



Date: June 23, 2020

To: Nursing Facility Providers

Subject: Information Letter No. 19-03 (Revised)—Preadmission Screening and Resident Review (PASRR) Nursing Facility Specialized Services and the Election of Hospice Services

This letter was originally issued on February 8, 2019 and has been revised to inform nursing facilities (NFs) that eligibility for PASRR specialized services has been expanded to include all PASRR positive NF residents who have elected hospice services.

Effective June 1, 2020, NFs are responsible for holding PASRR interdisciplinary team (IDT) meetings for residents who are PASRR positive for mental illness (MI) that elect hospice care. Prior to this date, NFs were only responsible for holding IDT meetings for residents who elected hospice care and were PASRR positive for intellectual or developmental disability (IDD) or IDD and MI.

Because the hospice provider is the primary entity responsible for the individual's plan of care, the NF must invite and include the hospice provider in the IDT meeting for any PASRR positive resident receiving hospice care. The NF must also include the designated local authority (LA), depending on the resident's PASRR determination, in the IDT meeting. The term local authority (LA) includes a local intellectual and developmental disability authority (LIDDA), local mental health authority (LMHA), and local behavioral health authority (LBHA),

When a NF admits an individual, who has elected hospice care and is PASRR positive for MI, IDD, or MI and IDD:

1. The NF must convene an IDT meeting after the LA submits the PASRR Evaluation (PE) and within 14 days after admitting the individual.
2. The IDT will determine if the resident will benefit from specialized services, taking into consideration the resident's medical condition. If all members of the IDT agree the resident will benefit from specialized services, then it will determine which specialized services the resident will receive.

3. After the IDT meeting, the NF must document the information from the IDT meeting, including the attendance of all required participants, on the Long-Term Care (LTC) Online Portal.

When a previously admitted NF resident elects to receive hospice care:

1. The nursing facility submits a Minimum Data Set (MDS) significant change in status assessment (SCSA) in the LTC Online Portal within 14 days of the significant change in accordance with Title 40 Texas Administrative Code (TAC) §19.801(2)(c)(ii). The significant change is the resident's election and enrollment into hospice.
2. Submission of the MDS SCSA on the LTC Online Portal will notify the LA of the resident's choice to receive hospice care. The LTC Online Portal will send the LA an alert to complete a resident review as required in Title 26 TAC §§303.204.
3. Additionally, HHSC recommends that the NF create and send an alert to the LA within 72 hours of the resident electing hospice. This alert notifies the LA to conduct a resident review (new PE) within 7 days because of the resident's choice to receive hospice care. Specific instructions for creating and sending an alert can be found in the LTC PASRR User Guide. See link below.
4. The NF convenes an IDT meeting within 14 days after the LA receives the automated notification from LTC Online Portal to complete a PE.
5. The IDT will determine whether the resident will benefit from specialized services taking into consideration the resident's medical condition. If all members of the IDT, including the hospice provider, agree the resident will benefit from specialized services, then it will determine which specialized services the resident will receive.
6. After the initial IDT meeting, the NF must document the information from the IDT meeting including the attendance of all required participants, on the LTC Online Portal.

When the IDT agrees that a hospice recipient, who is PASRR positive for IDD or IDD and MI, needs NF specialized services, the NF must submit prior authorization requests for all required assessments and NF specialized services via the Authorization Request for PASRR Nursing Facility Specialized Services (NFSS) form on the LTC Online Portal.

When a previously admitted resident, who is positive for IDD or IDD and MI, elects to receive hospice care, all previous service authorizations for NFSS end when the hospice care begins. Therefore, the NF must initiate the

PASRR IDT process indicated above and submit new prior authorization requests for this resident to receive required assessments and NFSS after they are enrolled in hospice.

When the resident is newly admitted to the NF and the IDT determines that the resident will benefit from LIDDA specialized services, LMHA/LBHA specialized services, or both, then the LA is responsible for initiating and coordinating those services. For previously admitted residents receiving LIDDA specialized services, LMHA/LBHA specialized services, or both, if the IDT determines that the resident will still benefit from specialized services, the LA will continue to provide the agreed upon services.

For more detailed instructions on creating alerts or submitting requests for NFSS through the LTC Online Portal, please refer to the LTC PASRR User Guide available on the TMHP website at: [TMHP](#)

The Item-by-Item Guide for Completing the Authorization Request for the PASRR NFSS Form is available on the HHS website at: [HHSC PASRR](#)

For assistance with submitting the NFSS form, contact TMHP at 1-800-626-4117 and select option 1.

All inquiries regarding the content of this letter should be directed to the HHSC PASRR unit mailbox: PASRR.Support@hsc.state.tx.us.

Sincerely,

[signatures on file]

Haley Turner
Deputy Associate Commissioner
Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities