



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

NEWSLETTER

Volume 3 No. 52

October 1993

TO: All Providers

SUBJECT: Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) Program

EFFECTIVE: July 1, 1993

BACKGROUND: The New Jersey Medicaid program announces the Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) Program, a three-year renewable Federal Waiver program which offers home and community-based services to persons disabled by a traumatic brain injury.

The waiver was prepared by the Division of Medical Assistance and Health Services in response to the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1981 (PL 97-35) and the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1986 (PL 99-509) which encourages the development of community-based services. The purpose of the program is to help eligible individuals to remain in or return to the community rather than be cared for in a nursing facility.

SCOPE: A 200 slot waiver has been approved with 75 slots to be available Statewide in first year, 150 in the second year, and 200 in the third year.

ADMINISTRATION: The Division of Medical Assistance and Health Services will administer the overall program. Also, the Division will have the responsibility for assessing an individual's need for care based on criteria established by the program.

ELIGIBILITY: Individuals medically eligible for the TBI waiver must be 18-65 years of age; and

- * Have a diagnosis of acquired brain injury; and
- * Exhibit medical, emotional, behavioral and/or cognitive deficits that meet nursing facility level of care, determined through the Division's Pre-Admission Screening (PAS) process; and
- * Have a rating of at least 4 on the Rancho Los Amigos Levels of Cognitive Function Scale.

Individuals financially eligible must be:

- * Categorically needy - Individuals who are Medicaid eligible in the community except for those served under the Medically Needy program; or
- * Optionally categorically needy - Individuals who have incomes which exceed the Medicaid community standard up to the institutional cap and have resources which fall within the institutional standard. Parental income or resources are not considered in determining eligibility. While a spouse's income is not considered towards eligibility, up to one-half of the total resources are protected for the use of the spouse; or
- * Optionally categorically needy individuals under age 65 must additionally be determined disabled by the Social Security Administration (SSA), or by the Division's Disability Review Section using SSA disability criteria.

All individuals determined eligible for the TBI waiver will receive a Medicaid Eligibility Identification card. The provider must verify eligibility before providing services to ensure that the individual can receive services within the TBI waiver.

SERVICES: All services currently provided under the New Jersey Medicaid program are available under the TBI Waiver except for nursing facility services.

In addition, the following waiver services are available:

- * Case Management which is a process of planning, coordinating, and monitoring services designed to meet the individual's needs. Case management sites are regionally based.
- * Community Residential Services which are a group of services providing supervision and support in a community residence, such as a group home, apartment, or foster home.
- * Personal Care Assistant Services which are health related tasks performed in the individual's home by certified homemaker/home health aides.
- * Night Supervision Service which is overnight supervision of the individual at home.
- * Chore Services which are services needed to maintain the individual's home as a clean, sanitary; and safe environment.

- * Respite Care Services which are short-term services in the home or in a facility designed to relieve the caregiver in his or her absence.
- * Companion Services which are non-medical care, supervision, and socialization provided to a functionally impaired adult.
- * Transportation Services which are services of a non-medical type to assist the recipient in accessing services or activities.
- * Structured Day Program Services which is a program of daily meaningful, supervised activity directed at the development and maintenance of independence and community living skills.
- * Supported Day Program Services which is a program of independent activities in or out-of-home requiring initial and periodic support from a professional to sustain the program.
- * Environmental Modification Services which are physical adaptations to the home or vehicle necessary to ensure the health, welfare, and safety of the individual.
- * Therapy Services which consist of physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech-language pathology, and cognitive therapy.
- * Counseling Services which are services to address family/individual issues, behavioral, and drug/alcohol abuse problems related to the head injury to assist in the individual's adjustment.
- * Behavioral Program Services which are services which are time limited and designed to modify severe inappropriate behavior.

All services will be provided under a plan of care developed by the recipient's case manager with the recipient/family.

