

**TO:** All Local District Commissioners, Medicaid Directors, Care At Home Coordinators

**FROM:** Mark L. Kissinger, Deputy Commissioner  
Office of Long Term Care

**SUBJECT:** Increase for CAH I & II Monthly Budget Caps, Change in Assessment Interval and Change in Application Cover Sheet (Attachment)

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** Immediate

**CONTACT PERSON:** Bureau of Maternal Child Health  
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The purpose of this GIS is to notify local districts of three changes related to administration of the Care At Home (CAH) Programs; the monthly budget caps are increased; the length of time between home assessments is increased; and the application coversheet has been revised to include a nursing prior approval reminder.

The monthly Medicaid budget cap for children enrolled in CAH I is increased from \$9,000 to \$16,000 a month and for CAH II the cap is increased from \$14,500 to \$19,500 a month. The increases are effective January 1, 2007. These increases are being made to accommodate the medically fragile nursing rate increases which will be retroactive to January 1, 2007. The budget caps for the OMRDD CAH waivers III, IV and VI are increased to \$16,000.

To enable better coordination with the home assessments required for prior approval of private duty nursing, as of April 1, 2007, Care At Home re-assessments will be required to be completed every six months instead of every 120 days (four months). The Plan of Care continues to be required every 180 days (six months) and the Pediatric Peer Review Instrument (PPRI) will continue to be completed yearly.

The Application Cover Sheet was updated; we have added a section for "Prior Approval" and "Nursing Providers" which can be found under Section 6A (copy attached).