



PROGRAM INSTRUCTION

SUA-20-PI-12
Rescinds: SUA-19-PI-02

07/01/2019
Revised

TO: Subrecipients of the State Unit on Aging

FROM: Cynthia Brammeier, Administrator, State Unit on Aging

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SUBJECT: Procedure Adjustments to Care Management Client Reimbursement

CONTENT: During review of the Care Management regulations, DHHS Legal Division rendered a decision on current statutes and regulations that directly affect operations of the Care Management Unit. This was shared with Directors during the August 14, 2018 Ne4A meeting.

It was determined that 81-2234, and 15 NAC 2 007.03 promulgated for that law, requires payment from Care Management clients that are at 10% or more of the Sliding Fee Scale. Title 15 NAC 2 007.04 provides direction concerning the process Care Management Units are required to follow to be compliant with both law and regulation.

It was also determined that the SUA cannot reimburse for the portion of the cost of Care Management services that are the responsibility of the client. This is a significant change in reimbursement procedures.

State Statute 81-2234 and 15 NAC 2 007.03 and 007.04.

81-2234. Care management unit; fee scale; reimbursement.

(1) Individuals who have family income below three hundred percent of a poverty level determined by the Department of Health and Human Services based on any federal poverty index or similar guidelines shall pay from zero to ninety percent of the fee for the services provided by a care management unit. The fee scale shall be adopted and promulgated as rules and regulations by the department and shall reflect the income range of individuals.

(2) A care management unit may receive reimbursement from state and federal government programs which allow for reimbursement for care management or case management services.

(3) Individuals not covered by subsection (1) or (2) of this section shall pay the full fee for services provided by a care management unit.

15 NAC 2

007.03 A client whose family income is below 300% of the poverty level in the index issued by the Department will pay from 0 to 90 percent of the fee for the Care Management Unit services based on the following fee scale.

007.04 The Care Management Unit shall inform the individual of the fee for services prior to the delivery of services. Monthly statements of the services rendered and prior balance receivable, charges at full fee, sliding fee scale adjustments, payments received and ending balance receivable shall be sent to each client.

A request to review Title 15 NAC 2 008 was made by Ne4A. After review by DHHS Legal, it was determined that this regulation does not change their initial interpretation.

This ruling has two effects on AAA operations.

1) AAAs have until January 1, 2019 to be in compliance with 81-2234 and 15 NAC 2 007.03 and 007.04. Compliance includes the development of a policy and procedure that is approved by the Service Area Governing Board, and implemented. The policy, Board approval, and a statement of implementation is due to SUA prior to January 1, 2019.

The SUA recommends the policy and procedure include a method for recording the items in 15 NAC 2 007.04, production of the monthly client statement, and delivery of the statement to the client. During this implementation phase, SUA recommends that AAAs promptly inform all Care Management clients who are above 0% of the Sliding Fee Scale of any changes you will make to your operations.

Each agency's determination of how to address client payment, or non-payment, of their portion of the cost of Care Management services is a private business matter and outside the scope of SUA and DHHS.

2) Form C has been revised to reflect the new reimbursement process.

If you have questions, please contact Doug at 402-471-4797 or Bob at 402-471-4737 or Attn: Doug or Bob at DHHS.aging@nebraska.gov