COST LIMITATIONS: The program costs are limited by the number of community care slots used each year and by costs per recipient. The cost of the recipient service package shall be no more than the cost of institutional care required for that individual. The case manager shall be assigned a service cost cap so that the individual's services can be provided within this limitation.

Retroactive eligibility is not available to waiver recipients for those Medicaid services provided only by virtue of enrollment in the waiver program.

APPLICATION PROCESS: Applications for the TBI Program shall be referred initially to the Division of Medical Assistance and Health Services, Office of Home Care Programs (OHCP), CN 712, Mail Code #35, Trenton, NJ 08625-0712, Attention: Judith Johnston. Following review by the OHCP, individuals who are Social Security Income (SSI) eligible, and others whose financial eligibility and disability have been established will be referred to a Medicaid District Office (MDO) for a medical determination through the Pre-Admission Screening (PAS) process. Those who meet the financial and medical eligibility requirements shall then be assigned to a case management site.

Individuals whose financial eligibility and disability have not been determined shall be referred by the OHCP to the appropriate county welfare agency.

PROVIDER ENROLLMENT: Current Medicaid providers may participate in the TBI waiver providing Medicaid State Plan services. New procedure codes shall be assigned for certain services in this waiver.

Providers of waiver services such as Community Residential Services, Structured/Supported Day Programs, In-Home Services, Counseling, and Behavior Program services must enroll to provide these new waiver services. Providers of waiver services must have expertise in service provision to head injured individuals.

BILLING: Services shall be billed directly by the provider to Paramax/Unisys utilizing procedure codes for waiver services which are specific to this program.

If you require additional information on this new program, please contact Judith Johnston, Medical Social Work Consultant at 609-588-2733.

Attachment

RETAIN THIS NEWSLETTER NUMERICALLY BEHIND THE NEWSLETTER TAB
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**Case Management Sites
for Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) Program**

Northern New Jersey

Crawford Company Health
Care Management
1135 Broad St. Suite 205
Clifton, NJ 07013
Phone: 201-773-9409
Fax: 201-773-9215
Manager, Susan Roth

Counties Covered

Bergen, Passaic, Hudson, Sussex,
Morris, Warren

Visiting Nurse Association
of Morris County Inc.
38 Elm Street
Morristown, NJ 17960
Phone: 201-539-1216
Fax: 201-539-8371
Director, Professional Services
Mary Levitsky

Morris, Sussex, Warren, Passaic

Central New Jersey

Care At Home Inc.
33 Evergreen 4th Floor
East Orange, NJ 07018
Phone: 201-414-3446
Fax: 201-414-3456
Sr. Vice President,
Catherine Pignatello

Counties Covered

Essex, Union

Comprehensive Rehabilitation
Associates
Reg. Office
509 Stillwells Corner Rd.
Suite E5
Freehold, NJ 07728
Phone: 908-780-1261
Fax: 908-780-3822
Regional Manager,
Beth Klein

Monmouth, Ocean, Mercer

Reg. Office
123 North Union Ave.
Cranford, NJ 07016
Phone: 908-272-7878
Fax: 908-272-9609
Regional Manager, Maureen Bryce

MCOSS Foundation
140 Bodman Rd.
Red Bank, NJ 07701
Phone: 908-224-6940
Fax: 908-224-0028
Patricia Buckley,
Supervisor, Specialized Programs

Southern New Jersey

Laurel Rehabilitation Services, Inc.
67 S. Black Horse Pike
Blackwood, NJ 08012
Tel: 609-346-9748
Fax: 609-232-8430
Director,
Patricia Deffler

Partners In Home Care
16 East Main St.
P.O. Box 375
Moorestown, NJ 08057
Tel: 609-235-0462
Fax: 609-235-0346
Vice President, Katherine McNaughton

Middlesex, Union, Essex, Somerset,
Hunterdon

Monmouth, Middlesex, Ocean, Mercer

Counties Covered

Camden, Burlington, Cape May,
Cumberland, Salem, Gloucester,
Atlantic

Burlington, Camden, Gloucester,
Atlantic