



State of New Jersey  
Department of Human Services  
Division of Disability Services

# NEWSLETTER

Volume 15 No. 03

May 2005

**TO:** Home Health Agencies, Personal Care Assistance (PCA) Agencies and Homemaker Agencies providing PCA Services - **For Action**  
Health Maintenance Organizations - **For Information Only**

**SUBJECT:** New Accrediting Body

**EFFECTIVE:** December 15, 2004

**PURPOSE:** To inform providers of Personal Care Assistant Services (PCA) that the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (JCAHO) is now recognized as an accrediting body for PCA services by the New Jersey Medicaid Program.

**BACKGROUND:** Providers of Homemaker/PCA services are required to be accredited initially and on an ongoing basis by the Commission on Accreditation for Home Care (CAHC), the Community Health Accreditation Program (CHAP) or the National Association for Home Care (NAHC), Home Care University.

**ACTION:** Effective December 15, 2004, the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (JCAHO) is also recognized as an approved accrediting body by the New Jersey Medicaid Program. This means that JCAHO has the ability to accredit agencies in New Jersey; however, this requires a separate and distinct accreditation for PCA business under New Jersey Medicaid. An agency may currently hold accreditation under JCAHO for other programs or services but this does not cover New Jersey Medicaid PCA services. A new application and entire accreditation process is required.

**The contact person is:**

Maryanne L. Popovich, RN, MPH, Executive Director  
Home Care Accreditation Services  
One Renaissance Boulevard  
Oakbrook Terrace, Illinois 60181

Telephone (630) 792-5742

If you have any questions concerning this Newsletter, please contact the Division of Disability Services, Office of Home and Community Services at (609) 588-2621.

**RETAIN THIS NEWSLETTER NUMERICALLY BEHIND THE NEWSLETTER TAB  
(BLUE TAB MARKED "5")**