



COMMISSIONER
Jon Weizenbaum

March 21, 2016

To: Medicaid Hospice Providers

Subject: Information Letter No. 16-12
New Payment Rate Billing Delay

The purpose of this information letter is to inform Medicaid Hospice providers of a billing delay for the new “high” routine home care (RHC) rate for days 1 through 60 of an individual’s initial hospice election and the service intensity add-on (SIA) rate for the individual’s last 7 days of life.

Information letters [\(IL\) 2015-79](#) and [IL 2015-78](#) indicate the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services implemented the “high” RHC and the SIA rates on January 1, 2016, and include billing instructions for these rates. [IL 2015-79](#) instructs providers to submit billing for the new rates on March 1, 2016; however, this date is delayed until April 1, 2016, and may be applied retroactively to the January 1, 2016, implementation date.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact the Medicaid Hospice program by email at Hospice@dads.state.tx.us.

Sincerely,

[signature on file]

Lisa Akers-Owen
Director Community Services and Program Operations
LAO:lr