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**Related Clinical Coverage Policies**

Refer to <http://dma.ncdhhs.gov/> for the related coverage policies listed below:

9, Outpatient Pharmacy Program

2B-1, Nursing Facilities

3L, Personal Care Services

3A, Home Health

3K-1, Community Alternatives Programs for Children (CAP/C) Waiver

3K-2, Community Alternatives Programs for Disabled Adults (CAP/DA)

## **1.0 Description of the Procedure, Product, or Service**

The NC Medicaid (Medicaid) and NC Health Choice (NCHC) hospice benefit is a comprehensive set of services, identified and coordinated by a hospice interdisciplinary group (IDG). The IDG to deliver medical, nursing, social, psychological, emotional and spiritual services to enable physical and emotional comfort and support using a holistic approach to maintain the best quality of life for a terminally ill beneficiary, their family and caregivers. The priority of hospice services is to meet the needs and goals of the hospice beneficiary, family and caregivers with daily activities and to help the terminally ill beneficiary with minimal disruption to normal activities, in their environment that best meets the care and comfort needs of the patient and unit of care.

The hospice IDG achieves this by organizing and managing, a comprehensive care plan focused on coordinating care, services and resources to beneficiaries, caregivers, and families' necessary for the palliation and management of the terminal illness and related conditions.

Only Medicare-certified and North Carolina licensed hospice agencies are eligible to participate as Medicaid hospice providers through NC Division of Health Service Regulation ([www.ncdhhs.gov](http://www.ncdhhs.gov)). Each site providing hospice services must be separately licensed. The North Carolina Medical Care Commission has rulemaking authority for hospice. The statutes that apply to hospice agencies are General Statute 131E-200 through 207 and the licensure rules are under Title 10A of the North Carolina Administrative Code (10A NCAC 13K); (G.S. 131E, Article 9, 175-190) and administrative rules (10A NCAC Subchapter 14C).

A Hospice provider must have a contract with a nursing home or hospital if services are provided within those facilities.

**Note:** Throughout this policy, wherever the word “family” is used, “caregivers” are included unless specifically stated otherwise.

### **1.1 Definitions**

#### **1.1.1 Hospice**

Definition under 10A NCAC 13 K.0102 (9), GS §131E-201(3) and GS § 131E-176(13a).

#### **1.1.2 Terminal illness**

Terminally ill and terminal illness definition under 42 CFR §418.3.

## 2.0 Eligibility Requirements

### 2.1 Provisions

#### 2.1.1 General

*(The term “General” found throughout this policy applies to all Medicaid and NCHC policies)*

- a. An eligible beneficiary shall be enrolled in either:
  1. the NC Medicaid Program (*Medicaid is NC Medicaid program, unless context clearly indicates otherwise*); or
  2. the NC Health Choice (*NCHC is NC Health Choice program, unless context clearly indicates otherwise*) Program on the date of service and shall meet the criteria in **Section 3.0 of this policy**.
- b. Provider(s) shall verify each Medicaid or NCHC beneficiary’s eligibility each time a service is rendered.
- c. The Medicaid beneficiary may have service restrictions due to their eligibility category that would make them ineligible for this service.
- d. Following is only one of the eligibility and other requirements for participation in the NCHC Program under GS 108A-70.21(a): Children must be between the ages of 6 through 18.

#### 2.1.2 Specific

*(The term “Specific” found throughout this policy only applies to this policy)*

##### a. Medicaid

A beneficiary with Medicaid for Pregnant Women (MPW) is eligible for hospice services only if the terminal illness is pregnancy related. Refer to **Subsection 5.1** for information regarding prior approval for MPW beneficiaries.

A beneficiary who is dually eligible for Medicare and Medicaid hospice shall elect both programs simultaneously Refer to **Subsection 5.8**

##### b. NCHC

None Apply

### 2.2 Special Provisions

#### 2.2.1 EPSDT Special Provision: Exception to Policy Limitations for a Medicaid Beneficiary under 21 Years of Age

##### a. **42 U.S.C. § 1396d(r) [1905(r) of the Social Security Act]**

Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic, and Treatment (EPSDT) is a federal Medicaid requirement that requires the state Medicaid agency to cover services, products, or procedures for Medicaid beneficiary under 21 years of age **if** the service is **medically necessary health care** to correct or ameliorate a defect, physical or mental illness, or a condition [health problem] identified through a screening examination (includes any evaluation by a physician or other licensed practitioner).

This means EPSDT covers most of the medical or remedial care a child needs to improve or maintain his or her health in the best condition possible, compensate for a health problem, prevent it from worsening, or prevent the development of additional health problems.

Medically necessary services will be provided in the most economic mode, as long as the treatment made available is similarly efficacious to the service requested by the beneficiary's physician, therapist, or other licensed practitioner; the determination process does not delay the delivery of the needed service; and the determination does not limit the beneficiary's right to a free choice of providers.

EPSDT does not require the state Medicaid agency to provide any service, product or procedure:

1. that is unsafe, ineffective, or experimental or investigational.
2. that is not medical in nature or not generally recognized as an accepted method of medical practice or treatment.

Service limitations on scope, amount, duration, frequency, location of service, and other specific criteria described in clinical coverage policies may be exceeded or may not apply as long as the provider's documentation shows that the requested service is medically necessary "to correct or ameliorate a defect, physical or mental illness, or a condition" [health problem]; that is, provider documentation shows how the service, product, or procedure meets all EPSDT criteria, including to correct or improve or maintain the beneficiary's health in the best condition possible, compensate for a health problem, prevent it from worsening, or prevent the development of additional health problems.

**b. EPSDT and Prior Approval Requirements**

1. If the service, product, or procedure requires prior approval, the fact that the beneficiary is under 21 years of age does **NOT** eliminate the requirement for prior approval.
2. **IMPORTANT ADDITIONAL INFORMATION** about EPSDT and prior approval is found in the *NCTracks Provider Claims and Billing Assistance Guide*, and on the EPSDT provider page. The Web addresses are specified below.

*NCTracks Provider Claims and Billing Assistance Guide:*

<https://www.nctracks.nc.gov/content/public/providers/provider-manuals.html>

EPSDT provider page: <http://dma.ncdhhs.gov/>

**2.2.2 EPSDT does not apply to NCHC beneficiaries**

**2.2.3 Health Choice Special Provision for a Health Choice Beneficiary age 6 through 18 years of age**

The Division of Medical Assistance (DMA) shall deny the claim for coverage for an NCHC beneficiary who does not meet the criteria within **Section 3.0** of this policy. Only services included under the NCHC State Plan and the DMA clinical coverage policies, service definitions, or billing codes are covered for an NCHC beneficiary.

