

-Revised 09/25/09-

Policy Clarifications - Medicaid - Long Term Care PMN14295468

Submitted:06/25/08

Agency:CAOs

Citations:

Subject: New MA 51 - Request for HMD after Authorization

An individual is certified as needing long term care and MA/LTC benefits are authorized. The POA is now requesting the individual's physician complete a new MA 51 so that a Home Maintenance Deduction can be given to help with the maintenance of the individual's home. Is this allowed?

Response By:Division of Health Services

Date:07/01/08

A new MA 51 can be completed if the individual's condition has improved. A new MA 51 does not allow the CAO to adjust the payment towards cost of care back to the original date of authorization. If the new MA 51 shows the individual's condition has now improved and the individual is able to return to the community, the CAO will act on the reported change and authorize a Home Maintenance Deduction (HMD) for the remaining six month period from the initial admission date.

Example 1: Mr. S was admitted on 2/1/08 to Spring Hill LTC Facility. He owns his own home and intends to return to the property. His physician certified his need for long term care effective 2/1/08. The CAO authorized MA/LTC effective 2/1/08 with no HMD. On 4/1/08 the CAO receives a request for the HMD and a new MA 51 is signed by the physician on 4/1/08 which certifies his condition has now improved and he is able to return to the community. The CAO will allow an HMD for the period of 4/1/08 through 7/31/08.

In addition, an individual can be given an HMD for up to three months to transition back to the community if the physician will certify that the individual will be returning home and if the individual is actively being assisted by a nursing home transition coordinator. The HMD will not exceed a total of six months per admission.

Example 2: It is now the end of July and Mr. S is not quite ready to be discharged from Spring Hill LTC Facility. He is actively working with a nursing home transition coordinator and his physician states he will be released within three months due to the continued improvement in his condition. Mr. S is entitled to an HMD for no more than six months per admission. Because he has already received an HMD for four months, the

CAO will allow an HMD for the two month period of 8/1/08 through 9/30/08.

Example 3: Mr. D was admitted on 10/01/07 to Spring Hill LTC Facility. He owns his home and intends to return to the property. His physician certified his need for long term care effective 10/01/07. The CAO authorized MA/LTC effective 10/01/07 with no HMD. On 5/01/08 the CAO receives a request for the HMD and a new MA 51 is signed by the physician on 5/01/08 which certifies a need for short term care, but does not indicate that Mr. D's condition is improving. He is not working with a Nursing Home transition coordinator. The CAO will deny the request for a HMD, because his condition is not improving.

See PMN 12797468 and 55 PA.Code § 181.452 (d)(6) for additional clarification.

The following policy clarifications are obsolete: SF No NC 4429-468 (issued via paper prior to PC availability on the Intranet) and [PMN 9671468](#) and ~~[PMN 9811468](#)~~.