

**South Carolina**  
**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**  
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December 22, 2010

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## MEDICAID BULLETIN

**TO: Administrators of Medicaid Certified Nursing Facilities, Intermediate Care Facilities for the Mentally Retarded, Hospice Agencies, Hospitals and Physicians**

**SUBJECT: South Carolina Medicaid Hospice Service**

In a Medicaid Bulletin dated December 14, 2010, the South Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (SCDHHS) communicated upcoming reductions to several optional state Medicaid services. The purpose of this bulletin is to clarify policy changes to the Medicaid hospice service. Changes will impact persons who do not have dual (Medicare and Medicaid) coverage. Effective with dates of service February 1, 2011, Medicaid will discontinue hospice care services for adults. An adult is defined as a person who is age 21 and older. Children will remain eligible to receive the service.

### **Prior Authorizations**

SCDHHS will accept new elections and continuation Prior Authorization packets for existing hospice patients through January 31, 2011. SCDHHS will discontinue payment effective with dates of service on or after May 1, 2011.

### **Nursing Home Room and Board**

SCDHHS will continue to make room and board payment on dually eligible hospice patients in nursing homes. Currently, there are no changes to policy or reimbursement procedures.

### **Provider Manual and Form Updates**

SCDHHS will revise the Medicaid Hospice Service Manual and update any related forms as needed.

If you have any questions regarding this bulletin, please contact your Program Representative at 803-898-2590. Thank you for your continued support and participation in the South Carolina Medicaid Program.

/s/

Emma Forkner  
Director

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