### 3.0 When the Procedure, Product, or Service Is Covered

*Note: Refer to Subsection 2.2.1 regarding EPSDT Exception to Policy Limitations for a Medicaid Beneficiary under 21 Years of Age.*

#### 3.1 General Criteria Covered

Medicaid and NCHC shall cover the procedure, product, or service related to this policy when medically necessary, and:

- a. the procedure, product, or service is individualized, specific, and consistent with symptoms or confirmed diagnosis of the illness or injury under treatment, and not in excess of the beneficiary's needs;
- b. the procedure, product, or service can be safely furnished, and no equally effective and more conservative or less costly treatment is available statewide; and
- c. the procedure, product, or service is furnished in a manner not primarily intended for the convenience of the beneficiary, the beneficiary's caretaker, or the provider.

#### 3.2 Specific Criteria Covered

##### 3.2.1 Specific criteria covered by both Medicaid and NCHC

Medicaid and NCHC shall cover the following core hospice services when medically necessary and the criteria and requirements are met according to 42 CFR Part 418, Subpart F, 42 CFR §418.56, 42 CFR §418.114, 42 CFR §418.70, 42 CFR §418.202(i), 42 CFR §418.64, 42 CFR §418.66, 42 CFR §418.108, 42 CFR §418.108, 42 CFR §418.106, 42 CFR §418.76 , 42 CFR §418.72, 42 CFR §418.78: These core services must be provided in a manner consistent with acceptable standards of practice.

- a. Nursing services;
- b. Medical social services;
- c. Physicians' services;
- d. Counseling services (bereavement, dietary, and spiritual);
- e. Short-term inpatient care (Refer to **Subsection 4.2.3** for NCHC exceptions);
- f. Interdisciplinary group, care planning, and coordination of services
- g. Medical appliances and supplies, including drugs and biologicals;
- h. Hospice aide and homemaker services;
- i. Physical therapy, occupational therapy and speech-language pathology services;
- j. Volunteer services; and
- k. Any other service that is specified in the beneficiary's plan of care.

In addition to the above covered services, Medicaid and NCHC shall cover ambulance transport services when provided in relation to the palliation or management of the beneficiary's terminal illness.

### 3.2.2 Medicaid Additional Criteria Covered

In addition to the specific criteria covered in **Subsection 3.2.1** of this policy, if a Medicaid hospice beneficiary becomes a resident of a skilled nursing facility (SNF), nursing facility (NF) or an Intermediate Care Facility for Individuals with Intellectual Disabilities (ICF/IID), Medicaid shall cover room and board charge when the Medicare hospice benefit is elected.

### 3.2.3 NCHC Additional Criteria Covered

None Apply.

## 4.0 When the Procedure, Product, or Service Is Not Covered

*Note: Refer to Subsection 2.2.1 regarding EPSDT Exception to Policy Limitations for a Medicaid Beneficiary under 21 Years of Age.*

### 4.1 General Criteria Not Covered

Medicaid and NCHC shall not cover the procedure, product, or service related to this policy when:

- a. the beneficiary does not meet the eligibility requirements listed in **Section 2.0**;
- b. the beneficiary does not meet the criteria listed in **Section 3.0**;
- c. the procedure, product, or service duplicates another provider's procedure, product, or service; or
- d. the procedure, product, or service is experimental, investigational, or part of a clinical trial.

### 4.2 Specific Criteria Not Covered

#### 4.2.1 Specific Criteria Not Covered by both Medicaid and NCHC

Medicaid and NCHC shall not cover additional respite care services over and above the per diem amount contracted for hospice services.

Attending and consulting physician services are not considered a hospice service and are covered under the Medicaid and NCHC Physician Services program policies <https://dma.ncdhhs.gov/providers/programs-services/medical/Physician-Services>.

#### 4.2.2 Medicaid Additional Criteria Not Covered

None Apply.

#### 4.2.3 NCHC Additional Criteria Not Covered

- a. In addition to the specific criteria not covered in **Subsection 4.2.1** of this policy, NCHC shall not cover room and board in a nursing facility, skilled nursing facility, ICF/IID facility, or adult care home.
- b. NCGS § 108A-70.21(b) "Except as otherwise provided for eligibility, fees, deductibles, copayments, and other cost sharing charges, health benefits coverage provided to children eligible under the Program shall be equivalent to coverage provided for dependents under North Carolina Medicaid Program except for the following:



1. No services for long-term care.
2. No nonemergency medical transportation.
3. No EPSDT.
4. Dental services shall be provided on a restricted basis in accordance with criteria adopted by the Department to implement this subsection.”

## 5.0 Requirements for and Limitations on Coverage

### 5.1 Prior Approval

Medicaid and NCHC do not require clinical review for Hospice service until after the first (1<sup>st</sup>) and second (2<sup>nd</sup>) benefit periods. Request for Hospice service beginning with the third (3<sup>rd</sup>) and for each subsequent benefit periods must receive prior approval and clinical review. PA request must be submitted online through the NCTracks Provider Portal.

Medicaid requires Prior Approval (PA) for Hospice services when a beneficiary’s physician determines hospice is needed for a Medicaid\_for Pregnant Women (MPW).

### 5.2 Prior Approval Requirements

#### 5.2.1 General

The provider(s) shall submit to DMA the following:

- a. the prior approval request; and
- b. all health records and any other records that support the beneficiary has met the specific criteria in **Subsection 3.2** of this policy.

#### 5.2.2 Specific

##### 5.2.2.1 First and Second Benefit Periods

The first (1<sup>st</sup>) benefit period and second benefit period (2<sup>nd</sup>) are both 90 calendar days. This begins the initial admission to Hospice service based on the original election date for the beneficiary.

Beginning with-the first (1<sup>st</sup>) benefit period, hospice providers must obtain written certification of terminal illness for each benefit period throughout the duration of hospice care to be maintained in the provider file in accordance with 42 CFR §418.22.

At the first (1<sup>st</sup>) benefit period the hospice provider (s) shall create a prior approval request and upload the Election Statement which notifies DMA of the beneficiary election of hospice service. The PA request and election statement must be uploaded into NCTracks portal within six (6) calendar days of the effective date of the beneficiary election of hospice service, per 42 CRF 418.24(4).

