



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

MEDICAID ALERT

MARCH 1992

TO: Home Care Services Providers

SUBJECT: Billing Instructions for Private Duty Nursing Services in the Home and Community Based Waiver Programs

EFFECTIVE: Immediately

BACKGROUND: The New Jersey Medicaid program reimburses certain Home Care Services providers for **private duty nursing** services rendered to Medicaid recipients in the Model Waiver III program and AIDS Community Care Alternatives Program (ACCAP). Billing instructions for dates of service for private duty nursing are different from other services.

The maximum number of hours of private duty nursing services reimbursable by Medicaid is sixteen (16) hours per day, except under the following circumstances and when prior authorized:

1. For brief post-hospital periods while the caregiver(s) adjusts to the new responsibilities of caring for the discharged recipient; or
2. In emergency situations such as the illness of the caregiver when private duty nursing is currently being provided. In these situations, more than sixteen (16) hours of nursing care may be given for a limited period until other arrangements are made for the safety and care of the recipient.

ACTION: When billing for private duty nursing services, providers must enter each date of service on a separate line on the 1500 N.J. claim form in Field 24A (Date of Service). A claim for private duty nursing services must not span dates of service.

Enter the number of hours of private duty nursing services on the 1500 N.J. claim form in Field 24F (days or units). Each hour of service is equal to one unit of service.

In the event that more than sixteen (16) hours per day of private duty nursing services are required, providers must contact the recipient's Case Manager, who, in turn, will contact the Office of Home Care Programs (OHCP) for approval. Unisys/Paramax will notify the provider of the authorization number which is to be used when billing for these services.

Claims submitted for more than sixteen (16) hours per day of private duty nursing service per claim line will be pended for Error Code 768 (Excessive Private Duty Nursing Hours) for review by the OHCP, unless prior authorized as outlined above.

If there are any questions regarding this Medicaid Alert, contact the Office of Home Care Programs at (609) 588-2620.

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AND HEALTH SERVICES

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