

HEALTH PLAN OF SAN JOAQUIN			
Subject: Medi-Cal Waiver Program Criteria			
Department: UM			Policy #: UM37
Applies to: Medi-Cal			Scope: UM
Effective Date: 2/96	Revised Date: 2/12/08	Approved by: <i>Signature on file</i> Medical Director	

PURPOSE

The Department of Health Care Services administers Medi-Cal Home and Community Based Waiver Programs authorized under 1915(c) of the Social Security Act. Each waiver program is approved to serve a **limited** number of Medi-Cal beneficiaries.

POLICY

- A. Members identified, by diagnosis and level of care as meeting the candidate criteria for the Medi-Cal waiver program are identified by the Provider, the HPSJ Case Manager or Utilization Management Nurse and evaluated by the Medical Director for suitability. Members meeting qualifications will be referred into the waiver program and if accepted, the Case Manager assists with the transfer of the member into Medi-Cal Fee-for-Service.
- B. Qualifying factors for the Waiver Program are:
 - Members in a SNF beyond 30 days without improvement and unable to care for self.
 - Custodial Care members
 - Diagnosis categories of AIDS.¹
- C. Members not meeting the criteria for the waiver program, or if placement is not available, will continue to be managed by the Case Manager, and HSPJ will continue to provide all medically necessary services to the member.

PROCEDURE

- A. In order to identify members who may qualify for a waiver program, the UM Nurse screens all admissions for post-acute care, including home health care, skilled nursing facility, rehabilitation services, and outpatient therapy.
- B. Once identified, the member's total needs are assessed and a determination made as to the appropriate level of care (Sub-acute Care, Skilled Nursing Facility, or Intermediate Care Facility).
- C. If the member requires ongoing care but does not meet the need for Skilled Care, the case is presented to the Medical Director for review and possible transfer into the appropriate Medi-Cal waiver program:

¹ Effective 6/1/02, HIV/AIDS members qualifying for the Waiver program will have dual coverage and not be disenrolled from the Plan's but will be case managed by both Plan and DHS AIDS Case Manager.

- In-Home Medical Care Waiver
- Nursing Facility Subacute Waiver
- Nursing Facility Waiver

The Medical Director, in consultation with the member's PCP, the member and the member's family, will review the alternatives and if indicated, recommend the member be transfer from the Health Plan into the appropriate Medi-Cal Waiver Program.

- D.** The Case Manager prepares the prior authorization request and sends it to the appropriate Medi-Cal field office with complete documentation of medical information for consideration of placement into the waiver program.

In Home Operation Unit
 Medical Operations Division
 1801 7th Street
 P.O. Box 942732
 Sacramento Calif. 94234
 (916) 552-9105

AIDS and ARC Waiver
 San Joaquin County
 1601 E. Hazelton Ave
 P.O. Box 2009
 Stockton, Calif. 95201
 (209) 468-3891

- E.** Upon acceptance of the member by DHCS into the waiver program, the Case Manager notifies the member and the PCP, initiates the Health Plan Disenrollment Request and forwards it to Member Services.

Members accepted into the waiver program are managed by the Case Manager until such time as they are effective with the waiver program and disenrolled from the Health Plan, with the exception of the HIV/AIDS patients.

- F.** If the member does not meet the criteria for a waiver program or if placement is not available, the denial is documented in members' medical record, DRE on line notes and in the case management file of the member.

A Case Manager is assigned to ensure the member is receiving the appropriate level of care in accordance with the member's medical and social/family situation

If the member is denied placement because of the limited number available for each waiver program, the Case Manager will maintain contact with the appropriate agency to assure the member is reconsidered when space is available.

REFERENCE

- A. DHS Contract Exhibit A, Attachment 11. C
- B. Social Security Act Section 1915 (C)
- C. P&P UM 39 - Long Term Care
- D. P&P UM38 - AIDS Medi-Cal Program Referral

Created by/Date	Revised by/Date	Revised by/Date	Revised by/Date	Revised by/Date	Revised by/Date
2/96	M.Jordan RN 5/05	2/08 NRaymond	Reviewed by J. Scott 10/08		