

TO: Local District Commissioners, Medicaid Directors

FROM: Judy Arnold, Director
Division of Coverage and Enrollment

SUBJECT: Implementation of the Colorectal and Prostate Cancer Treatment Program

EFFECTIVE DATE: Immediately

CONTACT PERSON: Christine Oreshan/Kathy Orkwis - (518) 473-5330

The purpose of this GIS message is to inform social services districts of the expansion of the Breast and Cervical Cancer Treatment Program to include the treatment of colorectal and prostate cancer. This expansion was enacted by Chapter 176 of the Laws of 2006. Coverage for colorectal cancer treatment was implemented on April 1, 2007. The prostate cancer treatment portion of this expansion was implemented on October 1, 2007.

Individuals who are screened and/or diagnosed by the Cancer Services Program Partnerships and are found to be in need of treatment for colorectal or prostate cancer or pre-cancerous conditions may be eligible for Medicaid for the duration of their treatment. The income standard for this program is 250% of the Federal Poverty Level. There is no resource test. Individuals must be under 65 years of age, reside in New York State, be a citizen or an alien with satisfactory immigration status, and have no other creditable insurance coverage.

The point of entry for this program continues to be the Cancer Services Program Partnerships, who are the qualified designated entities that assist individuals in completing the Medicaid application process.

Similar to the Breast and Cervical Cancer Treatment Program, all applications for colorectal and prostate cancer treatment will continue to be processed centrally by State staff in the Office of Health Insurance Programs (OHIP). Cases will be subject to a full eligibility review by OHIP staff. The cases will be authorized in District 99 with the specific county code to identify the district of fiscal responsibility. As long as the individual remains ineligible for Medicaid under one of the mandatory eligibility groups, undercare maintenance and recertification will be the responsibility of State OHIP staff.

Recipients enrolled in the colorectal and prostate cancer treatment program will be authorized with full Medicaid coverage (01). The program is 100% State funded.

Recipients who require medical transportation will be directed to local district transportation staff in their county of residence. The rules for prior authorization of medical transportation that apply to Medicaid recipients also apply to cancer treatment program recipients.

With this expansion, the Medicaid program will now refer to the Breast and Cervical Cancer Treatment Program and the Colorectal and Prostate Cancer Treatment Program as the Medicaid Cancer Treatment Program (MCTP).

Please direct any questions to Christine Oreshan or Kathy Orkwis at (518)473-5330.