



## TEXAS HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION

THOMAS M. SUEHS  
EXECUTIVE COMMISSIONER

November 18, 2011

To: Medicaid Hospice Providers

Subject: **Information Letter No. 11-144**  
Payment Rates Effective October 1, 2011

Dear Provider,

The Texas Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) approved rate changes for the Medicaid Hospice program Federal Fiscal Year 2012 based on information provided by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). The new rates, which are effective retroactive to October 1, 2011, can be accessed through the HHSC Rate Analysis website at the following address: <http://www.hhsc.state.tx.us/rad/long-term-svcs/hospice/index.shtml>

Once you access this website, scroll down to the "Payment Rate Information" heading and click on the link entitled "2012 Payment Rates to Current". The county where the hospice recipient received services is the basis for determining the appropriate rate. The new rates are listed by county. In addition, CMS has indicated the hospice cap amount of \$24,527.69, for the cap year ending October 31, 2011.

### **Claims Submission**

Providers should continue to bill the Texas Medicaid and Healthcare Partnership (TMHP) using their normal billing process. Providers are encouraged to bill electronically. Since the electronic payment system has been updated with the new rates, a retroactive adjustment will occur allowing the new rate for claims beginning October 1, 2011; therefore, no additional action is required by individual providers.

Medicaid Hospice forms and instructions, information letters, and policy clarifications may be accessed at <http://www.dads.state.tx.us/providers/Hospice/index.cfm>. If you have questions regarding billing and payments for hospice services, please call TMHP at 1-800-626-4117 and select option 1.

Sincerely,

*[signature on file]*

Pam McDonald  
Director, HHSC Rate Analysis for Long-Term Services and Supports