



OFFICE OF LONG-TERM LIVING BULLETIN

ISSUE DATE August 10, 2020	EFFECTIVE DATE August 12, 2020	NUMBER 59-20-03
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SUBJECT:
Revised Standardized Physician Certification Form (MA 570)

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PURPOSE:

The purpose of this bulletin is to issue a revised Physician Certification form (MA 570), to update the entities this bulletin applies to, and to clarify MA 570 procedures. The revised MA 570 (MA 570 7/20) replaces the previous version of the MA 570 (MA 570 6/18).

SCOPE:

This bulletin applies to the Pennsylvania Independent Enrollment Broker (IEB), Living Independence for the Elderly (LIFE) providers, the Community HealthChoices Managed Care Organizations (CHC-MCOs), and to Service Coordination Entities (SCE) that provide services to participants in the OBRA waiver and the Act 150 Program.

BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION:

Functional eligibility for home and community-based services (HCBS), either through a Medicaid waiver or a state-funded program, requires an individual to meet level of care criteria specific to each waiver or program. An individual's level of care is determined through an assessment of his or her need for services and a physician certification. In November 2010, the Office of Long-Term Living (OLTL) issued a bulletin implementing the use of a physician prescription to verify that the waiver applicant meets the level of care to qualify for HCBS. Since that time, OLTL has determined the use of the physician prescription has been applied inconsistently across the Commonwealth. For the purpose of consistency and clarity, OLTL is now requiring that the MA 570 be used in conjunction with the initial assessment to determine initial functional eligibility for all OLTL HCBS programs. During a reassessment of functional eligibility, a new MA 570 is needed only if the Functional Eligibility Determination (FED) result has changed to Nursing Facility Ineligible (NFI). The new MA 570 will be required for the OLTL Medical Director to make a determination when the level of care has changed to NFI. Providers may not submit false information to obtain authorization to furnish services or items under Medical Assistance.

The MA 570 must be current (not more than one year old) and may only be signed by a Medical Doctor (MD) or Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine (DO). OLTL will not accept an MA 570 signed by a physician in training, physician assistant or certified registered nurse practitioner (CRNP). The MD or DO who signs the MA 570 must be licensed to practice in Pennsylvania or in a state bordering Pennsylvania (i.e. Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey,

New York, Ohio or West Virginia) for all initial assessments and when required for reassessments of functional eligibility. The only exception is that, during the initial assessment, if the individual has transferred to Pennsylvania from another state, the signature on the MA 570 may be from an MD or DO from the state from which the individual is transferring. The current license number of the attending MD or DO must be entered in the Physician License # or MA ID # field. The Physician Signature and Date fields must be completed, legible and not cut off. The MA 570 must have only one level of care checked off.

The following updates have been made to the MA 570:

- The paragraph at the top of page 1 has been revised to include Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) and fraud prevention language.
- The DIAGNOSIS section has been reduced to three ICD 10 Code fields.
- The LEVEL OF CARE section contains updated language to refer to “individual.”
- The LENGTH OF CARE REQUIRED section has been moved to page 1.
- The Physician Phone, Physician Fax, Physician Signature and Date fields have been reformatted and moved to page 1.
- A Patient Name box has been added to page 2.

PROCEDURES:

The IEB, LIFE providers, CHC-MCOs, and SCEs will use the attached revised form MA 570 and updated instructions.

This bulletin rescinds guidance pertaining to the MA 570/Physician Certification in the January 29, 2019, Office of Long-Term Living Standardized Physician Certification Form Bulletin 59-19-01. In addition, all OLTL policy documents or parts of policy documents that are inconsistent with the content of this bulletin are hereby rescinded.

The MA 51 Medical Evaluation will continue to be utilized in accordance with the Office of Income Maintenance Long-Term Care (LTC) Handbook, Chapter 404, to determine eligibility for LTC facility services.

ATTACHMENT:

Physician Certification Form MA 570

<p>COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS BULLETIN SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO: PA Dept. of Human Services OLTL/Forum Place 6th Floor Bureau of Policy Development and Communications Management P.O. Box 8025 Harrisburg, PA 17105-8025 (717) 857-3280</p>
