12VAC30-60-40. Utilization control: Nursing facilities.

A. Long-term care of residents in nursing facilities will be provided in accordance with federal law using practices and procedures that are based on the resident's medical and social needs and requirements. All nursing facility services, including specialized care, shall be provided in accordance with guidelines found in the Virginia Medicaid Nursing Home Manual.

B. Nursing facilities must conduct initially and periodically a comprehensive, accurate, standardized, reproducible assessment of each resident's functional capacity. This assessment must be conducted no later than 14 days after the date of admission and promptly after a significant change in the resident's physical or mental condition. Each resident must be reviewed at least quarterly, and a complete assessment conducted at least annually.

C. The Department of Medical Assistance Services shall periodically conduct a validation survey of the assessments completed by nursing facilities to determine that services provided to the residents are medically necessary and that needed services are provided. The survey will be composed of a sample of Medicaid residents and will include review of both current and closed medical records.

D. Nursing facilities must submit to the Department of Medical Assistance Services resident assessment information at least every six months for utilization review. If an assessment completed by the nursing facility does not reflect accurately a resident's capability to perform activities of daily living and significant impairments in functional capacity, then reimbursement to nursing facilities may be adjusted during the next quarter's reimbursement review. Any individual who willfully and knowingly certifies (or causes another individual to certify) a material and false statement in a resident assessment is subject to civil money penalties.

E. In order for reimbursement to be made to the nursing facility for a recipient's care, the recipient must meet nursing facility criteria as described in 12VAC30-60-300 (Nursing facility criteria). In order for the additional $10 per day reimbursement to be made to the nursing facility for a recipient requiring a specialized treatment bed, the recipient must meet criteria as described in 12VAC30-60-350. Nursing facilities must obtain prior authorization for the reimbursement. DMAS shall provide the additional $10 per day reimbursement for recipients meeting criteria for no more than 246 days annually. Nursing facilities may receive the reimbursement for up to 82 days per new occurrence of a Stage IV ulcer. There must be at least 30 days between each reimbursement period. Limits are per recipient, regardless of the number of providers rendering

services. Nursing facilities are not eligible to receive this reimbursement for recipients enrolled in the specialized care program.

In order for reimbursement to be made to the nursing facility for a recipient requiring specialized care, the recipient must meet specialized care criteria as described in 12VAC30-60-320 (Adult ventilation/tracheostomy specialized care criteria) or 12VAC30-60-340 (Pediatric and adolescent specialized care criteria). Reimbursement for specialized care must be preauthorized by the Department of Medical Assistance Services. In addition, reimbursement to nursing facilities for residents requiring specialized care will only be made on a contractual basis. Further specialized care services requirements are set forth below.

In each case for which payment for nursing facility services is made under the State Plan, a physician must recommend at the time of admission, or if later, the time at which the individual applies for medical assistance under the State Plan, that the individual requires nursing facility care.

F. For nursing facilities, a physician must approve a recommendation that an individual be admitted to a facility. The resident must be seen by a physician at least once every 30 days for the first 90 days after admission, and at least once every 60 days thereafter. At the option of the physician, required visits after the initial visit may alternate between personal visits by the physician and visits by a physician assistant or nurse practitioner.

G. When the resident no longer meets nursing facility criteria or requires services that the nursing facility is unable to provide, then the resident must be discharged.

H. Specialized care services.

1. Providers must be nursing facilities certified by the Division of Licensure and Certification, State Department of Health, and must have a current signed participation agreement with the Department of Medical Assistance Services to provide nursing facility care. Providers must agree to provide care to at least four residents who meet the specialized care criteria for children/adolescents or adults.

2. Providers must be able to provide the following specialized services to Medicaid specialized care recipients:

a. Physician visits at least once weekly (after initial physician visit, subsequent visits may alternate between physician and physician assistant or nurse practitioner);

b. Skilled nursing services by a registered nurse available 24 hours a day;

c. Coordinated multidisciplinary team approach to meet the needs of the resident;

d. Infection control;

e. For residents under age 21 who require two of three rehabilitative services (physical therapy, occupational therapy, or speech-language pathology services), therapy services must be provided at a minimum of 90 minutes each day, five days per week;

f. Ancillary services related to a plan of care;

g. Respiratory therapy services by a board-certified therapist (for ventilator patients, these services must be available 24 hours per day);

h. Psychology services by a licensed clinical psychologist, licensed clinical social worker, licensed professional counselor, or licensed clinical nurse specialist-psychiatric related to a plan of care;

i. Necessary durable medical equipment and supplies as required by the plan of care;

j. Nutritional elements as required;

k. A plan to assure that specialized care residents have the same opportunity to participate in integrated nursing facility activities as other residents;

l. Nonemergency transportation;

m. Discharge planning; and

n. Family or caregiver training.

