

To: NFs Contracted with one or more TennCare MCOs for ERC Reimbursement
From: Julie Johnson, Deputy of LTSS Operations, Bureau of TennCare
Date: October 12, 2016
C: TennCare MCOs

Subject: PAEs Submitted for Enhanced Respiratory Care (ERC) Reimbursement

The purpose of this memo is to provide additional instruction related to PAE submissions for ERC reimbursement. These changes are intended to help ease administrative burden of submission (including documentation) processes for facilities contracted to receive ERC reimbursement.

To ease the administrative burden of documentation, the most recently completed *Eventa ERC Program Clinical Update Form* will suffice as supporting medical evidence when requesting Chronic Ventilator or Secretion Management Tracheal Suctioning reimbursement so long as the evaluation occurred within the last 30 days. Otherwise, other medical evidence must accompany each PAE for ERC reimbursement and must support criteria described in TennCare Rule and the *Secretion Management Interpretive Guidance* provided by TennCare via memo on July 28, 2016.

Additionally, we have made adjustments in TPAES (the TennCare PAE System) that will help to simplify requests for clinical review and approval of ongoing ERC reimbursement for a person who has an approved, unexpired Level 1 or Level 2 PAE. Beginning immediately, you can simply open the patient's most recently approved, unexpired PAE in TPAES (TennCare PAE System) which approved that specific service, and select the "extend skilled service" button. (Please note that you are extending the previously approved service, so it is important that you select the most recently approved PAE *for that service*.)

This request should be submitted five (5) to eight (8) business days prior to the expiration date to ensure the clinical information is current, and that there is sufficient time for processing to ensure no lapse in approval, where appropriate. Enter the dates of service for which reimbursement is being requested, upload the required supporting medical documentation as described below, and then click the "OK" button to submit the request:

1. Evaluation of clinical progress, including for Secretion Management Tracheal Suctioning, the NF's efforts to improve secretion management through alternative methods (note that, as described above, a current *Eventa ERC Program Clinical Update Form* will suffice);
2. Signed Nursing Facility PAE Certification Form; and
3. Doctor's Order for the requested service.

TennCare will adjudicate the request and if approved, extend the PAE. For Secretion Management Tracheal Suctioning reimbursement, such approval will be for up to 30 days (or longer in specific situations as described in the *Secretion Management Interpretive Guidance* provided by TennCare via memo on July 28, 2016).

If the PAE is expired, request for ongoing reimbursement may not be requested. A new PAE will be required.

I hope this information and these changes are helpful.