

February 1, 2010

Changes to Medical Necessity and Eligibility Criteria for Authorization of Adult Day Health Care Services

Dear ADHC Center:

Assembly Bill x4 5, Chapter 5, Statutes of 2009, made changes to the Medical Necessity and Eligibility Criteria for Adult Day Health Care (ADHC) services for Medi-Cal beneficiaries. Upon declaration by the Director of the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS), on March 1, 2010, new laws in the Welfare and Institutions (W&I) Code sections 14522.4, 14525.1, 14526.2, and 14550.6 will become operative, while section 14525 will become inoperative, and sections 14522.3, 14526.1, and 14550.5 will become inoperative and will be repealed.

As a result, DHCS revised the ADHC Individual Plan of Care (IPC) form. The new IPC reflects the changes in the law and replaces the IPC currently in use. In addition, several sections of the Medi-Cal Provider Manual have been updated to provide additional information and specific instructions on completion of the new IPC. For all ADHC services provided on or after March 1, 2010, with a Treatment Authorization Request (TAR) submitted to the Medi-Cal field office on or after March 1, 2010, the new IPC must be submitted with the TAR. Any participant with a current TAR on file as of March 1, 2010, may continue to receive services using the original version of the IPC until such time when re-authorization is required. At that time the new IPC must be used to gather information about the beneficiary, and submitted with the TAR for adjudication.

The Medi-Cal Provider Manual updates can be found in the Adult Day Health Care (ADHC) Centers section (adu), and the Adult Day Health Care Centers: TAR, IPC, and H&P Form Completion section (adu tar ipc) of the Provider Manual. The new IPC form can be found in the Provider Manual section Adult Day Health Care Individual Plan of Care (IPC) (adutaripc). Please refer to these sections of the Provider Manual to get more information on how to complete the IPC. <http://www.medi-cal.ca.gov> contains the information about the new IPC and updates to the Provider Manual. In addition, DHCS anticipates providing a PowerPoint training presentation on the DHCS website at <http://www.dhcs.ca.gov> in early February. The PowerPoint presentation will also be available on the Department of Aging's website at <http://www.aging.ca.gov>.

You can find the State law that authorizes the Medical Necessity and Eligibility Criteria for ADHC services on the California Legislative Information website at www.leginfo.ca.gov. Copies of all notices released regarding ADHC benefit changes are provided on the DHCS website at <http://www.dhcs.ca.gov> and on the Medi-Cal website at <http://www.medi-cal.ca.gov>. You may print, post, and/or distribute these notices to your ADHC participants.

If you have additional questions, please contact the LA Medi-Cal field office at (213) 897-0745 or (866) 644-6341. You may also contact the Medi-Cal Benefits Analysis, Waiver Analysis and Rates Division at (916) 552-9797 or the California Department of Aging at (916) 419-7545.