



State of New Jersey

**DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
DIVISION OF MEDICAL ASSISTANCE AND HEALTH SERVICES**

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MEDICAID COMMUNICATION NO: 90-21

DATE: 10-29-90

TO: County Welfare Agency/Board of Social Services Director

SUBJECT: Hospice Care under the AIDS Community Care
Alternatives Program (ACCAP)

PURPOSE: This communication introduces and describes the waiver service of hospice care provided under the AIDS Community Care Alternatives Program (ACCAP).

BACKGROUND: The Health Care Financing Administration has approved hospice care as part of the AIDS Community Care Alternatives Program (ACCAP). New Jersey Medicaid Communication 87-19, dated March 30, 1987, outlined and defined ACCAP.

Hospice Service Requirements: Only Medicare certified hospice agencies shall be enrolled as Medicaid providers of hospice care under ACCAP. Hospice care shall be monitored by the ACCAP case manager and the Medicaid District Office staff.

The attending physician shall certify that the individual is terminally ill and has a life expectancy of up to six months. The recipient must elect to receive hospice care; however, the recipient may withdraw at any time.

Recipients eligible for ACCAP, and therefore, for hospice care, shall be diagnosed as having AIDS or ARC, or if a child, be HIV positive under age 5. They shall also be in need of institutional care and meet, at a minimum, the nursing facility level of care criteria established by the New Jersey Medicaid Program.

Hospice Service Package: Hospice care offered under ACCAP is somewhat different from Medicare hospice care in the nature of the services provided. When provided under ACCAP, Hospice care refers only to services provided in the home. Hospice care is available to eligible ACCAP recipients on a daily 24-hour basis as needed and authorized within an individual plan of care. Prior authorization of hospice services by the appropriate Medicaid District Office is required every two months. If an individual is also eligible for Medicare hospice, Medicare shall be the first payor of hospice services under all regulations pertinent to provision of that service.

Services Included in the Hospice Package: The ACCAP per diem hospice care rate includes the following services:

1. Skilled nursing visits;
2. Medical Director (hospice) services;
3. Medical social service visits;
4. Therapies, such as physical and occupational therapies, speech-language pathology services;
5. Hospice case management, interdisciplinary planning and bereavement counseling;
6. Intravenous therapy, which is defined as the administration of medications for pain control and the assessment and routine care of IV sites;
7. Durable medical equipment, such as hospital bed/side rails, wheelchairs, suction machines and oxygen equipment; and
8. Medications related to pain control of terminal illness, as determined by the hospice agency.

Services Not Included in the Hospice Package:

The ACCAP per diem hospice care rate does **not** include

the following services:

1. Private duty nursing;
2. Attending physician services;
3. Home health aide services;
4. Case management for all other waiver services;
5. AZT or other special drugs; and
6. Medical supplies.

All services, supplies and medications shall be coordinated with the ACCAP case manager **prior** to delivery.

The Division of Medical Assistance and Health Services administers the overall program and has the responsibility for assessing a recipient's need for care and for determining if a recipient can be served appropriately by the program.

Questions regarding this communication are to be directed to Carol H. Kurland, Office of Home Care Programs, Division of Medical Assistance and Health Services at (609) 588-2620.

Sincerely,



Saul M. Kilstein
Director

SMK:Km

cc: Marion Reitz, Director
Division of Economic Assistance

Nicholas Scalera, Acting Director
Division of Youth and Family Services