

**DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND HEALTH SERVICES
HEALTH AND RECOVERY SERVICES ADMINISTRATION
Olympia, Washington**

To: Nursing Home Providers

**Memorandum No: 09-64
Issued: September 23, 2009**

From: Douglas Porter, Assistant Secretary
Health and Recovery Services
Administration (HRSA)

For information, contact:
1-800-562-3022, option 2, or go
to:
[HRSA Help Desk](#)

**Subject: General Assistance-Unemployable (GA-U) Program: Managed Care
Enrollment Requirement**

Effective November 1, 2009, the Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS) will require General Assistance-Unemployable (GA-U) clients in Washington State to enroll in managed care.

What Is Changing?

Effective November 1, 2009, DSHS will automatically enroll GA-U clients in managed care with Community Health Plan (CHP) of Washington. This memo explains how to determine whether a GAU client residing in a nursing facility is affected by this change and what to do if the client is scheduled to transition to managed care.

GA-U Clients Admitted into Nursing Facilities Before November 1, 2009

DSHS will not automatically enroll GA-U clients into mandatory managed care who are already receiving nursing facility care. All other GA-U clients who are scheduled for transition into mandatory managed care will receive an insert with their Medical ID Card on September 1, 2009. If a nursing facility resident receives this insert, call CHP at 1-800-440-1561 to determine if the nursing facility resident qualifies for exemption from enrollment in managed care.

Admitting GA-U Clients into Nursing Facilities on and After November 1, 2009

On and after November 1, 2009, nursing facility providers must determine if GA-U clients are enrolled in managed care with CHP. Placement must be authorized by Home and Community Services (HCS).

Current rules still apply regarding the requirement to request an assessment and authorization by HCS in order to be paid. Eligibility for nursing facility care will continue to come from the Aging and Disability Services Administration.

Nursing facility clients may be exempted from mandatory managed care depending upon:

- Level of need;
- Level of care; and
- Length of stay.

If a CHP client is in your facility, CHP is the only provider who can authorize payment for the client's:

- Primary care;
- Prescriptions; and
- Emergency/hospital care.

Work directly with the client's CHP physician to coordinate care. To verify CHP coordination, call CHP at 1-800-440-1561, and ask to speak with a CHP case manager.

DSHS requires authorization for nursing facility care and physician services. You must bill these services separately as follows:

- Bill DSHS to receive payment for nursing facility care; and
- Bill CHP to receive payment for physician services.

Who Do I Contact if I Have Questions?

Contact the Community Health Plan of Washington at:

customercare@chpw.org

1-800-440-1561

www.chpw.org

How Do I Conduct Business Electronically With DSHS?

You may conduct business electronically with DSHS by accessing the WAMedWeb at <http://wamedweb.acs-inc.com>.

Later in 2009, DSHS will replace its current Medicaid Management Information System with a new payment processing system named ProviderOne. When fully operational, ProviderOne will pay about 100,000 providers who serve the one million people qualifying for DSHS services each year. Please visit <http://hrsa.dshs.wa.gov/ProviderOne> for more information.

How Can I Get DSHS/HRSA Provider Documents?

To obtain DSHS/HRSA provider numbered memos and billing instructions, go to the DSHS/HRSA website at <http://hrsa.dshs.wa.gov> (click the ***Billing Instructions and Numbered Memorandum*** link). These documents may be downloaded and printed.