



State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

DIVISION OF MEDICAL ASSISTANCE AND HEALTH SERVICES

CN 712

TRENTON, NEW JERSEY 08625

(609) 588-2600

WILLIAM WALDMAN
Commissioner

SAUL M. KILSTEIN
Director

MEDICAID COMMUNICATION NO. 93-19

DATE: August 23, 1993

TO: County Welfare Agency Directors

SUBJECT: Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI)

Background:

This is to announce the implementation of New Jersey Medicaid's Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) program, a three-year renewable Federal waiver program which offers, effective July 1, 1993, home and community-based services to persons disabled by a traumatic brain injury. The purpose of the program is to help eligible individuals remain in or return to the community rather than be cared for in a nursing facility.

This waiver will follow procedures consistent with other home and community-based waivers such as the Community Care Program for the Elderly and Disabled (CCPED) and the AIDS Community Care Alternatives Program (ACCAP). Services under the waiver include case management, offered through regionally based case management sites (see attached list), community residential services, personal care assistant services, night supervision, chore services, respite care, companion services, transportation, structured and supported day programs, environmental modifications, physical, speech-language, occupational and cognitive therapies, counseling, and behavior management. All regular Medicaid services will also be offered with the exception of nursing facility care.

Retroactive eligibility is not available to waiver recipients for those Medicaid services provided only by virtue of enrollment in the TBI waiver program.

New providers will be enrolled to provide waiver services. The program supports 75 slots the first year, 150 the second year, and 200 the third year. Slots will be allocated as needed on a statewide basis.

Overall administrative responsibility for this new program will be through the Division of Medical Assistance and Health Services' Office of Home Care Programs (OHCP). OHCP will be responsible for monitoring the program and assigning service cost caps to ensure that an individual's service package does not exceed the cost of institutional care. The Office of Medical Care Administration (MCA) through the Medicaid District Offices will be responsible for determining that the individual meets the nursing facility care criteria using the Division's Pre-Admission Screening (PAS) Program.

Recipient Eligibility and Application Process

To be eligible for the TBI waiver, an individual must be 18 to 65 years of age and medically:

- Have a diagnosis of acquired brain injury;
- Exhibit medical, emotional, behavioral and/or cognitive deficits that meet nursing facility level of care as determined through the PAS; and
- Have a rating of at least four on the Rancho Los Amigos Levels of Cognitive Functioning Scale.

Persons eligible for Medicaid in the community can qualify for TBI benefits, as well as individuals who would be eligible for Medicaid under the institutional standards. In the event that an applicant/recipient resides with his or her spouse, eligibility shall be determined without regard to the spouse's income but the spouse's resources shall be considered as though the applicant/recipient were institutionalized. Since the TBI Program does not require a contribution to the cost of care, the county welfare agencies do not complete a Form PA-3L for these cases.

All referrals for the TBI Waiver must be forwarded initially to the Division's Office of Home Care Programs (OHCP), Mail Code #35, CN 712, Trenton, New Jersey 08625. Following review by the OHCP, those individuals who are currently Medicaid eligible and who appear appropriate for the program will be referred to the Medicaid District Office (MDO) for PAS. Those who meet the medical eligibility criteria as determined by PAS then will be referred to a selected, regionally based management site.

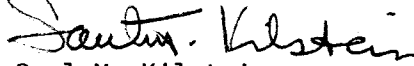
Those individuals whose financial eligibility and/or disability has not been determined shall be referred to the appropriate county welfare agency. Following the determination of Medicaid financial eligibility, these individuals will be referred to the MDO for PAS.

Please note that categorically eligible individuals who do not require waiver services, despite a diagnosis of traumatic brain injury, should not be enrolled in the program. Similarly, such participants should be disenrolled when they no longer require waiver services. The determination of termination of those TBI individuals who no longer require the waiver program will be made by the MDO.

Waiver program participants will eventually be assigned a Special Program Number "17". This designation, however, is not currently in the Medicaid Eligibility File (MEF). You will be notified when this is operational. Until the Special Program Number is available, the county welfare agencies should accrete eligible cases to the MEF without a Special Program Number. OHCP will add the Special Program Number to the MEF to these cases when the number becomes available.

Any questions should be directed to Judith Johnston, OHCP, at (609) 588-2733. Your cooperation in implementing this critically needed new program is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,


Saul M. Kilstein
Director

SMK:Jg

Attachment

c: Marion E. Reitz, Director
Division of Family Development

Nicholas Scalera, Director
Division of Youth and Family Services

**CASE MANAGEMENT SITES FOR
TRAUMATIC BRAIN INJURY (TBI) WAIVER PROGRAM**

REGION

Northern

Area Covered

Crawford and Company Health.....Bergen, Passaic, Hudson
Care Management Sussex, Morris, Warren
1135 Broad Street, Suite 205
Clifton, NJ 07013
Phone: 201-773-9409
Fax: 201-773-9215
Manager: Susan Roth

Visiting Nurse Association.....Morris, Sussex, Warren
of Morris County Inc. Passaic
38 Elm Street
Morristown, NJ 07960
Phone: 201-539-1216
Fax: 201-539-8371
Director, Professional Svcs: Mary Levitsky

Central

Care at Home Inc.....Essex, Union
33 Evergreen, 4th floor
East Orange, NJ 07018
Phone: 201-677-1189
Fax: 201-414-3456
Sr. Vice President: Catherine Pignatello

Comprehensive Rehabilitation Associates, Inc....Monmouth, Ocean, Mercer
Regional Office
509 Stillwell Corner Rd, Suite E5
Freehold, NJ 07728
Phone: 908-780-1261
Fax: 908-780-3822
Regional Manager: Beth Klein

Regional Office.....Somerset, Hunterdon
123 North Union Avenue
Cranford, NJ 07016
Phone: 908-272-7878
Fax: 908-272-9609
Regional Manager: Maureen Bryce

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Case Management Sites - TBI Program

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MCOSS Foundation.....Monmouth, Middlesex
141 Bodman Place Northern Ocean,
Red Bank, NJ Eastern Mercer,
Phone: 908-224-6940 and Eastern Somerset
Fax: 908-224-0028
Manager, Community Care Alternatives: Patricia Buckley

Southern

Laurel Rehabilitation Services Inc.....Gloucester, Atlantic
67 S. BlackHorse Pike Camden, Burlington, Cape May
Blackwood, NJ 08012 Cumberland, Salem,
Phone: 609-346-9748
Fax: 609-232-8430
Director: Patricia Deffler

Partners In Home Care.....Burlington, Camden,
16 East Main Street Gloucester, Atlantic
Moorestown, NJ 08057
Phone: 609-235-0462
Fax: 609-235-0346
Vice President: Kathleen A. MacNaughton