



COMMISSIONER
Jon Weizenbaum

August 11, 2015

To: Medicaid Hospice Providers

Subject: Information Letter 15-47

Use of Nonspecific International Classification of Diseases Codes and Changes to the Texas Medicaid & Healthcare Partnership Online Portal Concerning Principal Hospice Diagnoses

[Information Letter 14-51](#), dated September 30, 2014, notified Medicaid Hospice providers that the nonspecific International Classification of Diseases (ICD) diagnosis codes for “debility” or “adult failure to thrive” were no longer acceptable as a **principal** diagnosis on Form 3071, Individual Election/Cancellation/Update, for Medicaid hospice election.

The August 7, 2013, issue of the Federal Register published the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) final rule titled: Medicare Program: [FY2014 Hospice Wage Index and Payment Rate Update](#); Hospice Quality Reporting Requirements; and Updates on Payment Reform. The CMS rule informed Medicare hospice providers that Medicare claims for hospice services using the ICD codes for “debility” or “adult failure to thrive” as the principal admitting diagnosis will not be accepted by the Medicare Administrative Contractor for reimbursement. To maintain alignment with the Medicare rules, the Texas Department of Aging and Disability Services will not accept these identified ICD diagnosis codes as the principal diagnosis.

Effective August 28, 2015, Field 13 of Form 3071, Individual Election/Cancellation/Update, on the Texas Medicaid & Healthcare Partnership (TMHP) online portal will now be labeled Principal Hospice Diagnosis Code. The TMHP online portal will no longer accept the diagnosis codes for “debility” or “adult failure” to thrive when entered as the principal hospice diagnosis. The appropriate ICD diagnosis code that qualifies the individual for hospice services should be entered in Field 13. If an incorrect principal hospice diagnosis code is entered in Field 13, providers will receive an error message stating the “Diagnosis Code in Field 13 is an improper Principal Hospice Diagnosis Code” and the form will not be accepted. Fields 14 through 16 are for secondary diagnoses codes and will accept “debility” or “adult failure to thrive” ICD codes.

The table below lists the ICD-9 and ICD-10 principal diagnosis codes that will prevent the submission of Form 3071, Individual Election/Cancellation/Update, via the TMHP online portal.

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ICD-9	
7837	Failure To Thrive – Adult
78370	Adult Failure To Thrive
7993	Debility NOS
79930	Debility NOS
ICD-10	
R62.7	Adult Failure To Thrive
R53.8	Other Malaise And Fatigue
R53.81	Other Malaise

Please address questions and requests for additional information to hospice@dads.state.tx.us, or call the TMHP Help Desk at 1-800-626-4117, Option 1.

Sincerely,

(Signature on file)

Lisa Akers-Owen
Director
Community Services and Program Operations

LAO:slr