



STATE OF CONNECTICUT

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

25 SIGOURNEY STREET • HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT 06106-5033

July 1, 2010

Dear Hospital Chief Financial Officer:

Special Act No. 10-7 established a task force to study the period of time Medicaid residents remain in acute care hospitals before transfer to a long-term care facility. The task force report is due to the legislative committee by October 1, 2010.

The task force is charged with examining the following: 1) the reasons a Medicaid recipient may remain in an acute care hospital for an extended period of time; 2) the barriers preventing transfer of some Medicaid recipients to long-term care facilities; 3) the federal agency approvals and policy and procedure changes required to facilitate the transfer of Medicaid recipients from acute care hospitals to long-term care facilities in a timely manner; and 4) clinical standards and state licensure requirements that may prevent or facilitate such transfer of Medicaid recipients.

Special Act No. 10-7 is a substitute for House Bill 5398, "An Act Concerning a Pilot Program To Transfer Hospital Patients who Receive Medicaid Benefits To Nursing Homes In A Timely Manner."

The Connecticut Hospital Association supported House Bill 5398. In its testimony to the Human Services Committee the Connecticut Hospital Association stated the following:

CHA supports this pilot program, to be developed with the input of appropriate state agencies and healthcare providers, as a cost effective way to provide care for patients requiring long-term healthcare services. As Connecticut and the nation grapple with the critical question of how to reform our healthcare system, it is important that we be creative and develop pilot programs that will improve care to patients while saving precious healthcare dollars.

In addition, Yale-New Haven Hospital supported House Bill 5398 and made the following statement in its testimony to the Human Services Committee:

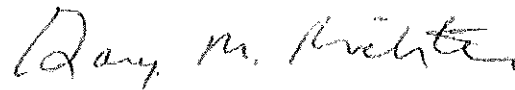
As proposed, this pilot program would provide a cost effective way to provide the appropriate level of care for patients who require long-term healthcare services. HB 5398 seeks to establish a pilot program developed with the input of state agencies and healthcare providers. This would fill a critical need for patients in New Haven, alone. At Yale-New Haven Hospital, we can have anywhere from 8-12 patients who are medically cleared and awaiting placement in a nursing home at any time. In fact, 11 patients have accumulated over 1000 unnecessary acute days at YNNH due to discharge barriers.

The Department is requesting that you support the information needs of the task force. Attached is a survey for your completion. The survey covers the time period of July 12, 2010 through August 8, 2010 and is designed to capture data on patients with complicated discharges. Please feel free to include additional information that you feel would be helpful to the task force.

The completed surveys should be returned by August 16, 2010 to Betsy Bujwid at the State of Connecticut, Department of Social Services, Office of CON and Rate Setting, 25 Sigourney Street, Hartford, CT 06106, or emailed to Betsy.Bujwid@ct.gov, or sent by facsimile (860-424-4812).

Should you have any questions, please contact Betsy Bujwid (860-424-5102) at the Office of CON and Rate Setting.

Sincerely



Gary M. Richter
Director
Office of CON and Rate Setting

cc: Michael Starkowski, Commissioner
Mark Schaefer, Director, Medical Care Administration
Connecticut Hospital Association

Hospital Survey Covering July 12, 2010 through August 8, 2010 (Due August 16, 2010)
Discharge of Medicaid Recipients from Acute Care Setting to Nursing Facilities

Please complete the table below regarding Medicaid recipients who remained in your hospital after being medically cleared. Continue on additional sheets, as necessary. If days for patients precede July 12, 2010, please provide the applicable information and dates on the survey (e.g. patient cleared for discharge on July 8, 2010 and remained an inpatient through July 14th). Please contact Betsy Buijwid at 860-424-5102 or Betsy.Buijwid@ct.gov with any questions.

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Hospital Survey Covering July 12, 2010 through August 8, 2010 (Due August 16, 2010)
Discharge of Non Medicaid Recipients from Acute Care Setting to Nursing Facilities

Please complete the table below regarding non Medicaid recipients who remained in your hospital after being medically cleared. Continue on additional sheets, as necessary. If days for patients precede July 12, 2010, please provide the applicable information and dates on the survey (e.g. patient cleared for discharge on July 8, 2010 and remained an inpatient through July 14th). Please contact Betsy Buiwid at 860-424-5102 or Betsy.Buiwid@ct.gov with any questions.

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