



State of New Jersey
Department of Human Services
Division of Medical Assistance & Health Services

NEWSLETTER

Volume 10 No. 15

February 2000

TO: Home Health Agencies - For Action
Health Maintenance Organizations - For Information Only

SUBJECT: Personal Care Assistant (PCA) Rate Increase

EFFECTIVE: For PCA Services with Service Dates on or after July 1, 1999

PURPOSE: The purpose of this Newsletter is to announce regulatory changes necessary to be consistent with the SFY 2000 Appropriations Act language. The PCA rate increases were proposed November 1, 1999, at 31 N.J.R. 3186(a), and were adopted February 7, 2000, at 32 N.J.R. 472(a).

BACKGROUND: The State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2000 Appropriations Act (P.L. 1999, c. 138) appropriated \$5.0 million (Federal and State share combined) to support an increase in Medicaid and NJ KidCare-Plan A fee-for-service (FFS) reimbursement for Personal Care Assistant (PCA) services. The Division has decided on an equitable distribution of this appropriation by authorizing an increase in the individual 1/2 hour and hourly weekday rate for PCA services.

ACTION: The Division is increasing the Personal Care Assistant Services Individual/hourly/weekday rate from \$14.00 to \$14.50 and increasing the Individual/1/2 hour/weekday rate from \$7.00 to \$7.25. These fee increases are intended to be effective for claims with service dates on or after July 1, 1999, for claims processed on or after February 7, 2000.

The Division will be reprocessing claims that were submitted and paid prior to February 7, 2000. The Division will notify the providers of the details of this process in a future newsletter.

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