

November 4, 2020

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

Dear Provider:

RE: Long Term Supports and Services (LTSS) COVID-19 Response: Level of Care Determination (LOCD) End Date Extensions Phase III

The purpose of this letter is to allow continuing flexibilities related to the completion of existing LOCDs with end dates that fall between November 1, 2020 and February 28, 2021 due to the COVID-19 public health emergency. The LOCD is an eligibility tool used to determine functional eligibility of individuals seeking LTSS in a Medicaid-certified nursing facility, MI Choice, Program of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE), and MI Health Link Waiver.

Due to the ongoing COVID-19 public health emergency, MDHHS will extend the end date of existing LOCDs in the Community Health Automated Medicaid Processing System (CHAMPS) where the end dates fall between November 1, 2020 and February 28, 2021. The extended end dates will be visible in CHAMPS no later than October 31, 2020. The following LOCDs will be extended **up to 180 days: existing eligible LOCD Records (Doors 1-8, 67, 77) with end dates of November 1, 2020 through February 28, 2021.**

If your beneficiary has an LOCD record that has been extended, no action is needed by the provider or agency. **Providers should not conduct LOCDs during this timeframe if there is an existing eligible LOCD in CHAMPS for the beneficiary.**

NOTE: Based on Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) guidance during the pandemic, existing eligible LOCD records (Doors 1-8, 67, 77) cannot be extended without reassessment for more than 730 days past the original LOCD Start Date (365 days past the original LOCD End Date). For example, if the original LOCD Start Date is June 1, 2019 and the LOCD End Date is June 1, 2020, then the LOCD End Date can only be extended up to June 1, 2021. **Those LOCD records that have been extended 365 days past the original End Date cannot be extended further and will require a new LOCD to be conducted.**

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At the conclusion of this public health emergency, Medicaid LTSS providers must ensure the beneficiary continues to meet eligibility requirements on an ongoing basis. The LTSS provider will be responsible for conducting a new LOCD if there was a significant change in the beneficiary's condition.

Policy information for the LOCD can be found in the Nursing Facility Level of Care Determination Chapter of the MDHHS Medicaid Provider Manual at www.michigan.gov/medicaidproviders >> Policy, Letters & Forms.

MDHHS strongly encourages providers to subscribe to COVID-19 updates at www.Michigan.gov/coronavirus.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'K. Massey', followed by a horizontal line.

Kate Massey, Director
Medical Services Administration