

Policy Clarifications – Medical Assistance

Long Term Care PMN16701468

Submitted: 06/13

Agency: CAOs

Citations:

Subject: The Authorization of a Home Maintenance Deduction (HMD) in Long-Term Care (LTC) Spousal Cases

Long-Term Care Handbook Chapter 438.68 states that a HMD can be given to a married individual. If so, how should the LTC case be processed in eCIS so that the HMD is deducted from the cost of care?

Response By: Division of Health Services

Date:06/13

The HMD is a deduction given towards the cost of care for an individual, whether single or married, who maintains a residence in the community and who is expected to return to the community within 180 days.

Currently for married individuals, eCIS will determine a spousal allowance but it will not review for the HMD. If it would be more beneficial for the married individual to receive the HMD instead of the spousal allowance then the CAO will allow the HMD for a married individual.

Example: Mrs. A is a married individual applying for payment of LTC facility services. She is considered short-term and is maintaining a home in the community. Due to Mr. A's income he would only be eligible to receive a spousal allowance of \$200 per month. In this case it would be more beneficial for Mrs. A to receive the HMD for the months the doctor certified her as short-term.

The CAO should take the following steps in eCIS when it would be more beneficial for the married individual to receive the HMD:

- Remove the community spouse from the case.
- Authorize eligibility for the institutionalized spouse as if she was single; ensuring the appropriate HMD information is entered on the Long Term Living screen.
- Narrate why the HMD was given instead of the spousal allowance.

- Once the HMD expires, add the CS into the case entering all appropriate non-financial and financial information so that eCIS will evaluate for the spousal allowance.

Note: Current policy for determining the length of the HMD applies for married individuals as well as single individuals. Once the HMD is set to expire it must be terminated in eCIS.