



Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Health and Human Services
Division of Medical Assistance
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MassHealth
Day Habilitation Provider Bulletin 4B
October 2001

TO: Day Habilitation Providers Participating in MassHealth
FROM: Wendy E. Warring, Commissioner
RE: **Coordination of Specialized Services**

Background

Some MassHealth members served by day habilitation programs are nursing facility residents receiving specialized services. Specialized services are designed to promote as much self-determination and independence as possible. To that end, there must be coordination between the specialized services-provider (for example, a day habilitation provider) and the nursing facility.

**Specialized Services
Provider Obligations**

To enhance the provision of specialized services and to increase communication with the nursing facility, the provider of specialized services must:

- provide copies of the day habilitation support plan and relevant updates to the nursing facility;
 - meet with the nursing facility at least once a year to coordinate the development of the nursing facility plan of care and the day habilitation support plan;
 - make every effort to attend the annual plan-of-care meeting at the nursing facility to coordinate the development of the two plans. (This annual meeting is similar to the current practice for those members residing in residential settings); and
 - communicate with the Department of Mental Retardation service coordinator or the University of Massachusetts Medical School case manager all issues related to the services these members are receiving.
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***Nursing Facility
Obligations***

To assist in the coordination of specialized services, nursing facilities must:

- invite DMR service coordinators, University of Massachusetts Medical School case managers, and specialized-services providers to the annual minimum data set (MDS)/care planning meeting for each resident receiving specialized services; and
 - ensure that care-plan interventions complement and reinforce the specialized-services plan.
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***Coordination and
Cooperation***

As nursing facilities increase their efforts to incorporate elements of the specialized-services plan into the services they provide, they will need assistance from specialized-services providers. Specialized-services providers may be asked to instruct nursing facility staff on the strategies employed in the provision of specialized services to a specific individual. Specialized-services providers must make every effort to accommodate these requests.

***Special Training
Programs***

Special training programs for nursing facilities and specialized-services providers are being developed. Information about these programs will be provided as it becomes available.

Questions

If you have any questions about the material in this bulletin, please call Kelly Lawless at 617-210-5134.
