



COMMISSIONER
Chris Traylor

January 21, 2011

To: Nursing Facility Administrators, Social Workers, and Rehabilitation Therapy Staff

Subject: Information Letter No. 11-12
Availability of Customized Power Wheelchairs in Medicaid Nursing Facilities

The Department of Aging and Disability Services (DADS) has identified a need for clarification to facilities regarding the benefit of customized power wheelchairs (CPWCs) to Medicaid-eligible nursing facility (NF) residents. CPWCs are available in the NF Medicaid program for Medicaid-eligible NF residents when medically necessary and prior authorized by the Texas Medicaid Healthcare Partnership (TMHP).

A CPWC is a professionally manufactured wheelchair that consists of a power mobility base and customized seating system. A CPWC request will be considered for authorization, following completion and submission of [Form 3706](#), NF Customized Power Wheelchair (CPWC) Authorization. Costs for a CPWC provided through the NF is billed to and paid by DADS directly to the NF. The CPWC cost is paid separately from the Medicaid daily rate. For additional information on how a CPWC is billed please reference the provider information letter [IL 2009-50](#).

If a resident or the resident's legal representative requests a CPWC, the nursing facility must procure an evaluation for a CPWC from a licensed physical or occupational therapist as indicated in Texas Administrative Code §19.2614. If the evaluation recommends a CPWC, the nursing facility must submit all required forms to the Texas Medicaid Healthcare Partnership (TMHP) for prior authorization. After receiving prior authorization from TMHP, the facility must purchase the CPWC. For additional information regarding the process for obtaining a CPWC for a Medicaid-eligible nursing facility residents refer to the [Attachment 1](#) and [instructions](#) for [Form 3706](#), and DADS provider information letter [IL 2010-17](#).

If you have any questions or need additional information, Sean Ivie, Lead Policy Analyst, serves as the lead staff on matters regarding CPWC policy, and can be reached by phone at (512) 438-5208 or by e-mail at Sean.Ivie@dads.state.tx.us.

Sincerely,

[signature on file]

Geri Willems
Manager
MERP/PASRR