The second (2<sup>nd</sup>) benefit period requires the entry of a PA request in to NCTracks, however, the election statement is not required at this benefit period.

### 5.2.2.2 Third and Subsequent Benefit Periods

The third (3<sup>rd</sup>) benefit period and each subsequent benefit period are 60-calendar days. The Hospice provider(s) shall create a prior approval request and upload the following documents listed below online through the NCTracks Provider Portal for recertification:

- a. NC Medicaid Hospice Prior Approval Authorization Form (NC DMA-3212);
- b. Hospice Recertification of Terminal Illness;
- c. Physician Plan of Treatment - Order for care and services;
- d. Face-To-Face Encounter in accordance with 42 CFR 418.22 (4);
  1. Hospice physician or NP must have face-to-face encounter with hospice beneficiary no more than thirty (30) days prior to the third benefit period recertification, and each subsequent benefit period thereafter to gather clinical findings to determine continued eligibility for hospice benefits.
- e. Supporting clinical documentation (i.e. medical history, nurses' notes, IDG notes, prognosis; Tools such as but not limited too Fictional Assessment Scales; Palliative Performance Scales; Hospice Card; New York Heart Association Functional Classification Tool, Palmetto Eligibility Scale Tool, and Local Coverage Determination; and
- f. Ensure all health and other records that support the beneficiary has met the specific criteria in **Subsection 2.0** of this policy.

**Note:** If all above required documentation is not received, the recertification prior approval request is denied.

Prior approval requested for hospice services and must be submitted on behalf of the medical director or beneficiary's attending physician via NC Tracks, using PA Type: A10 - Hospice, at least 10 calendar days before the end of the current benefit period.

**Note:** The hospice physician or hospice nurse practitioner can act as the beneficiary's attending physician per beneficiary choice according to 42 CFR 418.52(c)(4).

### 5.2.2.3 Nursing Facility

Nursing facility or ICF-IID long-term care approval is required for a beneficiary residing in or entering the facility. Nursing facility or ICF-IID approval is determined by the DHHS fiscal contractor. The hospice provider shall obtain a copy of the approval form (FL-2) or (IID-2) as applicable, to ensure compliance with this guideline. Nursing facility or ICF/IID room and board reimbursement cannot be made to the hospice provider without this approval.

### 5.2.2.4 Long Term Care

The hospice provider is responsible for ensuring that the long-term care prior approval process has been completed and that the Medicaid beneficiary is approved for nursing facility or ICF/IID level of care. This

process can be completed by the hospice or through arrangement with the facility, hospital discharge planner, physician, or other sources. Hospice Medicaid beneficiaries in nursing or ICF/IID facilities shall meet the same level of care requirements as other Medicaid nursing facility beneficiaries. The hospice agency shall retain a copy of the NC DMA Long Term Care Form FL-2 or IID-2, as applicable, in the Medicaid beneficiary's records on site at the hospice agency.

### 5.3 Admission to Hospice

The provider of hospice services shall comply with 42 CFR §418.25, Admission to hospice care.

The hospice provider admits a beneficiary only on the recommendation of the medical director in consultation with, or with input from, the beneficiary's attending physician (if any). The hospice medical director must consider at least the following information to determine that the beneficiary is certified terminally ill:

- a. Diagnosis of the terminal condition;
- b. Health conditions, related or unrelated to the terminal condition; and
- c. Clinical information supporting all diagnoses should be listed.

### 5.4 Certification of Terminal illness

#### 5.4.1 Timing of certification

The provider of hospice services shall comply with 42 CFR §418.22(a), Timing of certification.

- a. The hospice provider must obtain written certification of terminal illness for each benefit period.
- b. The hospice provider must obtain the written certification before it submits a claim for payment.
- c. Exceptions.
  1. If the written certification cannot be obtained within 2 calendar days, after a period begins, then an oral certification must be obtained within 2 calendar days and the written certification before submitting a claim for payment.
  2. Certifications may be completed no more than 15 calendar days prior to the effective date of election.
  3. Re-certifications may be completed no more than 15 calendar days prior to the start of the subsequent benefit period.
- d. *Face-to-face encounter.* A hospice physician or hospice nurse practitioner must have a face-to-face encounter with the beneficiary, that must occur prior to, but no more than 30 calendar days prior to, the 3rd benefit period recertification, and every benefit period recertification thereafter, to gather clinical findings to determine continued eligibility for hospice care.

#### 5.4.2 Content of certification

The provider of hospice services shall comply with 42 CFR §418.22(b), Content of certification.

The physician or nurse practitioner who performs the face-to-face encounter must attest in writing that he or she had a face-to-face encounter with the beneficiary,

including the date of that visit. The attestation of the nurse practitioner or the non-certifying hospice physician shall state that the clinical findings of that visit were provided to the certifying physician for use in determining continued eligibility for hospice care. All certifications and recertification's must be signed and dated by the physician(s), and must include the benefit period dates to which the certification or recertification applies.

#### 5.4.3 Sources of certification

The provider of hospice services shall comply with 42 CFR §418.22(c), Sources of certification.

- a. For the initial 90-day period, the hospice must obtain a written certification statement from:
  1. The medical director of the hospice or the physician member of the hospice interdisciplinary group (IDG); and
  2. The individual's attending physician, if the individual has an attending physician.
- b. For subsequent periods, only certification by the medical director of the hospice or the physician member of the hospice interdisciplinary group is required.

#### 5.4.4 Maintenance of records.

The provider of hospice services shall comply with 42 CFR §418.22(d), Maintenance of records.

The Hospice must make an appropriate entry in the beneficiary's medical record as soon as they receive an oral certification; and file written certifications in the patient's medical record.

### 5.5 Initial and Comprehensive Assessment

The provider of hospice services shall comply with 42 CFR §418.54, Condition of participation.

“Initial and comprehensive assessment: The hospice must conduct and document in writing a comprehensive assessment that identifies the beneficiary's need for hospice care services, and the beneficiary's need for physical, psychosocial, emotional, and spiritual care. This assessment includes all areas of hospice care related to the palliation and management of the terminal illness and related conditions.

