



COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA  
**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WELFARE**

P.O. BOX 2675  
HARRISBURG, PENNSYLVANIA 17105-2675

**KEVIN T. CASEY**

Deputy Secretary

Office of Developmental Programs

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TELEPHONE NUMBER: (717) 787-3700

FAX: (717) 787-6583

Dear Colleague:

On April 21, 2009, changes were made to the current list of available services and procedure codes in the Home and Community Services Information System (HCSIS). These changes are shown in the enclosure to this letter and will be confirmed in a revision to Bulletin 00-08-17, "*Service Definitions*", but are being included in HCSIS now to facilitate the timely completion of Fiscal Year 2009-2010 Individual Support Plans (ISPs).

The changes provide for the following:

1. The addition of four procedure codes for licensed residential providers to offer overnight 24 hour respite when there is a temporary vacancy in a residential habilitation home. The codes (W9591 through W9594) are to be used instead of the existing overnight respite procedure codes when the respite is provided in a residential habilitation setting that has a vacant bed. The rate paid for the respite service will be a combination of both the eligible and ineligible residential habilitation service rates established for that specific residential service location. Additional information about this change is included in my May 8, 2009, letter on updates to the Services and Support Directory. Licensed providers are encouraged to add these codes to each residential service location in the Services and Support Directory (SSD) in the event that respite may be made available at the home when there is a vacant bed. The new procedure codes are associated with provider type 52, Community Residential Rehabilitation, and will **not** require submission of a new PROMISE enrollment application when the code is added to an existing waiver-funded licensed residential service location.

The procedure codes included in Bulletin 00-08-17 for overnight 24 hour respite will remain in effect (procedure codes W7259, W7260, W7262, W7263, W7299 and W7300). These codes are to be used by licensed providers that typically and generally provide overnight respite at a specific service location. These service locations are commonly referred to as a "respite" home.

2. A modifier, that is U4, has been added to participant-directed services provided through an Agency With Choice Financial Management Service (AWC FMS). This modifier will be used when the managing employer does not offer a benefit allowance to the support service worker.

When a waiver participant selects the local AWC FMS, the needed service will appear twice in the ISP drop down in the FMS Service screen. This is because the service *may or may not include a benefit allowance*, as decided by the managing employer. The choice to offer a benefit allowance to a support service worker will be based on discussions between the managing employer and the support service worker. Selection of the participant-directed service **with** the U4 modifier designates that there is **no** benefit allowance being provided to the support service worker. Selection of the service **without** a U4 modifier indicates there **is** a benefit allowance in the established rate.


3. New provider type/specialty combinations have been added to the following services:

Special Diet Preparation – provider type 23, Nutritionist, added  
Transportation (zones) – provider type 55, Vendor, added  
Home finding – provider type 55, Vendor, added

4. Provider type 51, specialty 511 will no longer be associated with procedure codes W7287 and W7290, Respite-Base Out-of-Home 24 Hours. Specialty 511 was incorrectly listed in the initial list of available provider type and specialties. Specialty 511 is defined and limited to “respite care – institutional.” The 51/511 combination for these two procedure codes has been replaced with provider type 51, specialty 513. All other provider type and specialty combinations currently associated with this service remain in place.

A chart displaying these changes is enclosed, for your reference. If there are any questions, please contact the appropriate ODP regional office.

Sincerely,



Kevin T. Casey

Enclosure