



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
Med-QUEST Division
Medical Standards Branch
P. O. Box 700190
Kapolei, Hawaii 96709-0190

June 28, 2005

MEMORANDUM

ACS M05-05

TO: Physicians, Acute Care Hospitals, Nursing Facilities, Home Health Agencies, and Hospices

FROM: Angie Payne, Acting Med-QUEST Division Administrator /s/ sk

SUBJECT: AUTHORIZATION OF NURSING FACILITY LEVEL OF CARE (1147 PROCESS) AND EXTERNAL QUALITY REVIEW ORGANIZATION (EQRO)/PEER REVIEW ORGANIZATION (PRO) CONTRACT

The Med-QUEST Division (MQD) of the Department of Human Services (DHS) is pleased to inform you that it has awarded a contract to Health Services Advisory Group, Inc. (HSAG) to provide EQRO/PRO services. The EQRO services contracted to HSAG are federally required reviews of Hawaii's Medicaid QUEST managed care plans. PRO services are federally required reviews of Hawaii's Medicaid fee-for-service program, including reviews of acute care services, reviews of nursing facilities' Preadmission Screening Resident Reviews (PASRR) compliance, AND **nursing facility level of care (LOC) determinations (the Form 1147 process).**

HSAG has been the MQD's contractor for the above services since July 2001 and has been subcontracting the PRO services to Mountain Pacific Quality Health Foundation (MPQHF). Effective July 1, 2005, HSAG will assume responsibility for all PRO services, including Form 1147 determinations.

DHS, HSAG and MPQHF have developed a transition plan for the 1147 process to ensure continuation of the quality and timeliness of determinations. MPQHF will therefore, continue to perform all PRO activities during the month of July 2005, and will be available to HSAG thereafter, on a consultation basis. Additionally, arrangements have been made to continue using the same phone and fax numbers.

Applicable addresses and contact information are as follows:

July 1, 2005 to July 31, 2005

Mailing Address: Mountain Pacific Quality Health Foundation
1360 South Beretania Street, Suite 501
Honolulu, Hawaii 96814-1520

Phone Number: (808) 440-6000

Fax Number: (808) 440-6009

Starting August 1, 2005

Mailing Address: Health Services Advisory Group, Inc. (HSAG)
Pacific Guardian Tower
1440 Kapiolani Boulevard, Suite 1110
Honolulu, Hawaii 96817

Phone Number: (808) 440-6000

Fax Number: (808) 440-6009

We are pleased to have had the opportunity to work with MPQHF over the past several years, and appreciate their active participation in the transition plan. Our overall goal is to ensure that this transition is a seamless one for all Hawaii Medicaid providers and Medicaid beneficiaries impacted by this change.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Dr. Lynette Honbo at 692-8106. Thank you for your cooperation.