- a. **Initial assessment.** The hospice registered nurse must complete an initial assessment within 48 hours after the election of hospice care.
- b. **Timeframe for completion of the comprehensive assessment.** The hospice interdisciplinary group, must complete the comprehensive assessment no later than five (5) calendar days after the election of hospice care.
- c. **Content of the comprehensive assessment.** The comprehensive assessment must identify the physical, psychosocial, emotional, and spiritual needs related to the terminal illness that must be addressed to promote the hospice beneficiary's well-being, comfort, and dignity throughout the dying process. The comprehensive assessment must take into consideration the following factors:

1. The nature and condition causing admission (including the presence or lack of objective data and subjective complaints).
  2. Complications and risk factors that affect care planning.
  3. Functional status, including the beneficiary's ability to understand and participate in his or her own care.
  4. Imminence of death.
  5. Severity of symptoms.
  6. Drug profile. A review of all the beneficiary's prescription and over-the-counter drugs, herbal remedies and other alternative treatments that could affect drug therapy. This includes, but is not limited to, identification of the following:
    - (i) Effectiveness of drug therapy.
    - (ii) Drug side effects.
    - (iii) Actual or potential drug interactions.
    - (iv) Duplicate drug therapy.
    - (v) Drug therapy currently associated with laboratory monitoring.
  7. Bereavement. An initial bereavement assessment of the needs of the beneficiary's family and other individuals focusing on the social, spiritual, and cultural factors that may impact their ability to cope with the beneficiary's death. Information gathered from the initial bereavement assessment must be incorporated into the plan of care and considered in the bereavement plan of care.
  8. Referrals. The need for referrals and further evaluation by appropriate health professionals.
- d. Update of the comprehensive assessment.** The update of the comprehensive assessment must be completed by the hospice interdisciplinary group and must consider changes that have taken place since the initial assessment. It must include information on the beneficiary's progress related to outcomes, as well as a reassessment of the beneficiary's response to care. The assessment update must be completed as frequently as the condition of the beneficiary requires, but no less frequently than every 15 days.
- e. Beneficiary's outcome measures.** The comprehensive assessment must include data that allows for measurement of outcomes. The hospice provider must measure and document data in the same way for all beneficiary's. The data must take into consideration aspects of care related to hospice and palliation.

The data must be an integral part of the comprehensive assessment and must be documented in a systematic and retrievable way for each beneficiary. The data for each beneficiary must be used in the individual beneficiary care planning and in the coordination of services, and must be used in the aggregate for the hospice's quality assessment and performance improvement program.

## 5.6 Electing the Hospice Benefit

### 5.6.1 Filing an election statement.

The provider of hospice services shall comply with 42 CFR §418.24 (a), and upload the election statement into NCTracks as part of the initial PA request for hospice services.

- a. **Submission** of the election statement must be within 6 calendar days of the effective date of the beneficiary election into hospice services. Medicaid coverage will not begin until after the election statement is uploaded into NCTracks. These days are a provider liability and the provider may not bill the beneficiary for these non-Medicaid covered days.
- b. **Exception to the consequences for filing the Election Statement late may be waived** DMA will determine if a circumstance encountered by a hospice is exceptional and qualifies for waiver. A hospice must fully document and furnish any requested documentation to DMA for a determination of exception.

**Note:** If Medicare is the primary payer, and Medicaid is providing coverage for nursing home room and board the provider must create a prior approval request in NCTracks and upload the Election Statement into the initial PA for room and board.

### 5.6.2 Content of election statement.

The provider of hospice services shall comply with 42 CFR §418.24 (b), Content of election statement.

The election statement must include the following information:

- a. Identification of the hospice and of the attending physician that will provide care to the individual. The individual must acknowledge that the identified attending physician was his or her choice.
- b. The individual's acknowledgement that he or she has been given a full understanding of the palliative rather than curative nature of hospice care, as it relates to the individual's terminal illness.
- c. The effective date of the election period, which may be the first day of hospice care or a later date, but may be no earlier than the date of the election statement.
- d. The signature of the individual or representative.
- e. Acknowledgement that certain Medicaid services, are waived by the election of Hospice.

### 5.6.3 Duration of election

The provider of hospice services shall comply with 42 CFR §418.24 (c), Duration of election.

An election to receive hospice care will be considered to continue through the initial election (1-2) benefit and through the subsequent election periods (3- unlimited) without a break in care of the individual, if the beneficiary:

- a. Remains in the care of a hospice;
- b. Does not revoke the election; and
- c. Is not discharged from the hospice under the provisions of 42 CFR § 418.26.

#### **5.6.4 Waiver of other benefits.**

The provider of hospice services shall comply with 42 CFR §418.24 (d), Waiver duration of election other benefits.

In the duration of an election of hospice care, an individual waives all rights to payments for other Medicaid payments.

#### **5.6.5 Re-election of hospice benefits**

The provider of hospice services shall comply with 42 CFR §418.24 (e), Re-election of hospice benefits.

If an election has been revoked in accordance with 42 CFR § 418.28, the individual may at any time file an election, in accordance with this section, for any other election period that is still available to the individual.

If beneficiary wishes to resume hospice, the beneficiary or representative re-elects hospice for the next benefit period. The beneficiary is considered a new hospice beneficiary. A new election statement, plan of care (POC), and physician certification are required. Benefit periods are counted consecutively regardless of the number of times a beneficiary revokes or re-elects hospice services.

#### **5.6.6 Changing the attending physician.**

The provider of hospice services shall comply with 42 CFR §418.24 (f), Changing the attending physician.

To change the designated attending physician, the individual (or representative) must file a signed statement with the hospice that states that he or she is changing his or her attending physician.

- a. The statement must identify the new attending physician, and include the date the change is to be effective and the date signed by the individual (or representative).
- b. The individual (or representative) must acknowledge that the change in the attending physician is due to his or her choice.
- c. The effective date of the change in attending physician cannot be before the date the election statement is signed.

### **5.7 Duration of Hospice Care Coverage Benefit Periods**

The provider of hospice services shall comply with 42 CFR §418.21, Duration of hospice care coverage benefit periods. Subject to the conditions set forth in this part:

- a. An individual may elect to receive hospice care during one or more of the following benefit periods:
  1. An initial 90-day period - benefit period
  2. A subsequent 90-day period - benefit period 2; or
  3. An unlimited number of subsequent 60-day periods- benefit period 3 to unlimited.
- b. The periods of care are available in the order listed and may be elected separately at different times.

