

To: All Providers Participating in the Nebraska Medicaid Program
From: Jeremy Brunssen, Interim Director 
Date: August 13, 2020
Re: COVID-19 Assisted Living Transfers

This bulletin is being issued to provide guidance to assisted living facilities (ALFs) regarding transfers of residents with regard to the ongoing COVID-19 public health emergency (PHE).

Nebraska Medicaid is committed to ensuring resident safety for our beneficiaries who reside in ALFs. In order to do so, the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) is modifying certain policies with regard to requirements for transfers. In the event that an ALF has multiple residents who are positive for COVID-19 and a quarantine becomes necessary, DHHS will be able to assist providers and residents in acting quickly and efficiently to protect and provide necessary care for the elderly and disabled.

Effective the date of this notice and during the remainder of the COVID-19 public health emergency (PHE), Nebraska Medicaid will continue to pay an ALF its waiver rate if a resident is temporarily transferred out of the facility to quarantine in an SNF or another ALF as long as the resident's bed within the ALF is temporarily vacant. In this event, the resident would continue to pay their share of cost to the ALF, and Medicaid would pay the SNF or other ALF. Medicaid will also continue to pay an ALF its waiver rate for up to 90 days if the resident is temporarily transferred to a private residence and the resident's bed within the ALF is temporarily vacant.

Provider Bulletins, such as this one, are posted on the DHHS website at <http://dhhs.ne.gov/pages/Medicaid-Provider-Bulletins.aspx>. Please subscribe to the page to help you stay up to date about new Provider Bulletins.

DHHS has a dedicated COVID-19 web page at: <http://dhhs.ne.gov/pages/Coronavirus.aspx>

The CDC's dedicated page is available at: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>