3. Providers must coordinate with appropriate state and local agencies for educational and habilitative needs for Medicaid specialized care recipients who are under the age of 21.

CERTIFIED:

Date

Patrick W. Finnerty, Director
Dept. of Medical Assistance Services

12VAC30-60-350. ~~[Reserved]~~ Criteria for coverage of specialized treatment beds.

A. DMAS will pay $10 per day toward the cost of specialized treatment beds for eligible NF recipients who have at least one treatable stage IV pressure ulcer. Specialized treatment bed means either an air-fluidized bed or a low-air-loss bed. To be approved for this service, the following criteria must be met:

1. The individual must have at least one stage IV pressure ulcer as documented on the MDS.

2. The individual must require the use of a specialized treatment bed as ordered by a physician for the treatment of at least one stage IV pressure ulcer.

3. The nursing facility must obtain authorization by submitting the authorization request to DMAS or the preauthorization agent.

B. Nursing facilities shall not be eligible to receive this additional payment for residents who are enrolled in the specialized care program.

C. Limits. DMAS shall provide the additional $10 per day reimbursement for recipients meeting criteria for no more than 246 days annually. Nursing facilities may receive the reimbursement for up to 82 days per new occurrence of a Stage IV ulcer. There must be at least 30 days between each reimbursement period. Limits are per recipient, regardless of the number of providers rendering services.

DEPT. OF MEDICAL ASSISTANCE SERVICES
Standards Established and Methods Used to Assure High Quality of Care
12 VAC 30-60-350 Criteria for specialized treatment beds
for NF residents with stage IV pressure ulcers.

CERTIFIED:

_____ _____

Date

Patrick W. Finnerty, Director
Dept. of Medical Assistance Services

12VAC30-90-41. Nursing facility reimbursement formula.

A. Effective on and after July 1, 2002, all NFs subject to the prospective payment system shall be reimbursed under "The Resource Utilization Group-III (RUG-III) System as defined in Appendix IV (12VAC30-90-305 through 12VAC30-90-307)." RUG-III is a resident classification system that groups NF residents according to resource utilization. Case-mix indices (CMIs) are assigned to RUG-III groups and are used to adjust the NF's per diem rates to reflect the intensity of services required by a NF's resident mix. See 12VAC30-90-305 through 12VAC30-90-307 for details on the Resource Utilization Groups.

1. Any NF receiving Medicaid payments on or after October 1, 1990, shall satisfy all the requirements of §1919(b) through (d) of the Social Security Act as they relate to provision of services, residents' rights and administration and other matters.

2. Direct and indirect group ceilings and rates.

a. In accordance with 12VAC30-90-20 C, direct patient care operating cost peer groups shall be established for the Virginia portion of the Washington DC-MD-VA MSA, the Richmond-Petersburg MSA and the rest of the state. Direct patient care operating costs shall be as defined in 12VAC30-90-271.

b. Indirect patient care operating cost peer groups shall be established for the Virginia portion of the Washington DC-MD-VA MSA, for the rest of the state for facilities with less than 61 licensed beds, and for the rest of the state for facilities with more than 60 licensed beds.

3. Each facility's average case-mix index shall be calculated based upon data reported by that nursing facility to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) (formerly HCFA) Minimum Data Set (MDS) System. See 12VAC30-90-306 for the case-mix index calculations.

4. The normalized facility average Medicaid CMI shall be used to calculate the direct patient care operating cost prospective ceilings and direct patient care operating cost prospective rates for each semiannual period of a NFs subsequent fiscal year. See 12VAC30-90-306 D 2 for the calculation of the normalized facility average Medicaid CMI.

a. A NFs direct patient care operating cost prospective ceiling shall be the product of the NFs peer group direct patient care ceiling and the NFs normalized facility average Medicaid CMI. A NFs direct patient care operating cost prospective ceiling will be calculated semiannually.

b. A CMI rate adjustment for each semiannual period of a nursing facility's prospective fiscal year shall be applied by multiplying the nursing facility's normalized facility average Medicaid CMI applicable to each prospective semiannual period by the nursing facility's case-mix neutralized direct patient care operating cost base rate for the preceding cost reporting period (see 12VAC30-90-307).

c. See 12VAC30-90-307 for the applicability of case-mix indices.

