

LTSS TRAINING TODAY



APRIL 2020

Coronavirus (COVID-19) Redetermination and PASRR

Memo: March 18th, 2020

It can be read in its entirety here:

<https://www.tn.gov/content/dam/tn/tenncare/documents/MemoRedeterminationAndPASRR.pdf>

In light of the impact of COVID-19 on nursing facilities (NFs) and ICFs/IID across Tennessee, TennCare has decided to delay renewals for the Institutional eligibility population living in these facilities at this time.

TennCare will continue to monitor and adjust these timelines as needed during the national COVID-19 emergency.

Here are the details:

- The Institutional population that has been selected for March and April 2020 will be pushed back to at least May 2020. They will receive a new packet between May 2020 and October 2020. You should see this change reflected in TennCare Access within the next week.

- The Institutional population who were selected for February 2020 renewals but have not returned their Renewal packet will not be terminated. They will be sent a new renewal packet between May 2020 and October 2020.

- What if they were selected for renewal in February 2020 and have returned their packet? We will attempt to reapprove them without requesting verifications, if possible. If we cannot process the renewal with data already known to TennCare, then we will stop their renewal and remove their renewal due date so they remain eligible. They will be sent a new renewal packet between May 2020 and October 2020.

Pursuant to 42 CFR § 483.106(b)(2), a person who is found by a Level 1 screen to require a Level 2 evaluation may be exempted from such evaluation if the person:

- Is admitted to the NF directly from a hospital after receiving acute inpatient care at the hospital;
- Requires NF services for the condition for which he or she received care in the hospital; and
- The attending physician has certified before admission to the facility that the individual is likely to require less than 30 days nursing facility services. Hospitals and/ or nursing facilities must still complete the level 1 screen, but the person will not have to complete the level 2 evaluation prior to discharge from the hospital and admission to the NF. NFs remain obligated to ensure that if it is subsequently determined that the individual will remain in the facility beyond the 30-day approval, a level 2 evaluation is completed.

The PASRR Process:

The exemption process is one that currently exists and these requests must be reviewed by a clinician to ensure appropriateness. The clinical review time for these exemptions is typically no more than 4 business hours. This does not, however, mean that it is being sent for a Level 2 review. We are having regular communications with our contracted PASRR vendor, Maximus (Ascend) and they are expecting to see an increase in these requests and are staffing accordingly.

In the event that a Level 2 evaluation is required, for the time being, we have advised Ascend to perform document-based reviews or to leverage telephonic or HIPAA compliant telehealth options for purposes of completing evaluations when required.

Due to coronavirus (COVID-19) memos and information is being shared rapidly. To stay up-to-date visit: <https://www.tn.gov/tenncare/long-term-services-supports/partners-program-updates.html> frequently for LTSS-specific information

Statewide Information

Updates from Gov. Bill Lee on the State's response to the pandemic are available online at:

<https://www.tn.gov/governor/covid-19.html>

Gov. Lee will also host daily media briefings at 3pm CDT / 4pm EDT. They will be livestreamed at:

<https://sts.streamingvideo.tn.gov/Mediasite/Catalog/catalogs/mediasiteadmin-covid-19-media-briefing>

Additional Resources:

A helpful video to share with Direct Support Workers:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ud4Q4e_hcuw&feature=youtu.be

COVID-19 Resources for Senior Centers from the National Council on Aging:

https://www.ncoa.org/uncategorized/covid-19-resources-for-senior-centers/?utm_source=Twitter&utm_medium=social&utm_campaign=OrgSocial

Federal Guidance on COVID-19 from Advancing States:

<http://www.advancingstates.org/initiatives/covid-19-resources/federal-guidance-covid-19#NADSP>

TN

Please forward to staff in your company that complete or submit TennCare (Medicaid) PAEs/PASRRs. This contains important information for all TPAES users.

State of Tennessee Division of TennCare

Help Desk Tips, 8:00-4:30 (CT), 1-877-224-0219 or LTC.Operations@tn.gov

This document is for TPAES users only. Please do not distribute to the public