

July 26, 2013

Email Memo to Home Health Agencies and Advocates

From Guin Blodgett, Colorado Department of Healthcare Policy and Financing

This message concerns upcoming PARs for nursing and CNA services only.

The Colorado Department of Health Care Policy and Financing is currently revising the Pediatric Assessment Tool (PAT) and we expect to have the revised tool ready for use by September of 2013.

Until the new tool is available, please do not submit any LTHH PAR requests to the Colorado PAR Program for clients whose updated Long-Term Home Health PAR is due in August and September.

We are working to identify all pediatric PARs that are scheduled to be reviewed in August and September and will be extending those PARs for 2 months. (Example: PARs submitted with a February start date will now be due in October and PARs submitted with a March start date will now be due in November). If the agency has already submitted a PAR for a client whose PAR is due in August, we will make that PAR inactive in the system and will extend the client's original PAR.

New Long-Term Home Health clients should be assessed using the existing PAT and all appropriate documentation should be submitted to the Colorado PAR Program for medical necessity utilization review. Agencies should also use the existing tool for revision to a client's current Home Health PAR due to a change in the client's condition.

All Home Health PARs will be maintained at your current level of service. Specifically:

- If the PAR was restored because the client filed an appeal and the notice letter did not include the correct legal citation, the PAR will be carried forward at the restored amount for the remainder of the PAR.
- If the PAR was reviewed a second time by the Department or our utilization management vendor, the PAR will be carried forward at the new approved amount for the remainder of the PAR.
- If the PAR was approved due to EPSDT Override, the PAR will be carried forward at the amount approved by the EPSDT review team for the remainder of the PAR.
- If a new PAR was requested for August 2013, and the amount approved was more than the Colorado PAR Program previously approved, the PAR will be extended using the newly approved amount.
- If a new PAR was requested for August 2013, and the amount approved was less than the Colorado PAR Program previously approved, the PAR will be extended using the previously approved amount.

PARs that will not be extended:

- If you have been notified that the client needs to be reviewed as an adult, their PAR will not be extended and you will need to submit the Home Health request to the county Single Entry Point or the client's Community Centered Board.

- If the client was 20 years old or older at the time the last PAR was reviewed, new PAR requests will need to be submitted to the county Single Entry Point or the client's Community Centered Board.

Reminder: Adams, Arapahoe, Denver, Douglas and Elbert counties have a new Single Entry Point:

Access Long Term Support Solutions

Main Phone: 877-710-9993

Fax: 877-744-1723 or 303-649-8901

The client's existing PAR will be amended to extend the expiration date and the number of units, so you will continue to bill units for the current PAR number. Because this is an extension, we do not expect updated letters to be sent to providers or clients.

The Department will be mailing a letter to clients whose PARs will be extended, but we ask that providers inform and educate their clients that are affected by this process.

Please note that requests for Home Health therapy will be processed as usual by the Colorado PAR Program.

If clients have any questions or concerns regarding the process, direct them to call the Home Health Hotline at 303-866-3447 or to e-mail the Department at HomeHealth@state.co.us.