



# Iowa Department of Human Services

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Director

## INFORMATIONAL LETTER NO.1367

**DATE:** March 10, 2014

**TO:** Iowa Medicaid Hospice and Case Management Providers

**FROM:** Iowa Department of Human Services, Iowa Medicaid Enterprise (IME)

**RE:** Hospice in Conjunction with Other Medicaid Services

**EFFECTIVE:** Upon Receipt

Hospice is a vital Medicaid service that provides comprehensive care for Medicaid members who are terminally ill. There is some confusion regarding how Hospice services can be provided in conjunction with other Medicaid services, especially Home and Community Based Services (HCBS). Hospice providers, case managers, and Medicaid providers must work together to ensure that the needs of hospice members are met within the allowable parameters of each Medicaid program.

Effective immediately, hospice providers, case managers, and Medicaid providers that support terminally ill members to remain in their homes, must develop comprehensive care plans that include both the Hospice services and other Medicaid services. Each care plan must specifically designate the exact services and the parameters of those services (including days, times, and tasks) to be provided by each provider. This care plan must be individualized for each Medicaid member. The care plan must ensure the following two concepts:

- Services that are provided to the terminally ill member cannot be duplicated by the provision of Hospice and other Medicaid services.
- Services related to the terminal illness and related conditions must be provided by the Hospice provider. Only services unrelated to the terminal illness and its related conditions are to be provided by other Medicaid providers.

The IME has invited members of the Hospice and Palliative Care Association of Iowa to collaborate in defining and developing processes to serve hospice members who are also receiving other Medicaid services. During the collaboration, input will be sought from other organizations, including case management agencies, associations, and other provider groups. Once the collaborative effort has been completed, the IME will be communicating expectations and guidelines for use of Hospice and Medicaid services for those members who have elected Hospice services.

Please submit any questions you may have to [hospice@dhs.state.ia.us](mailto:hospice@dhs.state.ia.us).