## 5.8 Coordinating Medicaid and Medicare Benefit Periods

Medicaid and Medicare benefit periods are identical and run concurrently. When the beneficiary is dually eligible, he or she shall elect the hospice service for both programs simultaneously. Medicare hospice covers payment in full. Medicaid coverage is available only for nursing facility room and board. The benefit period for starting the Medicaid service should mirror the current Medicare benefit status when the coverage does not start concurrently.

**Note:** The Preadmission Screening Resident Review (PASRR) program is a federal statutory requirement that mandates the review of every individual who applies to or resides in a Medicaid-certified nursing facility, regardless of the source of payment for nursing facility services. Refer to NC Division of Medical Assistance Medicaid and Health Nursing Facilities Clinical Coverage Policy No: 2B-1 and to 42 CFR 483 Subpart C.

## 5.9 Medicaid Eligibility and Benefit Period Coordination

When a beneficiary becomes ineligible for Medicaid while receiving hospice services or goes into a deductible status, the following apply:

- a. If the beneficiary remained on hospice throughout the ineligible Medicaid period, there is no change in the benefit period status. The hospice charges are applied toward any deductible.
- b. If the beneficiary discontinues hospice coverage when becoming ineligible for Medicaid or NCHC, the situation is handled like a revocation. The beneficiary forfeits any remaining days in the current benefit period and enters the next benefit period if re-electing hospice after Medicaid or NCHC eligibility is restored.

## 5.10 Waiver of Rights to Other Medicaid or NCHC Covered Services

The provider of hospice services shall comply with 42 CFR §418.24, Election of hospice care.

A Medicaid or NCHC beneficiary who elects the hospice benefit waives the rights to Medicaid or NCHC coverage of other services that replicate the services covered under the hospice benefit. The waiver of curative services is not applicable to beneficiaries under 21 years old. Refer to **Subsection 5.11**. The written statement includes the waiver of coverage for certain Medicaid or NCHC covered services when they are pertinent to treatment of the terminal illness. The waived Medicaid or NCHC services are listed below:

- a. Medicaid or NCHC coverage for home health, DME, and home infusion therapy (HIT) services is not allowed for a hospice beneficiary when the service pertains to the treatment of the terminal illness or related conditions.
- b. Drugs and biologicals pertaining to the terminal diagnosis are reimbursed to the hospice as part of the hospice per diem. Medicaid or NCHC will make direct reimbursement to the pharmacy for drugs used to treat illnesses or conditions not related to the terminal illness.



## 5.11 Concurrent Care for Children

Children means Medicaid beneficiaries under 21 years of age, and NCHC beneficiaries age 6 through 18.

Hospice providers shall comply with Sections 1905(o)(1) and 2110(a) (23) of the Social Security Act, and The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, Section 2302.

Hospice services are available to children without requiring the waiver of any rights of the child to be provided with, or to have payment made for, services that are related to the cure or treatment of the child's condition for which a diagnosis of terminal illness has been made. Concurrent care is available to the child after the provision of hospice care.

The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act does not change the criteria for receiving hospice services. The hospice provider shall provide all services covered under the hospice benefit. Concurrent care does not duplicate the services covered in the hospice benefit.

## 5.12 Reporting Hospice Participation

### 5.12.1 Dually Eligible

The agency shall report hospice participation for a dually eligible Medicare and Medicaid beneficiary in a nursing facility. Medicare reimbursement is made for the hospice care, and Medicaid shall make reimbursement for room and board charges. Hospice claims are not reimbursed by DHHS without this notification.

### 5.12.2 Revocations

The provider of hospice services shall comply with 42 CFR §418.28 Revoking the election of hospice care.

A beneficiary or his or her representative may revoke the hospice election at any time by completing and signing a revocation statement. The statement indicates that the beneficiary revokes the hospice election and the effective date of the revocation. The effective date cannot be earlier than the date the beneficiary signs the revocation statement.

By revoking hospice coverage, a beneficiary:

- a. forfeits any remaining days of coverage in the current benefit period after the revocation date, and
- b. is eligible to resume coverage of the waived benefits effective on the date of revocation.

### 5.12.3 Discharges and Transfer

The provider of hospice service shall comply with 42 CFR §418.26 - Discharge and Transfer from hospice care.

The hospice agency may discharge a beneficiary in accordance with applicable law, rules and regulations, and agency policy. The hospice agency shall complete and upload into NCTracks the NC DMA Hospice Reporting Form (DMA-0004) when a beneficiary revoke, transfers or is otherwise discharged from hospice service. The agency shall promptly report the beneficiary's revocation or discharge to NC DMA because hospice participation information may affect

Medicaid or NCHC payment for other services. The agency may bill for the date of discharge or revocation.

#### 5.12.4 Hospice Participation Notification

The hospice agency shall report initial hospice participation to NC DMA when a beneficiary elects Medicaid or NCHC hospice benefits.

The hospice provider shall submit a PA request:

- a. initially, within six (6) calendar days of the election of the Medicaid, Medicaid-pending or NCHC hospice benefit;
- b. within six (6) calendar days of the start of the second and each subsequent benefit period; and
- c. within six (6) calendar days of the start of care, if Medicare is the primary payer, and Medicaid is providing coverage for nursing home room and board.

The hospice provider shall report to DMA by faxing and the NC DMA Hospice Reporting Form (DMA-0004) for the following situations:

- a. if the beneficiary is discharged from or revokes hospice;
- b. at the time of the beneficiary's death;
- c. to coordinate reporting a transfer of hospice care from one agency to another to prevent duplication of dates of service and subsequent denial of payment as only one agency can be paid each day; and
- d. to notify DMA of changes in status from *Medicaid-Pending* to *Medicaid-Approved* by providing the MID number.

**Note:** DMA requires with **each PA entry** beginning with the 3<sup>rd</sup> and subsequent benefit periods provider's fax a copy of the Approval Status Inquiry form or the NC Tracks Web Submitted Request for HOSPICE Prior Approval Confirmation Page to the DMA at 919-715-9025. DMA request that providers include their name and e-mail address on the above forms.

## 6.0 Provider(s) Eligible to Bill for the Procedure, Product, or Service

To be eligible to bill for the procedure, product, or service related to this policy, the provider(s) shall:

- a. meet Medicaid or NCHC qualifications for participation;
- b. have a current and signed DHHS Provider Administrative Participation Agreement; and
- c. bill only for procedures, products, and services that are within the scope of their clinical practice, as defined by the appropriate licensing entity.

**Note:** Only Medicare-certified and licensed hospice agencies are eligible to participate as Medicaid hospice providers.

