



May, 2007

Dear Iowa physician:

Having and sharing your National Provider Identifier (NPI) in health care transactions is becoming required business practice with government and commercial payers and others. While contingency plans authorized by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) provide some relief from the May 23, 2007, date for mandated NPI use, you should now have your NPI and should be using it as directed by your trading partners. If you do not have an NPI, go to www.cms.hhs.gov/nationalprovidentstand to get started.

Frustrated with CMS' failure to make its NPI database available, member physicians have asked the Iowa Medical Society (IMS) for help in identifying the NPI numbers of referring physicians. In response, IMS has established the Iowa Physician NPI Directory, which will include only the NPIs from Iowa physicians and practices that are submitted to the IMS for this directory.

In order to make this Directory useful for you and as complete as possible, we need you to submit your NPI information to the Directory. On the reverse side of this letter is a form to report your unique NPI number and the NPI number for your practice.

IMPORTANT NOTE: **By providing this NPI information, you are authorizing IMS to release your NPI number to other physicians and physician practices as well as to other HIPAA-covered entities.** IMS intends at this time to limit access to the Iowa Physician NPI Directory to other physicians but may expand access to the Directory to include other HIPAA-covered entities if such access would assist our members in fully implementing NPI use. **If you do not wish the IMS to release your numbers, then please do *not* provide your NPIs to the IMS.**

The IMS will notify you when the Physician NPI Directory is available and how to access the Iowa Physician NPI Directory data. This benefit will be offered to IMS members for *no cost*. Non-members will be able to access the Directory but will be required to pay an up-front access fee.

I encourage you to submit your NPI information *as soon as possible*. If you have questions, please contact Ed Whitver, IMS Senior Vice President of Administration, at (515) 223-1401 or (800) 747-3070, ext. 201.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "James R. Hubbard M.D." in a cursive script.

James Hubbard, MD
President

_____ Yes, the Iowa Medical Society may share this information with physicians and other HIPAA-covered entities.

(If you choose not to authorize the IMS to share the information, you do not need to return this form as your information will not be entered in the Iowa NPI directory.)

Physician First Name <i>(Please print)</i>	Middle Initial	Last Name	Degree (MD/DO)
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UPIN (Legacy Number)

NPI Number

Additional Organization or Subparts:

Organization Name	NPI Number
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Organization Name	NPI Number
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Organization Name	NPI Number
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Contact Name <i>(please print)</i>	Phone	email
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If you have any suggestions or questions, please contact Ed Whitver, Senior Vice President for Administration directly at 515-223-1401 or 800-747-3070, ext. 201. Form may be returned by fax to 515-223-0590, e-mail to ewhitver@iowamedical.org, or mail to:

Iowa Medical Society
Iowa Physician NPI Directory
1001 Grand Avenue
West Des Moines, IA 50265