

Bulletin Number: HASA 22-04

Distribution: Nursing Facilities

Issued: February 11, 2022

Subject: COVID-19 Response: Update to Bulletin MSA 21-43

Effective: October 1, 2021

Programs Affected: Medicaid

As a result of the federal emergency health declaration, the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) issued bulletin [MSA 21-43](#) on October 26, 2021, which identified temporary changes to the non-available bed plan policy. The purpose of this policy is to update bulletin MSA 21-43 to provide clarification regarding the return of beds to service.

Returning Beds to Service to Treat COVID-19-Positive Residents

Nursing facilities with non-available bed plans may return beds to service to treat COVID-19-positive residents. Returning a bed to service to treat COVID-19-positive residents will not negate the non-available bed plan.

When a provider returns a bed to service to treat a COVID-19-positive resident, the bed will be returned to service for the duration of the resident's COVID-19 treatment. During this time, the bed will be included in the facility's occupancy calculations. Once the COVID-19-positive resident has completed treatment and has been discharged, the bed will resume a non-available bed designation and be removed from the facility's occupancy calculations.

Providers must maintain a COVID-19 Beds Returned to Service log. This log has been made available to providers in the Administrator's Area of File Transfer, and must be submitted every three months.

Returning Beds to Service for Reasons Not Related to COVID-19

In accordance with [MSA 20-16](#), nursing facilities with a non-available bed plan may return beds to service without prior approval from MDHHS Long Term Care Reimbursement and Rate Setting Section (RARRS). The provider must notify MDHHS RARRS in writing within 30 days of the use of non-available beds. Returning beds to service for reasons not related to COVID-19 will negate the non-available bed plan.

Public Comment

The public comment portion of the policy promulgation process is being conducted concurrently with the implementation of the change noted in this bulletin. Any interested party wishing to comment on the change may do so by submitting comments to Ian Lowers via e-mail at LowersI1@michigan.gov.

Please include "COVID-19 Response: Update to Bulletin MSA 21-43" in the subject line.

Comments received will be considered for revisions to the change implemented by this bulletin.

Manual Maintenance

Information in this bulletin is time-limited and will not be incorporated into any policy or procedure manuals.

Questions

Any questions regarding this bulletin should be directed to Provider Inquiry, Department of Health and Human Services, P.O. Box 30731, Lansing, Michigan 48909-8231, or e-mailed to ProviderSupport@michigan.gov. When you submit an e-mail, be sure to include your name, affiliation, NPI number, and phone number so you may be contacted if necessary. Typical Providers may phone toll-free 800-292-2550. Atypical Providers may phone toll-free 800-979-4662.

An electronic copy of this document is available at www.michigan.gov/medicaidproviders >> Policy, Letters & Forms.

Approved



Kate Massey, Director
Health and Aging Services Administration