## 6.1 Provider Qualifications and Occupational Licensing Entity Regulations

- a. Nursing shall comply with NC GS Chapter 90, Article 9 - Nurse Practice Act, Title 21 - *Occupational Licensing Boards and Commissions > Chapter 36 - Nursing* and agency policy.
- b. Hospice aide shall comply with the qualifications under 42 CFR §418.76.
- c. Provider of hospice services shall comply with the following legal authorities:
  1. Social Security Act (SSA) Section 1905(o). [42 U.S.C. 1396d];1905(o)(1) and 2110(a) (23) of the Social Security Act
  2. The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, Section 2302.
  3. The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, Section 3132
  4. The Patient Self Determination Act of 1990, Sections 4206 and 4751 of the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1990, P.L.101-508
  5. 42 U. S. C. 1302 and 1395hh, Social Security Act (SSA) Sections 1102 and 1871)
  6. 42 CFR Part 418, Subpart A—General Provision and Definitions
  7. 42 CFR Part 418, Subpart B—Eligibility, Election and Duration of Benefits
  8. 42 CFR Part 418, Subpart C—Conditions of Participation: Patient Care
  9. 42 CFR §418.64 Condition of participation: Core services.
  10. 42 CFR §418.66 Condition of participation: Nursing services—Waiver of requirement that substantially all nursing services be routinely provided directly by a hospice.
  11. 42 CFR §418.70 Condition of participation: Furnishing of non-core services.
  12. 42 CFR §418.72 Condition of participation: Physical therapy, occupational therapy, and speech-language pathology.
  13. 42 CFR §418.74 Waiver of requirement—Physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech-language pathology, and dietary counseling.
  14. 42 CFR §418.76 Condition of participation: Hospice aide and homemaker services.
  15. 42 CFR §418.78 Conditions of participation—Volunteers.
  16. 42 CFR Part 418, Subpart D—Conditions of participation: Organizational Environment
  17. 42 CFR Part 418, Subpart F—Covered Services
  18. 42 CFR Part 418, Subpart G—Payment for Hospice Care
  19. 42 CFR Part 418, Subpart H—Coinsurance

## 6.2 Provider Certifications

To qualify for enrollment as a Medicaid or NCHC hospice provider, the hospice agency shall obtain Medicare certification and licensure to provide Medicaid hospice services.

The provider of hospice services shall comply with:

N.C. General Statute (G.S.) Chapter 131E, Article 10 Hospice Licensure Act: and  
10A NCAC, Chapter 13, SUBCHAPTER 13K – HOSPICE LICENSING RULES.

## 7.0 Additional Requirements

*Note: Refer to Subsection 2.2.1 regarding EPSDT Exception to Policy Limitations for Medicaid Beneficiaries under 21 Years of Age.*

### 7.1 Compliance

Provider(s) shall comply with the following in effect at the time the service is rendered:

- a. All applicable agreements, federal, state and local laws and regulations including the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) and record retention requirements; and
- b. All DMA's clinical (medical) coverage policies, guidelines, policies, provider manuals, implementation updates, and bulletins published by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), DHHS, DHHS division(s) or fiscal contractor(s).

### 7.2 Patient Self Determination Act

The Patient Self Determination Act of 1990, Sections 4206 and 4751 of the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1990, P.L.101-508 requires that Medicaid-certified hospitals and other health care providers and organizations, give a beneficiary information about their right to make their own health decisions, including the right to accept or refuse medical treatment.

### 7.3 Coordinating Care

Provider of hospice services shall comply with: 42 CFR §418.56 (e) Condition of participation: Interdisciplinary group, care planning, and coordination of services.

The hospice provider is responsible for the professional management of the beneficiary's medical care. The hospice shall assess and coordinate any existing home care services being rendered to a beneficiary electing the hospice benefit. Additionally, to avoid duplication of services, the hospice shall coordinate with other provider(s) any care unrelated to the terminal illness.

The hospice agency shall notify the other service provider(s) of the beneficiary's request for hospice services prior to admitting the beneficiary for hospice care. This policy also pertains to Medicare-covered hospice benefits for a dually eligible beneficiary.

#### 7.3.1 Community Alternatives Program

If the Medicaid beneficiary participates in a Community Alternatives Program (CAP/C or CAP/ DA), the hospice shall contact the CAP case manager or care advisors. The hospice is responsible for the professional medical oversight of all hospice beneficiaries. CAP services may augment the care provided by the hospice to meet the beneficiary's needs (refer to 3K-1 and 3K-2 Clinical Coverage Policies). The hospice provider shall coordinate care with the CAP case manager/care advisor to prevent duplication of service.

### 7.3.2 Providing Care to Medicaid Nursing Facility Residents and Medicaid Residents in an ICF/IID

The provider of hospice services shall comply with:

42 CFR §418.112 Condition of participation: Hospices that provide hospice care to residents of a SNF/NF or ICF/IID, 42 CFR §418.100 Condition of Participation: Organization and administration of services, and 42 CFR §418.108 Condition of participation: Short-term inpatient care.

The hospice provider shall assume professional management of the beneficiary's hospice services provided, in accordance with the hospice plan of care and the hospice conditions of participation, and make any arrangements necessary for hospice-related inpatient care in a participating Medicaid facility according to 42 CFR §418.100 and 42 CFR §418.108.

The hospice provider shall assess and coordinate the beneficiary's hospice and medical care to facilitate continuity of the care and the facility agrees to provide room and board to the individual.

The agreement must include the following provisions:

- a. Coordination of services in accordance with the plan of care developed by the IDG and indication of the services to be provided by the facility and the services to be provided by the hospice staff.
- b. Indication of the financial arrangements involved, including the rate of reimbursement to the nursing facility and the collection of any Patient Monthly Liability (PML) amounts.
- c. The agreement by the facility to provide room and board and related services. Room and board services include:
  1. the performance of personal care services;
  2. assistance in activities of daily living;
  3. socializing activities;
  4. administration of medication;
  5. maintaining the cleanliness of a resident's room;
  6. supervising and assisting in the use of DME and prescribed therapies; and
  7. all the requirements and services outlined in clinical coverage policy 2B-1, *Nursing Facilities*, on DMA's Web site at <http://dma.ncdhhs.gov/>.
- d. Hospice provider shall have the responsibility of providing the medications directly related to the terminal illness; a DME provider shall have the responsibility of providing the medical equipment directly related to the terminal illness.
- e. All other details related to the provision of care and compliance with current North Carolina Rules Governing the Licensure of Hospice.
- f. Process and responsibility for changes to the plan of care. The hospice provider is responsible for approving changes to the plan of care. The hospice shall provide a copy of the plan of care for the facility, and the facility shall allow the hospice access to documentation on the beneficiary's care.
- g. Hospice provider responsibility for monitoring the care provided to ensure the adequacy of the care provision and to determine the need for any changes.

