



TEXAS HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION

THOMAS M. SUEHS
EXECUTIVE COMMISSIONER

August 30, 2011

To: Medicaid Hospice Providers

Subject: **Information Letter No. 11-114**
Payment Rates Effective September 1, 2011

Dear Provider,

The Texas Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) approved new payment rates for Medicaid hospice room and board for Medicaid hospice recipients residing in a nursing facility (NF) or an Intermediate Care Facility for Persons with MR (ICF/MR), effective September 1, 2011. Under the Medicaid Hospice Program, the hospice room and board rate for a Medicaid recipient residing in a NF is 95 percent of the Resource Utilization Group (RUG) rate that would be paid to the NF for the care of that recipient. The payment rates for NFs may be accessed through the HHSC Rate Analysis webpage at the following address:

<http://www.hhsc.state.tx.us/rad/long-term-svcs/nursing-facility/index.shtml>

Once you access this website, scroll down to the "Payment Rate Information" heading and click on the link entitled "2011 Payment Rates - effective February 1, 2011".

The hospice room and board rate for a Medicaid recipient residing in an ICF/MR is 95 percent of the Level of Need (LON) rate that would be paid to the ICF/MR for the care of that recipient. The Department of Aging and Disability Services pays the hospice provider, which in turn pays the NF or ICF/MR. The payment rates for ICF/MR may be accessed through the HHSC Rate Analysis webpage at the following address:

<http://www.hhsc.state.tx.us/rad/mhmr/IcfMr.html>

Once you access this website, scroll down to the "Payment Rate Information" heading and click on the link entitled "2012".

Claims Submission

Claims submitted by providers for services provided on or after September 1, 2011, should be prepared using the new per diem payment rates. All claims for services delivered on or after September 1, 2011, will be processed using the new payment rates.

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For Further Information

If you have questions regarding the Hospice reimbursement rates, please contact Luis Morales by e-mail at luis.morales@hhsc.state.tx.us or (512) 491-1376.

If you have questions about this process, please contact Pam Lovell, Hospice Consultant, at (512) 438-3519 or by e-mail at pam.lovell@dads.state.tx.us.

Sincerely,

[signature on file]

Pam McDonald
Director, HHSC Rate Analysis for Long-Term Services and Supports