5. Effective for services on and after July 1, 2002, the following changes shall be made to the direct and indirect payment methods.

a. The direct patient care operating ceiling shall be set at 112% of the respective peer group day-weighted median of the facilities' case-mix neutralized direct care operating costs per day. The calculation of the medians shall be based on cost reports from freestanding nursing homes for provider fiscal years ending in the most recent base year. The medians used to set the peer group direct patient care operating ceilings shall be revised and case-mix neutralized every two years using the most recent reliable calendar year cost settled cost reports for freestanding nursing facilities that have been completed as of September 1.

b. The indirect patient care operating ceiling shall be set at 103.9% of the respective peer group day-weighted median of the facility's specific indirect operating cost per day. The calculation of the peer group medians shall be based on cost reports from freestanding nursing homes for provider fiscal years ending in the most recent base year. The medians used to set the peer group indirect operating ceilings shall be revised every two years using the most recent reliable calendar year cost settled cost reports for freestanding nursing facilities that have been completed as of September 1.

6. Reimbursement for use of specialized treatment beds. Effective for services on and after July 1, 2005, nursing facilities shall be reimbursed an additional $10 per day for those recipients who require a specialized treatment bed due to their having at least one stage IV pressure ulcer. Recipients must meet criteria as outlined in 12 VAC30-60-350, and the additional reimbursement must be preauthorized as provided in 12 VAC30-60-40. Nursing facilities shall not be eligible to receive this reimbursement for individuals whose services are reimbursed under the Specialized Care methodology. Beginning July 1, 2005, this additional reimbursement shall be subject to adjustment for inflation in accordance with 12 VAC30-90-41B, except that the adjustment shall be made at the beginning of each state fiscal year, using the inflation factor that applies to provider years beginning at that time. This additional payment shall not be subject to direct or indirect ceilings and shall not be adjusted at year-end settlement.

B. Adjustment of ceilings and costs for inflation. Effective for provider fiscal years starting on and after July 1, 2002, ceilings and rates shall be adjusted for inflation each year using the moving average of the percentage change of the Virginia-Specific Nursing Home Input Price Index, updated quarterly, published by Standard & Poor's DRI. For state fiscal year 2003, peer group ceilings and rates for indirect costs will not be adjusted for inflation.

1. For provider years beginning in each calendar year, the percentage used shall be the moving average for the second quarter of the year, taken from the table published for the fourth quarter of the previous year. For example, in setting prospective rates for all provider years beginning in January through December 2002, ceilings and costs would be inflated using the moving average for the second quarter of 2002, taken from the table published for the fourth quarter of 2001.

2. Provider specific costs shall be adjusted for inflation each year from the cost reporting period to the prospective rate period using the moving average as specified in subdivision 1 of this subsection. If the cost reporting period or the prospective rate period is less than 12 months long, a fraction of the moving average shall be used that is equal to the fraction of a year from the midpoint of the cost reporting period to the midpoint of the prospective rate period.

3. Ceilings shall be adjusted from the common point established in the most recent rebasing calculation. Base period costs shall be adjusted to this common point using moving averages from the DRI tables corresponding to the provider fiscal period, as specified in subdivision 1 of this subsection. Ceilings shall then be adjusted from the common point to the prospective rate period using the moving average(s) for each applicable second quarter, taken from the DRI table published for the fourth quarter of the year immediately preceding the calendar year in which the prospective rate years begin. Rebased ceilings shall be effective on July 1 of each rebasing year, so in their first application they shall be adjusted to the midpoint of the provider fiscal year then in progress or then beginning. Subsequently, they shall be adjusted each year from the common point established in rebasing to the midpoint of the appropriate provider fiscal year. For example, suppose the base year is made up of cost reports from years ending in calendar year 2000, the rebasing year is SFY2003, and the rebasing calculation establishes ceilings that are inflated to the common point of July 1, 2002. Providers with years in progress on July 1, 2002, would receive a ceiling effective July 1, 2002, that would be adjusted to the midpoint of the provider year then in progress. In some cases this would mean the ceiling would be reduced from the July 1, 2002, ceiling level. The following table shows the application of these provisions for different provider fiscal periods.

