

Commonwealth of Massachusetts Executive Office of Health and Human Services Office of Medicaid

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MassHealth Home Health Agency Bulletin 65 June 2021

TO: Home Health Agencies Participating in MassHealth

FROM: Daniel Tsai, Assistant Secretary for MassHealth

RE: Updates to Certain COVID-19 Flexibilities for Home Health Aide Services

Extension of the Temporary Expansion of Home Health Aide Services

Due to the 2019 novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak, MassHealth issued flexibilities for the provision of home health aide services to MassHealth members who had an existing prior authorization for personal care attendant (PCA) services. The flexibilities issued in Home Health Agency Bulletin 56 and subsequently in Home Health Agency Bulletin 57 were in effect through the duration of the Governor's March 10, 2020, declaration of emergency.

This bulletin acts to supersede the end dates listed in Home Health Agency Bulletin 57 and extends those flexibilities listed in Home Health Agency Bulletin 57 to the end of the federally declared Public Health Emergency.

MassHealth members who would like to permanently transition their PCA services to a home health agency should work with their PCM agency and the home health agency to coordinate the transition of care. Home health agencies assuming such duties as can be authorized under the home health aide benefit must comply with all home health agency requirements, including a new prior authorization for home health aide services.

MassHealth Website

This bulletin is available on the <u>MassHealth Provider Bulletins</u> web page.

Sign up to receive email alerts when MassHealth issues new bulletins and transmittal letters.

Questions

The MassHealth LTSS Provider Service Center is open from 8 am to 6 pm ET, Monday through Friday, excluding holidays. LTSS providers should direct questions about this bulletin or other MassHealth LTSS Provider questions to the LTSS Third Party Administrator (TPA) as follows:

Phone: Toll free (844) 368-5184

Email: support@masshealthltss.com

Portal: www.MassHealthLTSS.com

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