

PROVIDER BULLETIN

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CONTENTS

- **CONCURRENT CARE FOR CHILDREN IN HOSPICE**

CONCURRENT CARE FOR CHILDREN IN HOSPICE

Section 2302 of the Affordable Care Act (aka Health Care Reform) entitled “Concurrent Care for Children” removes the prohibition of receiving curative treatment upon the election of the hospice benefit. Therefore, effective for dates of service on or after April 1, 2010, MO HealthNet hospice services for children (ages 0-20) may be concurrent with the care related to curative treatment of the condition for which a diagnosis of a terminal illness has been made. The Affordable Care Act does not change the criteria for receiving hospice services or the hospice provider responsibility. The hospice provider continues to be responsible for all services related to the palliation and support services for the terminally ill.

Claims for curative treatment services for children enrolled in hospice should be submitted for reimbursement by the provider of the service in the same manner as claims for individuals not enrolled in hospice. Claims for curative services will be reviewed on an individual basis.

The hospice provider must continue to submit the Hospice Election Statement, Physician Certification of Terminal Illness, and Notification of Termination of Hospice Benefit. The above mentioned forms may be faxed to MO HealthNet Division (MHD) at (573) 526-4650 rather than being mailed. The Hospice Election Statement and the Notification of Termination of Hospice Benefit are due to MHD within 5 days of their execution so that benefits can be administered correctly. The Physician Certification of Terminal Illness is due within 10 days and the Physician Certification of Terminal Illness (recertification) is due within 5 days. Late submissions can cause denial of services to participants, denial of payment to providers, and incorrect payments.

Provider Bulletins are available on the MO HealthNet Division (MHD) (Formerly the Division of Medical Services) Web site at <http://dss.mo.gov/mhd/providers/pages/bulletins.htm>. Bulletins will remain on the Provider Bulletins page only until incorporated into the [provider manuals](#) as appropriate, then moved to the Archived Bulletin page.

MO HealthNet News: Providers and other interested parties are urged to go to the MHD Web site at <http://dss.missouri.gov/mhd/global/pages/mednewssubscribe.htm> to subscribe to the electronic mailing list to receive automatic notifications of provider bulletins, provider manual updates, and other official MO HealthNet communications via E-mail.

MO HealthNet Managed Care: The information contained in this bulletin applies to coverage for:

- MO HealthNet Fee-for-Service
- Services not included in MO HealthNet Managed Care

Questions regarding MO HealthNet Managed Care benefits should be directed to the patient's MO HealthNet Managed Care health plan. Before delivering a service, please check the patient's eligibility status by swiping the red MO HealthNet card or by calling the Interactive Voice Response (IVR) System at 573-635-8908 and using Option One for the red or white card.

Provider Communications Hotline
573-751-2896