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State/Territory Name: **New York**

State Plan Amendment (SPA) #: **15-0047**

This file contains the following documents in the order listed:

- 1) Approval Letter
- 2) CMS 179 Form
- 3) Approved SPA Pages

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
7500 Security Boulevard, Mail Stop S2-26-12
Baltimore, MD 21244-1850



Financial Management Group

MAR 09 2016

Jason A. Helgeson
State Medicaid Director
Deputy Commissioner
Office of Health Insurance Programs
NYS Department of Health
Corning Tower (OCP - 1211)
Albany, NY 12237

RE: State Plan Amendment (SPA) 15-0047

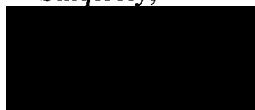
Dear Mr. Helgeson:

We have reviewed the proposed amendment to Attachment 4.19-D of your Medicaid State plan submitted under transmittal number (TN) 15-0047. Effective June 1, 2015, this amendment proposes to implement a new nursing home advanced training program aimed at teaching staff to detect early changes in resident's physical and mental or functional status that could lead to hospitalization.



We conducted our review of your submittal according to the statutory requirements at sections 1902(a)(2), 1902(a)(13), 1902(a)(30), and 1903(a) of the Social Security Act and the implementing Federal regulations at 42 CFR Part 447. This letter is to inform you that New York 15-0047 is approved effective June 1, 2015. We are enclosing the CMS-179 and the amended approved plan pages.

If you have any questions, please contact Betsy Pinho at (518) 396-3810.

Sincerely,



Kristin Fan
Director

TRANSMITTAL AND NOTICE OF APPROVAL OF STATE PLAN MATERIAL FOR: HEALTH CARE FINANCING ADMINISTRATION	1. TRANSMITTAL NUMBER: 15-0047	2. STATE New York
	3. PROGRAM IDENTIFICATION: TITLE XIX OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY ACT (MEDICAID)	
TO: REGIONAL ADMINISTRATOR HEALTH CARE FINANCING ADMINISTRATION DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES	4. PROPOSED EFFECTIVE DATE June 1, 2015	
5. TYPE OF PLAN MATERIAL (Check One): <input type="checkbox"/> NEW STATE PLAN <input type="checkbox"/> AMENDMENT TO BE CONSIDERED AS NEW PLAN <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AMENDMENT COMPLETE BLOCKS 6 THRU 10 IF THIS IS AN AMENDMENT (Separate Transmittal for each amendment)		
6. FEDERAL STATUTE/REGULATION CITATION: §1902(a) of the Social Security Act, and 42 CFR 447	7. FEDERAL BUDGET IMPACT: (in thousands) a. FFY 06/01/15-09/30/15 \$ 0 b. FFY 10/01/15-09/30/16 \$ 23,000 c. FFY 10/01/16-03/31/17 \$ 23,000	
8. PAGE NUMBER OF THE PLAN SECTION OR ATTACHMENT: Attachment 4.19-D Part I: 110(d)(29); 110(d)(29.1)	9. PAGE NUMBER OF THE SUPERSEDED PLAN SECTION OR ATTACHMENT (If Applicable):	
10. SUBJECT OF AMENDMENT: Nursing Home Advanced Training Initiative (FMAP = 50%)		
11. GOVERNOR'S REVIEW (Check One): <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOVERNOR'S OFFICE REPORTED NO COMMENT <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER, AS SPECIFIED: <input type="checkbox"/> COMMENTS OF GOVERNOR'S OFFICE ENCLOSED <input type="checkbox"/> NO REPLY RECEIVED WITHIN 45 DAYS OF SUBMITTAL		
12. SIGNATURE OF STATE AGENCY OFFICIAL: 	16. RETURN TO: New York State Department of Health Division of Finance and Rate Setting 99 Washington Ave – One Commerce Plaza Suite 1460 Albany, NY 12210	
13. TYPED NAME: Jason A. Helgeson		
14. TITLE: Medicaid Director Department of Health		
15. DATE SUBMITTED: JUN 30 2015		
FOR REGIONAL OFFICE USE ONLY		
17. DATE RECEIVED:	18. DATE APPROVED: MAR 09 2016	
PLAN APPROVED – ONE COPY ATTACHED		
19. EFFECTIVE DATE OF APPROVED MATERIAL: JUN 01 2015	20. SIGNATURE OF REGIONAL OFFICIAL: 	
21. TYPED NAME: Kristin FAN	22. TITLE: Director, FMG	
23. REMARKS:		

New York
110(d)(29)

Nursing Home Advanced Training Incentive Payments

Advanced Training Incentive Payments to Eligible Facilities. Effective June 1, 2015, the state will annually distribute \$46 million to eligible nursing facilities in State Fiscal Year 2016 and in 2017. The purpose of these incentive payments is to reduce avoidable hospital admissions for nursing home residents. New York will incentivize and encourage facilities to develop training programs aimed at early detection of patient decline. Such programs will allow frontline caregivers to provide staff with the training/tools needed to identify resident characteristics that may signify clinical complications. A comprehensive training program will lead to consistent staff assignment to ensure that families and residents can rely on highly trained caregivers to provide effective, high quality, individualized care.

Patient decline detection programs will assist caregivers with identifying residents who are exhibiting warning signs for worsening clinical conditions and allow for rapid intervention to avoid the decline and possible hospitalization. The goal of such training programs will be to reign in the high costs of avoidable hospitalizations, improving the quality of life for New York's nursing home residents. This initiative will reward eligible nursing home providers who are those that have shown a commitment to giving direct care staff the tools to help lower resident hospitalization rates.

The annual amount will be distributed proportionally to each eligible facility based on its relative share of Medicaid bed days to total Medicaid bed days of all such eligible facilities. Incentive payments will be paid in two lump sum adjustments to supplement nursing facility rates. 75% will be paid in the October - December quarter and the 25% will be paid in the January - March quarter.

To be eligible for this incentive payment, in each state fiscal year a facility must:

- 1) Provide a training program to direct care staff that has been reviewed and approved by the Department to assist direct care staff identify changes in a resident's physical, mental, or functional status that could lead to hospitalization. The training program will be subject to Department of Health oversight; and
- 2) Have a direct care staff retention rate above the statewide median; and
- 3) Not be excluded from participating in this program.

TN #15-0047

Supersedes TN NEW

Approval Date MAR 09 2016

Effective Date JUN 01 2015

New York
110(d)(29.1)

Nursing Home Advanced Training Incentive Payments (cont'd)

Excluded Facilities are:

- Hospital based nursing facilities; and
- Nursing Facilities that have been approved to receive Vital Access Provider (VAP) payments during the same state fiscal year the incentive payment is available.

Calculation Statewide Median and Staff Retention Percentage: Data from Schedule P (Staff Turnover) of the most recently filed Cost Report will be used to measure staff turnover and retention rates for direct care staff. For the 2016 payment, the State will use the 2014 cost report. For the 2017 payment, the state will use 2015 cost report. The staff retention percentage will be equal to the number of employees retained as of December 31, who were employed on January 1 of the same year by the number of staff as of January 1 of that year.

(# of Employees Retained as of December 31, 20XX, who were Employed on January 1, 20XX) = Staff Retention %
divided by (# of Staff as of January 1, 20XX)

XX = 2014 or 2015 cost report as applicable.

A statewide staff retention median was derived by sorting the provider percentages from high to low and selecting the percentage in the middle of the range.

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