



IDAHO INDUSTRIAL COMMISSION

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October 16, 2015

Mindy Montgomery, Director

To: Forensic Interview Providers

Re: Policy Change: Child Sexual Abuse Forensic Interviews

Dear Providers:

Recently Idaho Department of Health & Welfare, Division of Medicaid issued a policy change regarding coverage for child sexual abuse forensic interviews through Idaho Medicaid. Effective September 1, 2015, forensic interviews for the suspected child sexual abuse are not covered under Medicaid benefits. (See attached – Idaho Medicaid Policy: Forensic Examinations and Interviews).

Idaho Code § 72-1019 (2), in part, provides authority for the Crime Victims Compensation Program (CVCP) to provide payment for forensic and medical examinations of alleged victims of sexual assault performed for the purposes of gathering evidence for possible prosecution, after collections from any third party who has liability. Since the recent policy issued by Idaho Medicaid states that forensic interviews for the sole purposes of gathering evidence of an alleged crime are not covered, CVCP no longer considers Medicaid a viable third party payment source for this service. Therefore, providers are no longer required to bill Medicaid for sexual abuse forensic interviews, and may bill CVCP directly.

The forensic interview must be performed on or after September 1, 2015, by a licensed therapist, and billed on a CMS 1500, utilizing CPT Code 90791. Payment will be made based on the CVCP Medical Fee Schedule in place at the time the service is delivered. Providers must bill all other third party payment sources that are readily available to the victim prior to billing CVCP.

If you have any questions regarding this issue or would like additional training, please contact me at your convenience. I look forward to working with you and your staff as we transition through this change in protocol. I can be reached at 208-334-6070.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "George M. Gutierrez", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

George M. Gutierrez, Bureau Chief
Crime Victims Compensation Program

encl.