



STATE OF MARYLAND

DHMH

Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene

201 W. Preston Street • Baltimore, Maryland 21201

Martin O'Malley, Governor – Anthony G. Brown, Lt. Governor – Joshua M. Sharfstein, M.D., Secretary

MARYLAND MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM**Hospital Transmittal No. 218****April 06, 2012**

To: Hospital Providers

From: Susan J. Tucker, Executive Director
Office of Health ServicesThomas Sullivan, Director
Inmate Health Services, Division of CorrectionsRe: Inpatient Hospitalization of Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services
Inmates**Note: Please ensure that appropriate staff members in your organization are informed of the contents of this transmittal.**

The Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DHMH) and the Maryland Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (DPSCS) have agreed to cover the payment of inpatient hospitalization for Medicaid eligible State Correctional inmates under the Maryland Medicaid Program. Currently, DPSCS is covering the cost of all inpatient services with 100% State funds. Under Federal Medicaid rules, Medicaid can cover inpatient hospitalization for eligible inmates and claim Federal funds for these services. Therefore, effective for dates of service beginning **May 1, 2012**, Maryland Medicaid will be responsible for paying for medically necessary inpatient hospitalization for Medicaid eligible inmates. Hospital providers will be responsible for following Medicaid required utilization and payment procedures for eligible inmates when they are hospitalized. DPSCS will no longer pay for inpatient hospitalization for inmates whose inpatient services can be paid for by Medicaid. Inmates who are not eligible for Medicaid will continue to be reimbursed by the DPSCS.

Beginning **May 1, 2012**, hospitals should now check the Medicaid Eligibility Verification System (EVS) to determine if the inmate is currently eligible for Medicaid coverage. If the inmate has coverage, then the hospital will be responsible for following the required utilization review process for either fee for service or for the Managed Care Organization in which the inmate is enrolled.

Inpatient admissions for inmates include: planned inpatient hospitalizations, emergent care hospitalizations and “Bedside Commitments” (existing hospital inpatients who are committed to the DPSCS while hospitalized).

Planned Hospital Admissions

Prior to the admission to the hospital, Wexford Health, the DPSCS Utilization Control Agent, will inform the hospital if the inmate has current Medicaid eligibility. If the inmate is eligible, the hospital will be responsible for obtaining timely preauthorization from either Delmarva Foundation if the inmate is in fee for service or the appropriate MCO if the inmate is in HealthChoice. The hospital will also be responsible for following all other utilization requirements including concurrent and retrospective reviews.

Emergency Admissions

When an inmate has been admitted as an emergency whether by ambulance or by DPSCS transportation, the hospital should immediately check EVS to determine if the inmate is Medicaid eligible. If EVS confirms that the inmate is eligible, the hospital should follow the required notification procedures for either fee for service or the MCO. For fee for service, the hospital is required to notify Delmarva and start the concurrent review process within 48 hours of admission or by the next business day. For HealthChoice enrollees, follow the timeframes established by the MCO.

Bedside Commitments

There are occasional situations in which a patient is admitted as an inpatient to a hospital and during their hospital stay the court decides to commit the person to DPSCS. The person’s legal status changes after he or she is admitted. The date of the bedside commitment order from the court is the date DPSCS shall assume responsibility for the bedside commit inmate. Since this patient was not an inmate when being admitted, the hospital should have already checked EVS for Medicaid eligibility. If the patient is eligible, the hospital should immediately contact either Delmarva if in fee for service or the MCO if in HealthChoice and start the required utilization review process. The patient’s bedside commit status will make no difference in the coverage of the stay by Medicaid and the hospital should continue to follow normal Medicaid utilization and payment rules for these inmates.

Some inmates may potentially qualify for Medicaid eligibility but are not enrolled at the time of their hospitalization. For these inmates, a Wexford Health Medicaid specialist will work with the hospital to complete and submit the application for Medicaid eligibility. The Medicaid specialist can be reached at 877-939-2884. Once Medicaid eligibility is established, the hospital should follow the normal procedures for obtaining a 3808 review with Delmarva Foundation so that the claim can be covered by Medicaid fee for service.

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Questions concerning DPSCS requirements or procedures should be directed to:

Ms. Patricia Casey, Manager Utilization Management
Wexford Health Sources, Inc.
425 Holiday Drive
Pittsburgh, PA 15220
(412) 937-3623

Questions concerning the Medicaid requirements or procedures should be directed to:

Denise James,
Chief, Hospital Unit
Division of Hospital Services
Department of Health and Mental Hygiene
201 W. Preston Street
Baltimore, Maryland 21201
(410) 767-1939

Questions concerning DPSCS' roles and responsibilities regarding the inmate Medicaid inter-agency initiative should be directed to:

Mr. Thomas Sullivan, Director Inmate Health Services
Division of Corrections
Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services
6776 Reisterstown Road Baltimore, Maryland 21201
Baltimore, MD 21215
(410) 585-3368