TO: Chronic Disease and Rehabilitation Inpatient Hospitals Participating in MassHealth

FROM: Daniel Tsai, Assistant Secretary for MassHealth

RE: Temporary Suspension of the 45-Day Administrative Day Nonpayment Provision Under 130 CMR 435.000

Background

Under MassHealth chronic disease and rehabilitation inpatient hospital (CDRH) provider regulations at 130 CMR 435.407(G), the first 45 administrative days of a member’s admission or continued stay in a CDRH are not reimbursable for MassHealth members 21 years of age and older.

Temporary Policy Change

During the COVID-19 pandemic, however, CDRH providers are experiencing challenges around safely discharging MassHealth members to appropriate settings. Accordingly, to facilitate better health outcomes for MassHealth members and to equitably address these challenges, EOHHS is extending the temporary suspension of its enforcement of the 45-day administrative day (AD) nonpayment provision under 130 CMR 435.407(G) described in Chronic Disease and Rehabilitation Inpatient Hospital Bulletin 91 and as further described in this bulletin. This change is effective for dates of service beginning January 1, 2021, through March 31, 2021. This change applies to all MassHealth members admitted to a CDRH hospital. CDRH providers should bill using the short-stay AD occurrence code 21 for any MassHealth member in the provider’s CDRH who is currently in or entering the 45-day AD nonpayment window during this period. For these members, payment will be made during this period according to the AD rate in the CDRH provider’s contract.

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Questions

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