714/744 P STREET SACRAMENTO, CA 95814 (916) 445-1912

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES

August 10, 1981

To: All County Welfare Directors

Letter No. 81-36

SHARE OF COST (SOC) DETERMINATIONS FOR MFBUS WHICH INCLUDE A PERSON IN LONG-TERM CARE (LTC)

Reference: Letter No. 81-28

This is to advise you of steps taken by the Department in response to county questions regarding the policy instructions issued in Letter No. 81-28.

Change in Instructions Regarding Completion of MC 176M

In Letter No. 81-28 you were advised, as the last step in the SOC computation for LTC eligibles, to add back into the SOC certain deductions allowed earlier in the computation against the income of an MFBU which includes an LTC patient. It has been brought to our attention that in a few isolated instances the result of having the step at that point in the computation is that the MFBUs SOC is higher than the difference between the gross income and the maintenance need.

To avoid this situation, effective immediately, instead of adding the appropriate income deduction back in after Column III Line 17, the deductions should be added in after Column III, Line 3. An example of form MC 176M is attached. This replaces the examples contained in Letter No. 81-28. Also attached is a draft of a Share of Cost Determination Worksheet designed specifically for MFBUs which include an LTC person.

For those cases already converted per the instructions in Letter No. 81-28, no action is required unless you have identified a particular case which would be advantaged by these revised instructions.

Request for DHHS to Reexamine and Confirm Federal Policy

AB 251 specifies that to determine the SOC for persons in LTC, the income deductions normally allowed Medically Needy or Medically Indigent persons and families must be included in the SOC determination to the extent required by federal law. We have previously been advised that the federal position is that <u>all</u> income deductions must be considered even if the income belongs to a family member not in LTC. All County Welfare Directors

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We have requested reconsideration of this federal policy. As part of our request we have included an example depicting the result when a nondisabled child requires hospitalization for a three or four month period and the child's parents have earnings. We have pointed out that in these instances the family is disadvantaged in that mandatory deductions are not taken into account in determining the SOC. You will be advised if the response is such that these deductions can be considered as unavailable income.

If you have any questions contact your Medi-Cal Program Consultant.

Sincerely,

Original signed by

David Mitchell for Madalyn M. Martinez, Chief Medi-Cal Eligibility Branch

Attachments

cc: Medi-Cal Liaisons
Medi-Cal Program Consultants
Expiration Date: February 29, 1982

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICE

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SHARE OF COST DETERMINATION - MFBUS WHICH INCLUDE AN LTC PERSON

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