

Policy Clarifications - Medicaid - Long Term Care PMN14566404

Submitted:12/29/08

Agency:CAOs

Citations:

Subject: CIS Data Entry for Long Term Care (LTC) Spousal Records

How should the CAO enter spousal records in CIS? If the community spouse enters an LTC facility, does the community spouse have to be placed in a separate record? How should the CAO update cases when the spouse leaves the LTC facility?

Response By: Division of Health Services

Date:12/29/08

If only one married individual is residing in an LTC facility, both the institutionalized spouse (IS) and the community spouse (CS) should be entered in one record. Entering the CS in the record as a non-eligible adult (NA) will allow CIS to determine eligibility for the Community Spouse Monthly Maintenance Needs Allowance (CSMMNA). If the CS is applying for or receiving benefits in another program and still wishes to receive all or a portion of the CSMMNA, the CS should be assigned a separate record while maintaining an NA status in the IS record. **If the CS elects not to receive a CSMMNA the CS should not be entered in the IS record.**

NOTE: The actual CSMMNA received from the IS must be entered as unearned income in the CS record and used to determine the CS eligibility for other programs.

In situations where both married individuals are residing in an LTC facility, each individual should be assigned his/her own record and treated as a single individual when determining eligibility for MA LTC.

When both spouses are residing in an LTC facility a CSMMNA should not be calculated because there is no spouse living in the community. By entering each individual in their own record a CSMMNA will not be calculated.

In cases where one married individual is requesting Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) and the other spouse is requesting MA LTC in an LTC facility, whether or not the individual receiving HCBS is requesting and eligible for the CSMMNA will determine whether this individual should be entered in the record of the spouse requesting MA LTC in an LTC facility. If the CS requesting HCBS elects to receive all or a portion of the CSMMNA, the CAO will determine eligibility by adding the amount of the CSMMNA actually received to all other countable income of the CS. The CS will be assigned a separate record in which to receive HCBS and will be entered as an NA in the IS record so that the CSMMNA is determined. If the CS elects not to receive the CSMMNA, or the CSMMNA when added to the CS other countable

income would cause income to exceed the limit for HCBS (\$2,022 for 2009), then the CS will be assigned a separate record to receive HCBS but will not be entered in the IS record.

If the CQMLTC screen indicates there is a spouse residing in a facility, the CAO will receive a 224 alert at COLA. The number of alerts received can be reduced by the CAO ensuring that all spousal cases are updated as soon as it is verified that the CS entered an LTC facility or passed away. **To update these cases the Spouse in Facility indicator on CAMLTC should be changed to an 'N'. Only after updating CAMLTC, should the CS be deleted from the record.**

A system enhancement will be made with CIS Release 14.6 on January 26, 2009 removing the Spouse in Facility question indicator on CAMLTC. After this indicator is removed, CASHEL will automatically be scheduled when the CS is entered in the record. Once the enhancement is made, at future COLA and Mass Changes, a CSMMNA will always be determined for all cases with a CS entered in CIS. It is important to remember that if no CSMMNA should be computed, the CS should not be entered in CIS.