**7.3.2.1 Hospice Reporting and Election Statement for Dually Eligible Nursing Facility Residents**

Medicare is the primary payer and Medicaid shall reimburse the hospice for nursing facility room and board charges. The hospice provider shall report the beneficiary's elect to participation in hospice. If the beneficiary is dually eligible under Medicare and nursing facility room and board is submitted to Medicaid for payment. The hospice providers shall enter PA into NCTracks and follow all approval reporting requirements. Refer to **Section 5.0 and Subsections 5.12 and 5.13.**

**7.3.2.1 Patient Monthly Liability**

The hospice provider shall include the collection of PML in the contractual agreement. The nursing facility may act as the hospice agent in collecting the PML if this arrangement is included in the contractual agreement

Patient Monthly Liability (PML) is the amount the beneficiary is responsible for toward their monthly post of care. Upon determination of Medicaid eligibility for long term care services by the county Department of Social Services (DSS), the Medicaid provider will receive notification of the applicant or beneficiary's PML. The DMA-5016, *Notification of Eligibility for Medicaid/Amount and Effective Date of Patient's Liability*, is used to notify providers of the amount and any changes to the PML. Providers are required to retain the DMA-5016 for audit purposes. The dates and the amounts on the DMA-5016 must match the information on the beneficiary's eligibility detail in NCTracks. If the dates and the amounts do not match, the provider must contact the county DSS that sent the DMA-5016, for corrections.

**7.3.3 Personal Care Services**

**7.3.3.1 Adult Care Home**

Hospice services can be provided for a Medicaid beneficiary residing in an adult care home (ACH) when the beneficiary elects the hospice benefit. The ACH and the hospice provider shall have a written contractual agreement that describes the services to be provided by each per the plan of care. The ACH is considered the beneficiary's place of residence and the basic care is provided by the ACH staff.

The hospice provider has the responsibility for the professional management of the beneficiary's care. The hospice provider is responsible for the oversight of the beneficiary's medical care and the monitoring of the care provided by the facility to ensure adequacy of care provision and the need for changes to the services and the plan of care. The plan of care includes the services provided by both the ACH (i.e., room and board, ACH Personal Care Services) and the hospice provider (i.e., other services related to the terminal illness). The hospice agency is responsible for coordinating all services included in the plan of care. A copy of the hospice plan of care is provided to the ACH.

### 7.3.3.2 Primary Private Residence

Medicaid-only and dually eligible beneficiaries residing in primary private residences may receive Hospice and Medicaid Personal Care Services (PCS) in accordance with 42 CFR 418.76 (i). Medicaid Personal Care Services shall be used to the extent that the hospice would routinely use the services of a hospice beneficiary's family in implementing a beneficiary's plan of care. The hospice agency shall coordinate its hospice aide and homemaker services with the prior approved personal care services required to meet the beneficiary's needs. Hospice and PCS services shall be provided with approved and documented coordination of services. Hospice providers are to submit the **Hospice-PCS Coordination Form (DMA-3165)** (Sample form in **Attachment C**) via fax to NC DMA within five (5) days of hospice admission. Refer to the NC DMA website or the NC Tracks Provider Portal for links to this form.

#### **If PCS services are in place prior to hospice:**

- a. The hospice agency will contact the PCS provider to coordinate the plan of care and scheduling of services.
- b. The hospice agency will submit the **Hospice-PCS Coordination Form (DMA-3165)** to NC DMA within five (5) days of admission.
- c. The hospice agency will submit the Hospice Aide Plan of Care to the PCS provider.

#### **If Hospice is in place prior to PCS request:**

- a. The hospice agency will submit the **Hospice-PCS Coordination Form (DMA-3165)** to NC DMA to indicate the service gap necessitating the addition of PCS.
- b. The hospice physician completes the **Request for Independent Assessment for Personal Care Services (PCS) Attestation of Medical Need (DMA-3051)** and faxes it to the Independent Assessment agency.
- c. Once PCS is authorized, the hospice agency will contact the PCS provider to coordinate the plan of care and scheduling of services.
- d. The hospice agency will submit the Hospice Aide Plan of Care to the PCS provider.
- e. The PCS provider will submit the Online Services Plan from QiReport to the hospice agency. The hospice providers will submit the PCS reports to DMA for **Medicaid beneficiaries only**.

The hospice aide services must be utilized to the extent that they would be if PCS were not available. NC DMA or its contractors may conduct retrospective reviews of PCS and hospice services. Medicaid payments for personal care services provided to an individual also receiving hospice services, regardless of the payment source for hospice services, must be supported by documentation in the medical record of both providers. If duplication of services is found, NC DMA may recover payment for those services.

**a. Aide Services**

The hospice agency shall coordinate its hospice aide and homemaker services with the Personal Care Services required to meet the beneficiary's needs. The hospice provider shall make hospice aide and homemaker services available and adequate in frequency to meet the needs of the hospice beneficiary. "Hospice Aide" means an individual who is authorized to provide nursing care under the supervision of a licensed nurse, has completed a training and competency evaluation program or competency evaluation program as outlined in 42 CFR 418.76, is listed on the Nurse Aide Registry at the Division of Health Service Regulation and completes the training listed in 10A NCAC 13K .0402(b). If the nurse aide performs Nurse Aide II tasks, he or she must also meet the requirements established by the N.C. Board of Nursing as defined in 21 NCAC 36 .0405.

Personal Care Services are services that provides assistance with the distinct tasks associated with the performance of the activities of daily living (ADL) and the instrumental activities of daily living (IADL).

**b. Service Coordination and Communication**

The hospice agency is responsible for communicating with other providers to ensure that coordination of care occurs. The hospice agency must ensure that a thorough interview process is completed when enrolling a recipient to identify all other Medicaid or other state and/or federally funded program providers of care. This requirement applies to Medicaid beneficiaries as well as the dually eligible Medicare/Medicaid beneficiary. Communication to coordinate care will be documented in each provider's medical record for the beneficiary.

