COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH CARE POLICY & FINANCING

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John W. Hickenlooper, Governor • Susan E. Birch MBA, BSN, RN, Executive Director

June 20, 2011

DAL # 0512-1 NB

Effective Date – July 1, 2011

Dear Hospice, Single Entry Point (SEP), Nursing Facility Administrator and Hospital Discharge Planner:

Subject: Preadmission Screening and Resident Review (PASRR) Requirements for Hospice Admission to a Nursing Facility

Background: The Department of Health Care Policy and Financing has received input that the existing PASRR requirements for admission of hospice clients to a nursing facility create delays for individuals with limited life expectancy. These issues have been raised by hospice agencies, SEP agencies, hospitals and nursing facilities.

The current process requires a Level I screen for all applicants for admission to a Medicaid certified nursing facility. If the Level I screen indicates the presence of a mental illness and/or developmental disability, a Level II evaluation is required prior to admission which may delay admission.

This Dear Administrator Letter is to explain the revised PASRR process for hospice admission to a nursing facility. Completion of a PASRR Level I screen is still required. As of the effective date of July 1, 2011 hospice admissions to a nursing facility can occur without a PASRR Level II evaluation or a Geriatric Depression Screen (GDS).

Necessary Action: Please forward the attached revised PASRR hospice admissions procedure information to the staff whose job it is to navigate the PASRR system in order to assist clients in receiving hospice services in nursing facilities.

CONTACT: If you have questions, please contact Nora Brahe at 303-866-3566 or nora.brahe@state.co.us.

Sincerely,

Nora Brahe

Nora Brahe
PASRR Program Administrator