

Date: 3/20/2020

COVID-19 Response-Memo #4



From: Jason Cornwell, DDS Division Director
To: All DDS Waiver Providers and Stakeholders:

As we all grapple with the COVID-19 pandemic, I would like to communicate the most recent response plans that impact recipients of DD Waiver, Mi Via Waiver and Medically Fragile Waiver and Stakeholders:

1. **Waiver changes:** Waiver changes (e.g. from DD Waiver to Mi via or Mi Via to DD Waiver or MFW to Mi Via) might be a critical need for someone depending on their situation. Please exercise flexibility with timeframes associated with transitions as there will be challenges executing transitions. If the change is a transition involving an individual on the Medically Fragile Waiver(MF), the MF Nurse Case Manager must be involved with the transfer to ensure there is no gap in services.
2. **Level of Care: DDW, Mi Via & MFW**
 - a. Mi Via In Home Assessments Annual Level of Care (LOC); Human Services Department is allowing the Mi Via LOC to be approved without the in-home assessment (IHA). Comagine/Goodwill will complete the IHA later to ultimately complete the LOC packet. A notice will be sent to all Mi Via Consultants.
 - b. Persons on MFW and MFW/Mi Via with a 095 COE – (Medically Fragile Waiver)– will continue to be assessed through Comagine/MFCMP telephonically and using video conferencing if available/ possible.
3. **Board of Pharmacy Notice:** Please see Board of notice regarding visitation schedule during the declared 30-day state of emergency that runs through April 9, 2020.
http://www.rld.state.nm.us/uploads/FileLinks/ad6770c244f74bdaaeaa53842023b4c7/coronavirus_CRPH_visit_delays.pdf
4. **CMS Current Emergencies Website:** The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) announced that all elective surgeries, non-essential medical, surgical, and dental procedures be delayed during the 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak. Please continue to check CMS

Current emergencies website: <https://www.cms.gov/About-CMS/Agency-Information/Emergency/EPRO/Current-Emergencies/Current-Emergencies-page>

5. **Adding Nursing Face to Face Visit in Therap**- See Attachment
6. **Amendment to Public Health Order March 13th, 2020** The public health order issued March 13 by Department of Health Secretary Kathy Kunkel temporarily strengthens earlier orders to include additional mandatory closures and guidelines to limit the spread of COVID-19 disease.

All 1915(c) HCBS Supported Living, Family Living, and Intensive Medical Living homes must restrict home access for all visitors, non-medical health care providers, vendors, and other non-essential individuals. This restriction includes Case Managers/Consultants and Clinicians.

HCBS Supported Living, Family Living, and Intensive Medical Living homes must facilitate resident communication (by phone or other format) with families, guardians, clinicians, case managers/consultants.

Lastly, should stakeholders have specific questions, concerns, and/or scenarios, contact your Regional Director. The situation is fluid and will evolve. Guidance will be provided accordingly.