform activities, including future budget modeling, reconciliation, or other related projects.

DDSD and the Department of Vermont Health Access (DVHA) are actively working on the areas where there continue to be issues submitting encounter data. Additional guidance related to these issues will be drafted and reviewed with providers prior to finalizing. The topics pertaining to these issues include:

- Billing to Medicare and third-party insurers prior to billing Medicaid and/or submitting encounter claims to MMIS for clinical services,
- Adding telehealth codes or modifiers for some procedure codes, and
- Adding supervised billing codes for clinical services.

Thank you for your continued work and partnership on this initiative. Please reach out to Jessica Bernard Jessica.Bernard@vermont.gov or Hilary Conant Hilary.Conant@vermont.gov with any further questions.