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Dear Member:

Maximus Call Highlights

Today, MHCA participated in the Maine Maximus ASA Stakeholder Forum Call where the topics of the 1135 Waiver support related to PASRR assessments, Nursing Facility emergency classification process and the extension of virtual PASRR and Long-Term Care assessment were discussed. Highlights included:

- The 1135 waiver delays the time to submit the level 1&2 PASRR up to 30 days. It does not relieve the need to submit a PASRR. All new admissions to SNF are treated as hospital exemptions.
- Facilities should submit PASRRs within that 30 days from admission to ensure appropriate processing time.
- On May 13, [new emergency rules](#) were passed for Mainecare eligibility during COVID-19.
- The 30 day delay does not mean the resident has 30 day Mainecare.
- In house NF to SNF transferred residents do not need a new PASRR.
- Facilities do not need to wait for PASRR to be submitted by the hospital to admit. That is what the 30 day delay allows for, a quicker admission process.

MHCA has also created a [help document](#) that includes Maximus identified best practices and the Maine ASA team contact chart for members to keep as a resource.

Reopening Salons in LTC

MHCA recently asked the Division of Licensing how the opening of community salons impacts salon services within long term care facilities. From a licensing perspective, it depends on whether the stylist is a subcontracted service or direct employee of the facility. This is not intended as official guidance but rather information for decision making on a case by case basis.

If it's a subcontractor who can follow the same infection control requirements as a community salon (see <https://www.maine.gov/decd/covid-19-prevention-checklists>), and members feel that lack of these services creates a resident mental health issue, then it can be done. Under this option, members should still screen for symptoms, mandate PPE even above and beyond what community salons have to use, consider what other locations the stylist is working in and whether those increase risk of bringing it into your building.

If the stylist is a direct employee of a nursing home or assisted living facility, they can not work because they are not deemed essential. The state guidance on essential personnel at long term care facilities has not changed.

Operation Thank You Signs Well Underway

MHCA has been distributing lawn signs (see graphic above) to your facilities, thanking your staff for making a difference every day of this pandemic. With social distancing in mind, these signs are being placed outside of your buildings near facility signs or entrances as appropriate. Please feel free to move them as desired. MHCA is providing one sign per member and we anticipate distribution will be complete by the end of next week, if not sooner.

Thank you for all you do to care for your residents and staff.

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