


GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
Department of Health Care Finance



Transmittal No. 13-15

TO: All District of Columbia Medicaid Managed Care Plans and Dialysis Providers

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

DATE: SEP 23 2013

SUBJECT: Dialysis Coverage for DC Health Care Alliance

The purpose of this transmittal is to clarify the District of Columbia Department of Health Care Finance's policy on dialysis coverage for DC Health Care Alliance beneficiaries.

Dialysis Treatment – The DC Health Care Alliance benefit currently does not include dialysis. However, DHCF will include coverage for dialysis as a new benefit beginning in the new fiscal year, FY 2014. Coverage for dialysis will not be effective until the new Alliance benefit managed care contracts are approved by the Council of the District of Columbia. The Council is expected to review these contracts when the members return from recess in September, 2013. DHCF will send out updated information regarding the effective date of this coverage change as soon as it is available.

Currently, managed care plans with contracts to provide DC Health Care Alliance benefits are not required to cover dialysis treatment, but may choose to do so as a supplemental benefit. Pending the approval of the new Alliance benefit managed care contracts, dialysis treatment may be covered under Emergency Medicaid. Emergency Medicaid provides payment for treatment of medical conditions that manifest by sudden onset, acute symptoms of sufficient severity (including severe pain) such that the absence of medical attention could reasonably be expected to result in (a) placing the patient's health in serious jeopardy; (b) serious impairment to bodily function; or (c) serious dysfunction of any bodily organs or part.

Eligibility for Emergency Medicaid is determined by the Department of Human Services, Economic Security Administration (ESA). Applications for Emergency Medicaid are available by contacting ESA at 202-698-4438.

Questions regarding this transmittal should be directed to Claudia Schlosberg, Director, Health Care Policy and Research Administration at (202) 442-9107 or via email Claudia.schlosberg@dc.gov.

Questions regarding claims submission should be directed to Provider Services at (202) 906-8319 (inside DC Metro) or (866) 752-9233 (outside DC metro area).

Questions regarding the Alliance program and billing for Alliance services should be directed to Lisa Truitt at (202) 442-9109 or via email lisa.truitt@dc.gov.