



North Carolina  
Department of Health and Human Services  
**Division of Medical Assistance**  
**Recipient Services MEU**

801 Ruggles Drive – 2501 Mail Service Center - Raleigh, N.C. 27699-2501  
(919) 855-4000

Michael F. Easley, Governor  
Carmen Hooker Odom, Secretary

L. Allen Dobson, Jr., M.D., Assistant Secretary  
for Health Policy and Medical Assistance

March 29, 2007

Re: April Medicaid Card Inserts

Dear County Director of Social Services:

Effective May 1, 2007, Personal Care Services (PCS) received by recipients age 55 and over will be subject to Estate Recovery along with all other services currently subject to Estate Recovery.

Personal Care Services include aide services a recipient receives to assist with personal care tasks, housekeeping, and home management tasks. The services are for persons who, due to a medical condition, need help with activities such as bathing, toileting, moving about, and keeping track of vital signs. Housekeeping and home management tasks may also be provided if they are essential to the personal care task necessary for maintaining the person's health. Personal Care Services does NOT include DSS chore services, private duty nursing or other skilled nursing care in the home.

A copy of the April Medicaid card insert which will notify recipients of this change is attached. Continue to use the Administrative Letters listed below for administering policy concerning Estate Recovery.

- DMA Administrative Letter No. 23-96, Addendum 1, 2 and 3
- DMA Administrative Letter No. 12-03
- DMA Administrative Letter No. 09-05

If you have any questions concerning Personal Care Services or Estate Recovery, please contact your Medicaid Program Representative.

Sincerely,

L. Allen Dobson Jr., M.D.

(This material was researched and written by Linda Faulkner, Program Consultant, Medicaid Eligibility Unit).

**IF YOU ARE AGE 55 OR OLDER AND YOU RECEIVE MEDICAID  
AND PERSONAL CARE SERVICES (PCS)  
PLEASE READ THIS NOTICE CAREFULLY**

If you are age 55 or older and receive Personal Care Services (PCS) your estate may be subject to Estate Recovery after you die for the cost of PCS services paid by Medicaid. This only applies to services you receive on or after May 1, 2007. (And this is in addition to any other services that are currently subject to Estate Recovery.)

Estate Recovery is the process in which the state Medicaid agency files a claim against the estates of some Medicaid recipients after they die to recover some or all of the Medicaid dollars paid on their behalf. No lien is placed on any Medicaid recipient's property while he/she is still alive. Estate Recovery does not occur if the Medicaid recipient is survived by a spouse, a child under age 21, a child who is blind or permanently and totally disabled, or for reasons of undue hardship.

If you have any questions, please call the CARE-LINE, Information and Referral Service, Monday-Friday, except state holidays, by calling 1-800-662-7030 (English/Spanish) or 1-877-452-2514 (Note: this is a TTY number that is only answered for the deaf or hearing impaired). In the Triangle area, call 919-855-4400 (English/Spanish) or 919-733-4851 (TTY for hearing impaired).

April 1, 2007

Division of Medical Assistance