June 13, 2014

To: Primary Home Care Providers
    Day Activity Health Services Providers

Subject: Information Letter 14-31
Applying for Primary Home Care and Day Activity Health Services Pending STAR+PLUS Enrollment

The purpose of this Information Letter is to notify Day Activity and Health Services (DAHS) and Primary Home Care (PHC) providers of changes to the enrollment and reimbursement process for individuals pending enrollment into the State of Texas Access Reform Plus Managed Care (STAR+PLUS) program.

**DAHS:**
The Department of Aging and Disability Services (DADS) will **no** longer enroll individuals in DAHS when their STAR+PLUS enrollment is pending. Since there is no immediate or expedited criteria for DAHS, these services will begin upon enrollment in the STAR+PLUS program.

Provider initiated referrals for DAHS Title XIX will **no** longer be allowed effective the date of this letter. From this date forth, any services provided in response to a provider initiated referral for an individual pending STAR+PLUS enrollment will not be reimbursed retroactively.

DADS will continue to provide Title XIX DAHS services to individuals receiving Medicaid who are not eligible to be enrolled in the STAR+PLUS program.

**PHC:**
DADS will continue to enroll individuals in PHC when their STAR+PLUS enrollment is pending if there is an immediate or expedited need for services.

The DADS PHC immediate or expedited criteria for individuals pending STAR+PLUS enrollment is as follows:
- An individual requires an immediate response when there is no available caregiver; and the individual has personal care needs that are not being met and is unable to do without personal care services for a full day. Examples of situations requiring immediate response include when the individual:
  - is totally bedridden or is unable to transfer from bed to chair without assistance;
  - cannot manage toileting tasks without assistance; or
  - is in danger of not receiving daily nourishment because of the need for total assistance in meal preparation or feeding.
• An individual requires an expedited response when the individual needs personal care; has no available caregiver; and the need for services has increased during the five days prior to the service request, or will increase during the five days following the service request. Examples of situations requiring an expedited response include when the individual:
  o is being or has been released from a hospital or nursing facility within five calendar days of the request, and has no available caregiver to provide necessary care;
  o is experiencing or recovering from a major illness and has no available caregiver; or
  o loses the available caregiver within five days of the request and has no available substitute.

DADS will continue to provide Title XIX PHC services to individuals receiving Medicaid who are not eligible to be enrolled in the STAR+PLUS program.

For questions regarding the content of this letter, contact DADS at: ccad@dads.state.tx.us

Sincerely,

[signature on file] [signature on file]

Donna Jessee            Elisa J. Garza
Director               Assistant Commissioner
Center for Policy and Innovation    Access and Intake