

COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Office of the Attorney General Richmond 23219

Judith Williams Jagdmann Attorney General

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MEMORANDUM

TO: RENEE WHITE

Regulatory Coordinator

Virginia Department of Medical Assistance Services

FROM: USHA KODURU

Assistant Attorney General

DATE: December 13, 2005

SUBJECT: Proposed Regulation to Implement a Limit Reimbursement for Nursing

Facility Specialized Care Ancillary Services.

I am in receipt of the attached proposed regulation to limit reimbursement for specialized care ancillary services to no more than 150% of average specialized care ancillary costs. You have asked the Office of the Attorney General to review and determine if the Department of Medical Assistance Services ("DMAS") has the legal authority to promulgate the proposed regulation and if the proposed regulation comports with state and federal law.

Based on my review, DMAS has the authority to promulgate this regulation, subject to compliance with the provisions of Article 2 of the Administrative Process Act and has not exceeded that authority.

Pursuant to Virginia Code §§ 32.1-324, 32.1-325, which grants to the Board of Medical Assistance Services the authority to administer and amend the plan for Medical Assistance and authorizes the Director of DMAS to administer and amend the plan for Medical Assistance according to the Board's requirements. The authority for these proposed regulations derives from 42 U.S.C. § 1396a which allows the state plan for medical assistance to determine payment for services.

Renee White December 13, 2005 Page 2

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 786-4905.

cc: Kim F. Piner, Esquire

Attachment