

PUBLIC NOTICE

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

The South Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (SCDHHS) gives notice of the following actions regarding providing reimbursement for hospice services for children under 21 years of age in conjunction with curative treatment of the child's terminal illness.

Section 2302 of the Affordable Care Act, entitled "Concurrent Care for Children" removes the prohibition of receiving curative treatment upon the election of the hospice benefit by or on behalf of children enrolled in Medicaid or Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP).

This provision does not change the criteria for hospice; a physician must certify that the child is terminally ill, with a life expectancy of six (6) months or less. However, this provision allows parents with children under the age of 21 receiving hospice services to no longer forgo any other services to which the child is entitled under Medicaid treatment of the terminal condition. Services rendered by a provider other than the hospice must be discussed and coordinated with the hospice provider.

Copies of this notice are available at each County Department of Health and Human services office and at www.scdhhs.gov for public review. Additional information concerning this action is available upon request at the address cited below.

Any written comments submitted may be reviewed by the public at the Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Community and Facility Services, 1801 Main Street, Columbia, South Carolina, Monday through Friday between the hours of 9:00 A.M. and 5:00 P.M.

Anthony E. Keck, Director
Department of Health and Human Services