



BOB RILEY  
Governor

# Alabama Medicaid Agency

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CAROL A. HERRMANN-STECKEL, MPH  
Commissioner

December 22, 2006

## PROVIDER NOTICE 06-02

TO: All Nursing Facility Providers

SUBJECT: Nursing Home Program Changes

Effective December 13, 2006, the Alabama Medicaid Agency has made changes to the Medicaid Agency Administrative Code, Chapter 10, "Nursing Home." The changes are as follows:

### Rule: 560-X-10-.06 - Therapeutic Leave:

Payments to nursing facilities may be made for therapeutic leave visits to home, relatives, and friends for up to six days per calendar quarter. A therapeutic leave visit may not exceed three days per visit. A resident may have a therapeutic visit that is one, two, or three days in duration as long as the visit does not exceed three days per visit or six days per quarter. Visits **may not** be combined to exceed the three-day limit. The facility must obtain physician orders for therapeutic leave.

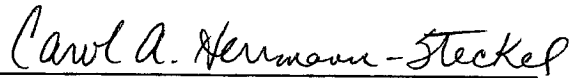
### Rule: 560-X-10-.07 - Review of Medical Needs and 560-X-10-.11 - Establishment of Medical Need:

Nursing facility providers that fail to provide the required documentation or additional information for audit reviews as requested by the Alabama Medicaid Agency Long Term Care Admissions/Records Unit within ten working days from receipt of the certified letter shall be charged a penalty of one hundred dollars per recipient record per day for each calendar day after the established due date unless an extension request has been received and granted. The penalty will not be a reimbursable Medicaid cost. The Associate Director of the Long Term Care Admissions/Records Unit may approve an extension for good cause. Requests for an extension should be submitted in writing by the nursing facility Administrator to the Associate Director of the Long Term Care Admissions/Records Unit with supporting documentation. The request should be sent to the following address:

Alabama Medicaid Agency  
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Additionally, the Alabama Medicaid Agency will reduce the monthly retrospective review sample of admissions and re-admissions to nursing facilities from 25% to 10%.

If you have further questions, you may contact Marilyn Chappelle, Director, Long Term Care Division at (334) 242-5009 or [marilyn.chappelle@medicaid.alabama.gov](mailto:marilyn.chappelle@medicaid.alabama.gov).



Carol A. Herrmann-Steckel, Commissioner

Distribution List:

Alabama Nursing Home Association

Alabama Medicaid Agency Staff