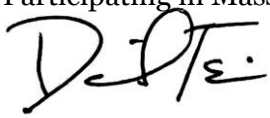




**MassHealth**  
**Managed Care Entity Bulletin 56**  
**March 2021**

**TO:** Managed Care Entities and PACE Organizations Participating in MassHealth  
**FROM:** Daniel Tsai, Assistant Secretary for MassHealth   
**RE:** Coverage of and Reimbursement for Hospital-at-Home Services

**Applicable Managed Care Entities and PACE Organizations**

- Accountable Care Partnership Plans (ACPPs)
- Managed Care Organizations (MCOs)
- MassHealth's behavioral health vendor
- One Care Plans
- Senior Care Organizations (SCOs)
- Program of All-inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE) Organizations

**Overview**

MassHealth's mission is to improve the health outcomes of our diverse members and their families by providing access to integrated health care services that sustainably and equitably promote health, well-being, independence, and quality of life. In support of that mission, MassHealth provides broad coverage of medically necessary health care services to its members. MassHealth partners with a wide variety of service providers, including vital safety net providers, in order to offer its members access.

In light of the 2019 novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak, MassHealth is implementing policies to support members and health care providers impacted by and responding to COVID-19. Through this bulletin, MassHealth is directing Accountable Care Partnership Plans (ACPPs), Managed Care Organizations (MCOs), as well as Senior Care Organizations (SCOs) and One Care plans only to the extent described in the paragraph immediately below including for enrollees who are not dually-eligible for MassHealth and Medicare (referred to collectively here as "managed care entities"), to institute certain policies related to COVID-19. Program of All-inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE) organizations should also follow the guidance in this bulletin as described in the paragraph immediately below.

One Care Plans, SCOs, and PACE organizations should first follow guidance provided by Medicare on the delivery by acute inpatient hospitals of inpatient services in a member's home (Hospital-at-Home services) for enrollees with Medicare, including hospital eligibility requirements and payment and billing instructions. SCOs and PACE organizations must follow the requirements in this bulletin for Medicaid-only enrollees.

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**Managed Care Entity and PACE Organization Coverage of and Payment for Hospital-at-Home Services**

As described in [Acute Inpatient Hospital \(AIH\) Bulletin 180](#), on November 25, 2020, CMS announced its *Acute Hospital Care at Home* program. To participate in this program, hospitals must apply for and receive from CMS two time-limited, hospital-level waivers of Medicare hospital conditions of participation described at 42 CFR 482.23(b) and (b)(1). Per CMS's guidance, these waivers and its *Acute Hospital Care at Home* program will terminate at the end of the public health emergency. MassHealth will cover Hospital-at-Home services for members as described in AIH Bulletin 180.

AIH Bulletin 180 also describes MassHealth acute hospital eligibility requirements, payment methodology and billing instructions, along with other details about MassHealth's coverage of Hospital-at-Home services. Managed care entities, as defined in this bulletin, and PACE organizations must conform their coverage policies, including hospital eligibility requirements, payment methodology and billing instructions, to match those in AIH Bulletin 180 when providing Hospital-at-Home services as Medicaid services.

**MassHealth Website**

This bulletin is available on the [MassHealth Provider Bulletins](#) web page.

To sign up to receive email alerts when MassHealth issues new bulletins and transmittal letters, send a blank email to [join-masshealth-provider-pubs@listserv.state.ma.us](mailto:join-masshealth-provider-pubs@listserv.state.ma.us). No text in the body or subject line is needed.

**Questions**

If you have any questions about the information in this bulletin, please contact the MassHealth Customer Service Center at (800) 841-2900, email your inquiry to [providersupport@mahealth.net](mailto:providersupport@mahealth.net), or fax your inquiry to (617) 988-8974.