

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

744 P Street, Sacramento, CA 95814



June 28, 1990

ALL COUNTY LETTER NO. 90-56

TO: ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS

SUBJECT: MEDI-CAL ELIGIBILITY DATA SYSTEM/CENTRAL DATA BASE
(MEDS/CDB) OVERPAYMENT RECOVERY INDICATOR (ORI)
SYSTEM

On September 26, 1988, All County Letter (ACL) No. 88-129 announced the availability of the Overpayment Recovery Indicator (ORI) on the Medi-Cal Eligibility Data System/Central Data Base (MEDS/CDB). The ORI is a one byte field that can be used by Counties to flag records of former AFDC and/or Food Stamp recipients with outstanding overpayment balances. The ORI "Alert" is intended to facilitate the identification of former recipients with overpayment balances who reapply for benefits in any County. It remains on the recipient's record until eligibility is reestablished or the overpayment is paid.

ACL No. 88-129 provided a detailed description of the ORI system and implementation; the required code application; input and update instructions; and intercounty communications and screens. However, because of the large number of diverse County procedures in the use of the MEDS/CDB database, and difficulties with the coding elements, Counties were unable to use the ORI. The problems have been rectified, the system tested and it is now fully operational.

The purpose of this letter is to provide instructions to facilitate the implementation and use of the ORI in the MEDS/CDB database.

When recipients with outstanding overpayments, regardless of the debt amount, are terminated from the AFDC and/or Food Stamp programs their records should be flagged with an ORI in MEDS/CDB. The ORI indicator will remain on the recipient's record until eligibility is reestablished. If eligibility is not reestablished, the ORI will remain on the record even after it truncates after 14 months of ineligibility.

The ORI is called "RECOVERY" on the MEDS/CDB database. When submitting the ORI on batch transaction use the Data Element Number (DED) of 2020.

The following are the ORI codes accepted by the system:

- 1 AFDC Overpayment - (input by the County on termination transactions [EW30 and EW40])
- 2 Food Stamp Overpayment - (input by County on Food Stamp termination transaction [FX30])
- 3 AFDC and Food Stamp Overpayment (SYSTEM GENERATED - Counties cannot input this number) - In order for the system to reflect ORI code "3", two transactions are required by the County. Both AFDC and Food Stamp participation must be terminated with overpayment balances. This is due to the current MEDS/CDB process that requires individual program termination transactions for each program.

AFDC Termination - On termination transactions (EW30 or EW40) for adult members only, enter "1" in the RECOVERY field. For batch transactions use the DED "2020=1".

Food Stamp Termination - On a Food Stamp termination transaction (FX30) for adult members only, enter "2" in the RECOVERY field. For batch transactions use the DED "2020=2".

If both AFDC and Food Stamp overpayment transactions have been received, the MEDS/CDB system will automatically generate an ORI of "3".

Input/Removal of ORI Code - The County should enter the ORI when an AFDC/Food Stamp recipient with an overpayment, regardless of the debt amount, is terminated from the program.

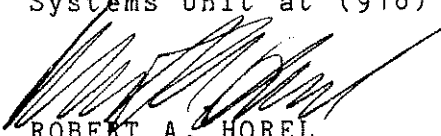
The County of current eligibility is responsible for removing the code when 1) there has been a key-entry error or 2) the recipient has paid off his/her overpayment. To remove the code use an EW30 for Medi-Cal or an FX30 for Food Stamps and enter a space in the RECOVERY field. On batch transactions enter DED "2020=,".

Reestablishing Eligibility - When a recipient record with an ORI indicator is reactivated because benefits have been reestablished, the system will automatically delete (change) the ORI indicator to the appropriate code number based on the type of program benefits that have been reestablished. If the recipient record has an ORI "3" and AFDC is reestablished, the system will subtract one and leave an ORI "2" on the MEDS/CDB database. If Food Stamp eligibility is reestablished, the system will subtract two and leave an ORI code "1".

Alerts - The MEDS/CDB system will generate Worker Alerts to both the County of reestablished eligibility and the prior County of eligibility. These alerts advise the workers that eligibility is being established on a case with an overpayment.

The use of ORI should result in increased collections and also serve as an intercounty transfer communication link.

Should you require additional information regarding the ORI, please call the Overpayment Recovery Bureau at (916) 322-5387. If you need technical assistance in the implementation of the ORI in the MEDS/CDB database please direct your inquiries to the Department of Health Services, Medi-Cal Eligibility Branch, Systems Unit at (916) 322-3463.



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Deputy Director