

Harrisburg Update 7-27-2018

Agency Meetings and Notices

- **To:** Service Coordination Entities and Home and Community-Based Service Providers in the Aging, Attendant Care, Independence, and OBRA Waivers, and the Act 150 Program

Subject: Personal Emergency Response System (PERS)

This email is a reminder of the service definition and the qualifications required to provide PERS services.

According to Appendix C: Participant Services C-1/C-3 of the approved Medicaid Home and Community-Based waivers, relating to service specifications:

PERS is an electronic device which enables waiver participants to secure help in an emergency. The participant may also wear a portable “help” button to allow for mobility. The system is connected to the person’s phone and programmed to signal a response center once a “help” button is activated. The response center is staffed by trained professional, as specified. The PERS vendor must provide 24 hour staffing, by trained operators of the emergency response center, 365 days a year.

PERS services are limited to those individuals who: live alone; are alone for significant parts of the day as determined in consideration of their health status, disability, risk factors, support needs and other circumstances; live with an individual that may be limited in their ability to access a telephone quickly when a participant has an emergency; would otherwise require extensive in-person routine monitoring and assistance. Installation, repairs, monitoring and maintenance are included in this service.

Service Coordinators must assure that coverage of services provided under a responsible third-party continues until the plan limitations have been reached or a determination of non-coverage has been established prior to this service’s inclusion in the service plan. Documentation in accordance with Department requirements must be maintained in the participant’s file by the Service Coordinator and updated with each reauthorization.

Installation is covered one time per residential site. Stand-alone smoke detectors will not be billed under PERS. PERS covers the actual cost of service and does not include any administrative costs. The frequency and duration of this service is based upon the participant’s needs as identified and documented in the participant’s service plan. The provider qualifications include the following provider types: Vendors of Personal Emergency Response Systems, Home Health Agencies, and Durable Medical Equipment Supply Companies. The Office of Long-Term Living (OLTL) is providing the following additional clarification regarding delivery and billing of the PERS service.

- ***Department of Human Services***

Wednesday, August 1, 10:00 am, Department of Education, Honors Suite, 1st Floor, 333 Market Street, Harrisburg

Managed Long-Term Services & Supports Subcommittee

For additional information: 717 772 2549

- ***Department of Health***

Friday, August 3, 10:00 am, Giant Food Store, 2nd Floor, Large Conference Room, 2300 Linglestown Road, Harrisburg

Traumatic Brain Injury Advisory Board Meeting

For additional information: 717 772 2763

PA Bulletin

- ***Department of Health***

The Department provides notice that it is rescinding the temporary regulations in Chapter 1210, regarding clinical registrants and academic clinical research centers, that implemented Chapter 20 of the act of April 17, 2016. These temporary regulations were issued under section 1107 of the act (35 P.S. § 10231.1107). The act of June 22, 2018, (P.L. , No. 43) (Act 43) amended Chapter 20 of the act. Act 43 clarifies the clinical research component of the act by changing the requirements and procedures for clinical registrants and academic clinical research centers in this Commonwealth to participate in the Medical Marijuana Program. This statutory amendment supersedes the temporary regulations in Chapter 1210. Further, section 2004 of the act (35 P.S. § 10231.2004), added by section 6 of Act 43, specifically provides that, to facilitate the prompt implementation of Chapter 20 of the act, as amended, the Department shall promulgate temporary regulations that are not subject to sections 201—205 of the CDL, the Regulatory Review Act and sections 204(b) and 301(10) of the Commonwealth Attorneys Act. The Department is rescinding the temporary regulations in Chapter 1210 under this statutory authority. In accordance with section 2004(c) of the act, the Department intends to promulgate temporary regulations to implement amended Chapter 20 of the act within the time frame as provided in section 2004 of the act. Section 2004(c) of the act requires the Department to begin publishing temporary regulations within 90 days of June 22, 2018, the effective date of Act 43.

For additional information: <https://www.pabulletin.com/secure/data/vol48/48-30/1165.html>

- ***Department of Human Services***

The Department is providing final notice of its funding allocation for Fiscal Year (FY) 2017-2018 disproportionate share hospital payments to qualifying acute care Medical Assistance (MA) hospitals. These payments are intended to promote the availability of professional medical services to MA populations in less urbanized areas of this Commonwealth by supporting medical education and academic medical programs. The Department is not otherwise changing the qualifying criteria or payment methodology for these payments. The Department published notice of its intent to allocate funding for these payments at 48 Pa.B. 1786 (March 24, 2018). The Department received no comments during the 30-day comment period and will implement the change as described in the notice of intent.

Fiscal Impact

The FY 2017-2018 impact, as a result of the funding allocation for these payments, is \$5.812 million (\$2.800 million in State general funds and \$3.012 million in Federal funds).

For additional information: <https://www.pabulletin.com/secure/data/vol48/48-30/1180.html>

PA Department of Health Message Board

- Consent To Mental Health Treatment For Minor Children
See attachment in email
- 2018 West Nile Virus Season in Pennsylvania
See attachment in email

House 2018 Fall Session Schedule

- September 12, 13, 24, 25, 26
- October 1 (non-voting), 2 (non-voting), 9, 10, 15, 16, 17
- November 13

Senate 2018 Fall Session Schedule

- September 24, 25, 26
- October 1, 2, 3, 15, 16, 17
- November 14

Committee Schedule for the Week of July 30

House

- No healthcare-related committee meetings have been scheduled for the week of July 30.

Senate

- No healthcare-related committee meetings have been scheduled for the week of July 30.

Floor Schedule for the Week of July 30

House (from the Republican Week Ahead)

- The House is not scheduled for session the week of July 30.

Senate (from the Senate Calendar)

- The Senate is not scheduled for session the week of July 30.

Legislative Floor Action for the Week of July 23

House

- The House was not in session the week of July 23.

Senate

- The Senate was not in session the week of July 23.