A Message to

Business Office Managers

8000 Midlantic Drive, Suite 333, Mt. Laurel N.J. 08054

Memorandum

TO: Business Office Managers at AmeriHealth Participating Hospitals in New Jersey

FROM: Kathleen Mariano
Manager, Provider Relations

DATE: December 30, 2003

SUBJECT: ICD-9-CM PROCEDURE CODES PROHIBITED ON OUTPATIENT CLAIMS

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) confirmed that after October 16, 2003, ICD-9-CM procedure codes should not be reported on outpatient claims. The Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System (HCPCS) code set is the adopted HIPAA standard for all outpatient services.

As part of AmeriHealth's contingency plan, both ICD-9-CM and HCPCS procedure codes reported on outpatient claims are currently being accepted. **Effective for claims received on and after February 23, 2004, outpatient ICD-9-CM procedure codes will no longer be accepted.**

You may be capturing ICD-9-CM procedure codes for outpatient services for internal tracking purposes; however, these codes should not be reported on outpatient claims submitted to AmeriHealth. If you continue to use ICD-9-CM outpatient procedure codes, you will receive a message advising you that these codes are invalid.

If you have any questions about this bulletin, please contact your Hospital Service Coordinator or the Hospital Services Department at 856-778-6500.