

## PROVIDER BULLETIN NO. 12-06

DATE: January 30, 2012

TO: Medicaid Providers of Home Health Agency Services

FROM: Vivianne M. Chaumont, Director   
Division of Medicaid & Long-Term Care

BY: Cindy Kadavy, Administrator  
State Plan Long-Term Care Services

RE: **NEW Streamlined Review Process for Home Health Agencies  
Beginning February 15, 2012**

The Department, in collaboration with Qualis Health, is pleased to announce the implementation of a NEW streamlined Medicaid utilization review process for home health agencies, beginning **February 15, 2012**. This new process will offer two opportunities.

### Gold Card Providers

Approximately 10% of Medicaid home health agencies have met the criteria to be designated as Gold Card providers based on the accuracy of their authorization requests and claim submissions. Through attention to detail and quality assessments, they have ensured their authorization requests meet the criteria for approval and their claims meet the criteria for payment. Their efforts have earned them Gold Card status and our appreciation.

Gold Card providers will be notified of their designation by Qualis Health and offered the opportunity to participate in one of two training seminars, which will explain the streamlined review process and the benefits to their agency.

Gold Card provider status will be updated twice a year, as the goal is to have all home health agencies meet the designation criteria.

### Long Term Care Clients

Many individuals receive Medicaid home health agency services due to a chronic illness. When a home health agency requests authorization for services and the review

by Qualis indicates the patient meets long term care client criteria, the agency will be notified that future requests for that particular patient will qualify for the NEW streamlined utilization review process, as long as the patient's needs remain the same. Long term care client criteria include the patient's care needs being stable and predictable and the services are required due to a chronic illness or medical condition.

Medicaid home health agencies will be notified and have the opportunity to participate in one of two training seminars, which will explain the streamlined review process for long term care clients, provide a brief overview of the Gold Card provider criteria and describe the benefits to the agency.

If you have questions about this Provider Bulletin, please contact Cindy Kadavy at 402-471-4684 or [cindy.kadavy@nebraska.gov](mailto:cindy.kadavy@nebraska.gov)