

URGENT: NJATOD Concerns Regarding Medicaid Alert MA-2026-03 – Significant Impact on OTP Providers

From: Maiysha Ware **Date:** Wednesday, June 17, 2026 | 12:58 PM

To: Adam, Byron, Carrie, David, Kerry, Latrisha, Maria, Nancy, Robert, Shenal, Stephanie, Steven, Susan Loughery, Suzanne, Valerie, Vicki, Margaret, Christie, and Sandra

Subject: URGENT: NJATOD Concerns Regarding Medicaid Alert MA-2026-03 – Significant Impact on OTP Providers

On behalf of the New Jersey Association for the Treatment of Opioid Dependence (NJATOD), I write to express serious concern regarding the implementation of Medicaid Alert MA-2026-03 (Edits for Provider Licensure, effective June 1, 2026) and its significant, and in some cases immediate, impact on Opioid Treatment Program (OTP) providers across New Jersey.

As you know, NJATOD represents the majority of licensed OTPs in New Jersey, serving thousands of individuals in treatment for opioid use disorder each day. We fully support the need for accurate licensure data in NJMMIS. However, we are deeply concerned that the implementation of this alert, without adequate advance notice or a phased compliance period, is already causing widespread claim pends and payment disruptions that threaten the financial stability of our member programs.

Key concerns include the following:

- 1. Inadequate Notice.** OTP providers were not given sufficient advance time to audit and correct licensure records across all individual provider types (servicing, billing, attending, supervising, and operating). Many organizations were unaware of discrepancies in their NJMMIS records until claims began to pend on or after June 1, 2026.
- 2. Licensing Agency Backlogs Beyond Provider Control.** A compounding and critical issue is that many providers are currently experiencing significant delays in license renewals due to backlogs within the State's licensing division. These delays are outside the control of our member organizations. Providers who submitted timely renewal applications and fees may be unable to produce a current license through no lapse in compliance on their part. Penalizing providers for delays attributable to State administrative processes risks disruption to the provider and the patient.
- 3. Cash Flow Risk.** The four-week auto-reprocessing window, while helpful, does not account for the processing lag at Gainwell Provider Enrollment (up to two weeks for updates), creating a precarious window for providers to cure deficiencies before denials occur. For many OTPs operating on thin margins, a wave of claim denials could have serious consequences for operations and patient access to care.

4. Patient Care Implications. Any disruption to OTP revenue directly threatens continuity of care for patients receiving medication-assisted treatment for opioid use disorder, a vulnerable population for whom interruptions in service can have life-threatening consequences.

Requested Relief

NJATOD respectfully requests the following:

- A temporary suspension or extension of the denial trigger beyond the current four-week window to allow providers adequate time to come into compliance;
- Direct outreach from DMAHS and/or Gainwell to affected OTP providers identifying specific NPIs with licensure deficiencies on file, rather than requiring providers to self-identify through the NJMMIS portal;
- A dedicated point of contact at Gainwell Provider Enrollment for OTP providers navigating this process; and
- A collaborative meeting with NJATOD, DOH, DMHAS, and DMAHS to address systemic gaps in the provider enrollment and licensure update process for the OTP provider community.

We are committed to working constructively with the Department to resolve these issues quickly and in a manner that protects both program integrity and patient access to care. I welcome the opportunity to discuss these concerns at your earliest convenience.

Respectfully submitted,

Maiysha Ware



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Coming together is a beginning, keeping together is progress, working together is success - Henry Ford

