

August 4, 2020

<Provider Name>
<Provider Address 1>
<Provider Address 2>
<City> <State> zipcode5-zipcode4

Dear Nursing Facility Provider:

On March 25, 2020, the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) issued Medical Services Administration (MSA) Bulletin MSA 20-16, COVID-19 Response: Options for the Use of Nursing Facility (NF) Beds. The purpose of this letter is to provide additional guidance for NFs using these options.

Bulletin MSA 20-16 allows NFs to use Medicare-certified beds for Medicaid beneficiaries without first submitting a bed certification request. The request would be submitted after the Emergency Order ends with retroactive effective dates.

Guidance on use of Medicare-certified beds for Medicaid beneficiaries:

Providers must use the attached spreadsheet, Medicare-or Licensed-Only Bed Use Report (COVID-19), to report the use of each Medicare or licensed-only bed for a Medicaid beneficiary. The spreadsheet provides a separate log for Medicare beds and licensed-only beds and requires identifying the beginning and end dates and the payer source for each use. Given the circumstances, bulletin MSA 20-16 is intended to be time-limited, and MDHHS will notify providers of its termination. The spreadsheet will be due 30 days after the end of the effective period of MSA 20-16. E-mail the spreadsheet to MDHHS-BEDCERTS@Michigan.gov. If a Medicaid beneficiary is using a non-Medicaid bed after July 1, 2020, that beneficiary should be moved to the first available Medicaid bed that is appropriate for the beneficiary COVID-19 status.

Bed certification approval letters for the bed use delineated in the spreadsheet will be issued by MDHHS. NFs seeking to make changes for future bed use may submit a standard request to MDHHS and the Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs. These requests will be reviewed based upon the criteria described in the MDHHS Medicaid Provider Manual, Nursing Facility Chapter, Certification, Survey and Enforcement Appendix, which can be found at www.michigan.gov/medicaidproviders >> Policy, Letters & Forms >> Medicaid Policy Manual.

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MSA 20-16 also allows NFs with non-available bed plans to use those beds without prior approval.

Guidance on use of Non-Available Beds Without Prior Approval:

- A NF may return some of the non-available beds to service without negating the entire plan (through bulletin MSA 20-16) but would need to notify the MDHHS Reimbursement and Rate Setting Section (RARSS) in writing within 30 days of the beds being taken out of service. E-mail the notification to DARS@Michigan.gov.
- NFs may return non-available beds to a non-available bed designation (if they were returned to service specifically through bulletin MSA 20-16) after the emergency order has ceased if their bed plan was not already scheduled to end, but would need to notify RARSS within 30 days of the end of the emergency order.
- Changes in non-available bed capacity must be reported on WS B of the Medicaid cost report.

Questions may be submitted via e-mail to Steve Bolin at bolins1@michigan.gov using the subject line "MSA 20-16 Clarification".

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'K. Massey', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Kate Massey, Director
Medical Services Administration

attachment

