


GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
Department of Health Care Finance



Office of the Senior Deputy Director

DHCF Transmittal No. 15-09

TO: Home Health Providers

FROM: Claudia Schlosberg, JD 
Acting State Medicaid Director/ Senior Deputy Director

DATE: March 20, 2015

SUBJECT: Prior Authorization Extensions Due to Late Long-Term Care Assessments

The Department of Health Care Finance (DHCF) has learned that due to a computer problem, a number of individuals did not receive timely notice of the need to annually recertify their level of need for personal care assistance services. This problem affected beneficiaries with annual recertifications due in January, February and March, 2015. To ensure that there is no interruption of services and that Home Health Agencies serving these individuals will continue to be paid, DHCF is administratively extending all expired prior authorizations (PA)s for individuals affected by this problem to June 1, 2015. All PAs will be extended by close of business March 20, 2015. Affected individuals and their providers should have received or will be receiving a new notice regarding the need to obtain a new physician order form (POF). Upon receipt of the POF, Delmarva will schedule a face-to-face reassessment.

After assessment, Delmarva will input the new PA effective on the date of the assessment through the end date of the original certification period. This is being done to maintain the beneficiary's annual recertification date. Delmarva will also update the end date of the extended prior authorization.

Example

PA 100 – originally entered from 2/1/2014 – 1/31/2015 has been extended by DHCF to June 1, 2015. The beneficiary is assessed on 4/11/2015. PA 100 would get an end date of 4/10/2015 and a new PA would be created with dates of services 4/11/2015 through 1/31/2016.

These changes are effective March 20, 2015.

It is important to remember that Delmarva is unable to schedule an annual reassessment unless they have received a valid and complete POF. We also appreciate your continued assistance in ensuring that Delmarva has accurate, current addresses for the beneficiaries that you serve.

If you have any questions, please contact Mary Devasia, Acting Long Term Care Director, 202-442-5931, Mary.Devasia2@dc.gov.