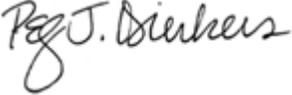


	MEDICAL ASSISTANCE BULLETIN COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA * DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WELFARE	
	SUBJECT Revisions to the Home Health Agency Enrollment Process	BY  Peg J. Dierkers, Ph.D. Deputy Secretary for Medical Assistance Programs
NUMBER:	23-02-01	
ISSUE DATE:	January 4, 2002	
EFFECTIVE DATE:	January 4, 2002	

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this bulletin is to inform providers that the Office of Medical Assistance Programs is changing the current process of enrolling home health agencies (provider type 23) by issuing one Medical Assistance Identification (MAID) number per license.

SCOPE:

This bulletin applies to all home health agencies (HHAs) enrolled in the Medical Assistance (MA) Program.

BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION:

HHAs are licensed by the Department of Health (DOH). One license is issued for each agency even if an agency has multiple branch offices. Each HHA site or branch office, however, must have a separate Medicare certification. Both of these documents are required at the time the HHA is enrolled in MA.

Current Department of Public Welfare (DPW) regulations in Chapter 1101, General Provisions, and Chapter 1249, Home Health Agency Services, do not require separate enrollment of each branch office of a HHA. Chapter 1249, Section 1249.41, provides that HHAs shall be licensed by the Commonwealth and certified for participation in Medicare.

Currently OMAP follows the Medicare certification procedures for enrolling HHAs. A provider number is required for each separate branch of a HHA, even if the HHA has only one license from the DOH. This procedure was originally established to provide better control over where the service was provided. The Pennsylvania Association of Home Health Agencies requested that DPW make the procedure consistent with licensing regulations, which require only one license even if the HHA has multiple branch offices.

This new process will streamline the enrollment process and ensure that enrollment procedures for HHAs coincide with DOH licensing requirements.

COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS BULLETIN SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO:

The Enrollment Unit at 717-772-6140.

Visit the Office of Medical Assistance Programs website at www.dpw.state.pa.us/omap.