

Bulletin Number: MSA 12-19

Distribution: Hospice, Practitioners

Issued: June 1, 2012

Subject: Expansion of Hospice Face-to-Face Encounter to Allow Services by a Hospice-Employed Physician Assistant (PA)

Effective: July 1, 2012

Programs Affected: Medicaid

Background

Medicaid covers services performed by a physician assistant (PA) under the delegation and supervision of a physician licensed under part 170, part 175, or part 180 of Michigan Public Act 368 of 1978, as amended. The supervising physician must comply with the physician delegation and supervision requirements for utilizing PAs specified in Public Act 368 of 1978, as amended, and any related rules promulgated by the State of Michigan or its Departments.

Medicaid only covers services performed by a PA under the delegating/supervising physician's NPI number. The supervising physician is responsible for the services performed by the PA.

Face-to-Face Encounter

Effective November 1, 2011, Medicaid implemented the requirement that hospices conduct a face-to-face encounter with every hospice patient prior to the 180th day of recertification of the patient's terminal illness. Medicaid policy bulletin MSA 11-45 allows a hospice physician or hospice nurse practitioner (NP) to perform and attest to the face-to-face encounter.

Effective July 1, 2012, Medicaid will expand policy under the hospice face-to-face requirement to allow a hospice-employed PA to perform the face-to-face encounter. In addition to the hospice physician or hospice NP, a hospice PA may perform the face-to-face encounter with the hospice beneficiary. The PA must attest in writing to the encounter and include the date of the visit. A NP or PA is allowed to perform and attest to the face-to-face encounter; however, the hospice physician must certify and recertify the terminal illness.

Manual Maintenance

Retain this bulletin until the information has been incorporated into the Michigan Medicaid Provider Manual.

Questions

Any questions regarding this bulletin should be directed to Provider Inquiry, Department of Community Health, P.O. Box 30731, Lansing, Michigan 48909-8231, or e-mail at ProviderSupport@michigan.gov. When you submit an e-mail, be sure to include your name, affiliation, and phone number so you may be contacted if necessary. Providers may phone toll-free 1-800-292-2550.

Approved



Stephen Fitton, Director
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