

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
Department of Health Care Finance



Office of the Deputy Director

Transmittal No. 12-27

TO: All Hospital Providers and Medicaid Managed Care Organizations

FROM: Linda Elam, Ph.D., M.P.H. 
Deputy Director/Medicaid Director

DATE: OCT 16 2012

SUBJECT: Care Coordination for Alliance Members Receiving Medicaid Reimbursable
Emergency Services

On October 1, 2012, the Department of Health Care Finance effectuated a new payment policy for Medicaid-reimbursable emergency medical services for D.C. Health Care Alliance beneficiaries. Under this policy, Medicaid-reimbursable emergency medical services will no longer be included in the Alliance benefit package and will not be paid to network hospitals by MCOs participating in the Alliance program. Instead, hospitals providing Medicaid-reimbursable emergency medical services to Alliance beneficiaries should submit claims for these services directly to DHCF for reimbursement under Medicaid. See <http://dhcf.dc.gov/sites/default/files/dc/sites/dhcf/publication/attachments/Hospital%20Claims%20for%20Medicaid%20Reimbursable%20ER%20Services%20for%20DC%20Health%20Care%20Alliance%20Beneficiaries.pdf>

Medicaid Managed Care Organizations (MCOs), however, remain responsible for ensuring that Alliance members receive needed after-care services, care coordination, ***and any non-emergency care even if it is provided in an emergency setting.*** Thus, regardless of whether services are billed to the MCO or directly to DHCF, network hospitals must continue to work with the Alliance member's MCO to ensure that the member receives appropriate after-care and care coordination services. For example, if an Alliance member is admitted through the emergency room to a network hospital for treatment of a stroke, the hospital services received are considered Medicaid-reimbursable emergency services, and under the new policy, the hospital would bill DHCF directly. Nevertheless, the hospital and Alliance member's MCO are still expected to communicate with each other to facilitate and coordinate discharge planning and the delivery of appropriate post-acute services.

If you have any questions, please contact Lisa Truitt, Division of Managed Care at (202) 442-9109 or via email at lisa.truitt@dc.gov.