

## **Protocol for DMRS-Funded Hospital Attendant Services**

DMRS-funded hospital attendant services may be provided in an acute care (medical/surgical) hospital when medically necessary, but shall not be provided in a psychiatric hospital or a psychiatric unit of a hospital. When approved based on this protocol, the number of hours of hospital attendant services per day should be based on an assessment of the needs of the service recipient.

1. Is the service recipient under age 18 years?  
  
If **YES**, stop and deny.  
  
If **NO**, proceed to Question #2.
2. Does the service recipient have immediate family members or friends who can provide the needed hospital attendant service without charge?  
  
If **YES**, stop and deny.  
  
If **NO**, proceed to Question #3.
3. Is the hospital attendant service being requested for a service recipient in an intensive care unit?  
  
If **YES**, stop and deny.  
  
If **NO**, proceed to Question #4.
4. Is the hospital attendant service being requested for a service recipient in a psychiatric hospital or in a psychiatric unit of an acute care hospital?  
  
If **YES**, stop and deny.  
  
If **NO**, proceed to Question #5.
5. Is there documentation that the service recipient has a recent history of behavioral issues that place the service recipient or others at imminent risk of harm or that have resulted in significant damage to property?  
  
If **YES**, proceed to Question #6.  
  
If **NO**, proceed to Question #7.
6. Considering the circumstances of the service recipient's illness and pattern of behavioral issues, is it likely that the service recipient would experience significant behavioral issues if a hospital attendant was not available?  
  
If **YES**, stop and approve.  
  
If **NO**, proceed to Question #7.

7. Is the service recipient capable of alerting hospital staff when assistance is needed, either by activating the "call button" or by calling for assistance (if located near the nursing station)?

If **YES**, stop and deny.

If **NO**, proceed to Question #8.

8. Will the hospital attendant's primary role be to provide support which the hospital should be providing (e.g., assistance with meals, repositioning, assistance to bathroom)?

If **YES**, stop and deny.

If **NO**, stop and approve the hospital attendant. If the hospital is willing to make special accommodations for the service recipient, the hospital attendant may be approved short-term until such accommodations can be made. Based on the service recipient's specific needs, the hospital attendant may be approved for a specific block of time or for 24 hours per day. The initial approval period for a hospital attendant is limited to a maximum of 7 calendar days. If a longer period of time is justified, additional approval periods up to 7 days each may be approved.