If the hospice agency determines prior to admission that PCS is in place for the beneficiary, the hospice agency will contact the PCS provider, if known, to discuss the services of the PCS provider that the beneficiary is receiving. This will allow for better communication with the beneficiary and family during the hospice admission visit to outline the differences in services.

If the PCS provider is not determined prior to admission, hospice agency will contact the provider immediately after the admission visit to discuss the coordinated plan of care.

**c. Plan of Care**

The hospice agency and the PCS agency will develop a plan of care (POC) in coordination with the beneficiary, the caregiver and each other. The POC must clearly and specifically detail the aide



services that are to be provided along with the frequency of services by each provider to ensure that services are not duplicative and the beneficiary's daily needs are met.

This process will involve coordinating tasks and services as well as the time of day that the beneficiary may receive visits from each provider's aide. Hospice aide and PCS aide hours cannot overlap so the two agencies must coordinate visits to ensure separation. The hospice agency and the PCS provider must give education to the aides that if they arrive at the home and the other aide is there they should report this to their respective agency and leave the home. Any changes in scheduling for either agency will be reported to the other to avoid duplication of services at the same time.

The hospice agency and the PCS provider will maintain a copy of the plan of care in their respective medical records.

#### **7.3.4 Pharmacy Services**

Drugs and biologicals pertaining to the terminal diagnosis are reimbursed to the hospice as part of the hospice per diem. DHHS fiscal contractor shall make direct reimbursement to the pharmacy for drugs used to treat illnesses or conditions not related to the terminal illness. The hospice provider shall supply the diagnosis code for the terminal illness when contacted by the pharmacy. The pharmacy needs this information to process the claim. Refer to clinical coverage policy 9, *Outpatient Pharmacy Services* on DMA's website at <http://dma.ncdhhs.gov/> for additional information.

#### **7.4 Delivering and Supervising Care**

Delivery of care and supervision of the delivery of care must conform to all applicable laws, rules and regulations, the current standard of practice, and agency policy. Services are provided as specified in the plan of care developed and approved by the IDG.

Core services (physician's services, nursing services, medical social services, and counseling) are routinely provided directly by hospice employees. Other covered services are provided by agency employees or under contractual arrangements. Contractual agreements are in writing and in compliance with 10A NCAC 13K and 42 CFR 418.

#### **7.5 Monitoring Care**

Members of the hospice IDG shall monitor the beneficiary's condition and initiate changes in the plan of care as needed. The beneficiary's attending physician also participates in this process. The IDG shall complete the review and resulting updates to the plan of care every 15 calendar days to ensure that the beneficiary's needs are met and shall document each review in the beneficiary's health record.

#### **7.6 Changing Agencies**

A beneficiary may change hospice agencies between election periods and once during each election period. An agency change is not a revocation of hospice. When a change

occurs during an election period, the beneficiary completes the period with the new agency.

To change agencies during an election period, the beneficiary gives a signed statement to both the current agency and the new agency. The statement indicates the beneficiary's intent to change agencies, provides the name of the current agency, states the name of the new agency, and identifies the effective date of the change.

The transfer is coordinated with the attending physician and any other care providers to ensure continuity of services. The current or first agency shall cease billing for services on the day prior to the effective date on the notice. The new agency assumes responsibility for the beneficiary's care on the effective date of the change and bills for that date of service. The existing plan of care can be used or the new agency may develop a new one.

The first agency shall report the transfer to DHHS fiscal contractor. Payment to the new agency depends on a report of the termination of services by the first agency. The new agency shall contact DHHS fiscal contractor to report the admission of the beneficiary to hospice services under the new agency. Both agencies shall report the transfer to DHHS fiscal contractor no later than the sixth (6<sup>th</sup>) day after the date of transfer [day of report plus six (6) previous days].

## **7.7 Electronic Signatures**

N.C. Home Care Licensure Rules provide requirements for accepting electronic signatures for documentation.

## 8.0 Policy Implementation/Revision Information

**Original Effective Date:** August 1, 1984

### Revision Information:

Date	Section Updated	Change
12/01/2006	Sections 2, 3, 5	A special provision related to EPSDT was added.
04/01/2007	Subsection 7.1.2.1	Removed statement that Medicaid reimburses for co-insurance on hospice-covered drugs and respite days
04/01/2007	Section 2.6, 3.0, 4.0, and 5.0	EPSDT information was revised to clarify exceptions to policy limitations for beneficiaries under 21 years of age
05/01/2007	Attachment A	Added UB-04 as an accepted claims form.
08/01/2007	Section 6.0	Changed the name of Division of Facility Services (DFS) to Division of Health Service Regulation (DHSR).
08/01/2007	Subsection 2.3 and Attachment C	Medicare-AID beneficiaries are not eligible for Medicaid-covered hospice services.
08/01/2007	Attachment A, letter E	Added revenue code 658.
12/01/2009 (effective 12/02/2008)	Throughout	Updated to include DMA standard statements and incorporate requirements in changes to 42 CFR 418 and CMS Conditions of Participation, issued 10/1/2008, effective 12/2/2008.
05/11/2010	Subsection 2.2	Changed reference from Subsection 5.8.2 to Subsection 5.1.2
07/01/2010	Throughout	Session Law 2009-451, Section 10.31(a) Transition of NC Health Choice Program administrative oversight from the State Health Plan to the Division of Medical Assistance (DMA) in the NC Department of Health and Human Services.
06/01/2011	Subsections 1.1.12, 5.7, 7.3.2, 7.3.2.2	Updated information on hospice and long term care to include ICF/MR and related MR-2
06/01/2011	Subsection 5.4.2, 5.4.3	Refer to Attachment C
06/01/2011	Subsection 5.4.3	Added information on the Face-to-Face Encounter requirements.
06/01/2011	Subsection 5.6.2	Added The waiver of curative services is not applicable to beneficiaries under 21 years old. Refer to Subsection 5.6.3.
06/01/2011	Subsection 5.6.3	Added Provision of Hospice Care for Children Under 21 Years Old. Under Provision of Hospice Care for Children Under 21 Years Old added sentence to include the complete hospice package having to be provided with the addition of a curative service
06/01/2011	Subsection 5.6.3	Clarified wording on concurrent care
06/01/2011	Subsection 7.2	Added Patient Self Determination Act information
06/01/2011	Attachment A	Updated to standard DMA policy language