Table I
Application of Inflation to Different Provider Fiscal Periods

Provider FYE	Effective Date of New Ceiling	First PFYE After Rebasing Date	Inflation Time Span from Ceiling Date to Midpoint of First PFY	Second PFYE After Rebasing Date	Inflation Time Span from Ceiling Date to Midpoint of Second PFY
3/31	7/1/02	3/31/03	+ 1/4 year	3/31/04	+ 1-1/4 years
6/30	7/1/02	6/30/03	+ 1/2 year	6/30/04	+ 1-1/2 years
9/30	7/1/02	9/30/02	-1/4 year	9/30/03	+ 3/4 year
12/31	7/1/02	12/31/02	-0-	12/31/03	+ 1 year

The following table shows the DRI tables that would provide the moving averages for adjusting ceilings for different prospective rate years.

Table II
Source Tables for DRI Moving Average Values

Provider FYE	Effective Date of New Ceiling	First PFYE After Rebasing Date	Source DRI Table for First PFY Ceiling Inflation	Second PFYE After Rebasing Date	Source DRI Table for Second PFY Ceiling Inflation
3/31	7/1/02	3/31/03	Fourth Quarter 2001	3/31/04	Fourth Quarter 2002
6/30	7/1/02	6/30/03	Fourth Quarter 2001	6/30/04	Fourth Quarter 2002
9/30	7/1/02	9/30/02	Fourth Quarter 2000	9/30/03	Fourth Quarter 2001
12/31	7/1/02	12/31/02	Fourth Quarter 2000	12/31/03	Fourth Quarter 2001

In this example, when ceilings are inflated for the second PFY after the rebasing date, the ceilings will be inflated from July 1, 2002, using moving averages from the DRI table specified for the second PFY. That is, the ceiling for years ending June 30, 2004, will be the June 30,

2002, base period ceiling, adjusted by 1/2 of the moving average for the second quarter of 2002, compounded with the moving average for the second quarter of 2003. Both these moving averages will be taken from the fourth quarter 2002 DRI table.

C. The RUG-III Nursing Home Payment System shall require comparison of the prospective operating cost rates to the prospective operating ceilings. The provider shall be reimbursed the lower of the prospective operating cost rate or prospective operating ceiling.

D. Nonoperating costs. Plant or capital, as appropriate, costs shall be reimbursed in accordance with Articles 1, 2, and 3 of this subpart. Plant costs shall not include the component of cost related to making or producing a supply or service.
NATCEPs cost shall be reimbursed in accordance with 12VAC30-90-170.

E. The prospective rate for each NF shall be based upon operating cost and plant/capital cost components or charges, whichever is lower, plus NATCEPs costs. The disallowance of nonreimbursable operating costs in any current fiscal year shall be reflected in a subsequent year's prospective rate determination. Disallowances of nonreimbursable plant or capital, as appropriate, costs and NATCEPs costs shall be reflected in the year in which the nonreimbursable costs are included.

F. Effective July 1, 2001, for those NFs whose indirect operating cost rates are below the ceilings, an incentive plan shall be established whereby a NF shall be paid, on a sliding scale, up to 25% of the difference between its allowable indirect operating cost rates and the indirect peer group ceilings.

1. The following table presents four incentive examples:

Peer Group Ceilings	Allowable Cost Per Day	Difference	% of Ceiling	Sliding Scale	Scale % Difference
$30.00	$27.00	$3.00	10%	$0.30	10%
30.00	22.50	7.50	25%	1.88	25%
30.00	20.00	10.00	33%	2.50	25%
30.00	30.00	0	0		

2. Efficiency incentives shall be calculated only for the indirect patient care operating ceilings and costs. Effective July 1, 2001, a direct care efficiency incentive shall no longer be paid.
G. Quality of care requirement. A cost efficiency incentive shall not be paid for the number of days for which a facility is out of substantial compliance according to the Virginia Department of Health survey findings as based on federal regulations.

H. Sale of facility. In the event of the sale of a NF, the prospective base operating cost rates for the new owner's first fiscal period shall be the seller's prospective base operating cost rates before the sale.

I. Public notice. To comply with the requirements of §1902(a)(28)(c) of the Social Security Act, DMAS shall make available to the public the data and methodology used in establishing Medicaid payment rates for nursing facilities. Copies may be obtained by request under the existing procedures of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act.

CERTIFIED:

_____ _____

Date

Patrick W. Finnerty, Director
Dept. of Medical Assistance Services