

PROVIDER BULLETIN

Volume 36 Number 02

<http://dss.mo.gov/mhd/>

September 13, 2013

PHYSICIAN BULLETIN PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT

CONTENTS

- **PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT SUPERVISION GUIDELINES**
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House Bill 315 was passed by the 97th General Assembly and becomes law on August 28, 2013. The bill, in part, changes the definition of supervision for physician assistants (please reference RSMo 334.735 for complete information). While the MO HealthNet Division does not enroll physician assistants as providers, the supervising physician may bill for a physician assistant's services as rendered per Missouri law. Physician assistant services must be billed by the supervising physician using modifier AR.

For dates of service on or after August 28, 2013, with certain exceptions, physician assistants must practice at a location where the physician routinely provides patient care. House Bill 315 specifies certain requirements for level of supervision and for the physician assistant's scope of practice (must be within training and experience). The bill further specifies certain time requirements for the supervising physician to be working within the same facility as the physician assistant. The supervising physician must be immediately available in person or via telecommunication during the time the physician assistant is providing patient care.

Physician assistants must practice within 50 miles of the supervising physician and the location must not create an impediment to effective intervention and supervision of patient care or adequate review of services. The limitation for physician assistants to practice at locations where the supervising physician is not further than 30 miles has been removed.

New language was added to Missouri statute so that physician assistants shall not perform or prescribe abortions. New language in House Bill 315, which can be found at <http://www.house.mo.gov/billtracking/bills131/billpdf/truly/HB0315T.PDF>, also spells out several additional provisions that must be contained in the "physician assistant supervision agreement" between a supervising physician and a physician assistant.

Provider Bulletins are available on the MO HealthNet Division (MHD) (Formerly the Division of Medical Services) Web site at <http://dss.mo.gov/mhd/providers/pages/bulletins.htm>. Bulletins will remain on the Provider Bulletins page only until incorporated into the [provider manuals](#) as appropriate, then moved to the Archived Bulletin page.

MO HealthNet News: Providers and other interested parties are urged to go to the MHD Web site at <http://dss.mo.gov/mhd/global/pages/mednewssubscribe.htm> to subscribe to the electronic mailing list to receive automatic notifications of provider bulletins, provider manual updates, and other official MO HealthNet communications via E-mail.

MO HealthNet Managed Care: The information contained in this bulletin applies to coverage for:

- MO HealthNet Fee-for-Service
- Services not included in MO HealthNet Managed Care

Questions regarding MO HealthNet Managed Care benefits should be directed to the patient's MO HealthNet Managed Care health plan. Before delivering a service, please check the patient's eligibility status by swiping the red MO HealthNet card or by calling the Interactive Voice Response (IVR) System at 573-635-8908 and using Option One for the red or white card.

Provider Communications Hotline
573-751-2896