Developmentally Disabled/Continuous Nursing Care Waiver

into the

Nursing Facility/Acute Hospital Waiver

**Issue**

The Developmentally Disabled/Continuous Nursing Care (DD/CNC) Waiver began on October 1, 2009, as a three-year 1915(c) home and community-based services waiver will expire on September 30, 2012.

**Proposal**

The Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) proposes to seek approval from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services to continue provision of DD/CNC Waiver services after September 30 through migration of the existing program into the Nursing Facility/Acute Hospital (NF/AH) Waiver. The program would be extended through the end of December 2016.

**Impacts**

* Current DD/CNC and NF/AH Waiver participants would continue to receive their existing package of waiver services in their homes or in community settings.
* New participants would have choice of receiving services in their homes or community settings, when available.
* DD/CNC Waiver providers would continue to be reimbursed at the existing bundled per diem rate.

DHCS and its partnering agencies, the California Department of Developmental Services and the California Department of Public Health/Licensing & Certification, view this as a positive move in the following ways:

* Provision of services for both waivers would remain the same (eligibility, enrollment in waiver, waiver criteria, scope of services, provider enrollment, rates, service authorization and billing).
* Enables consolidation of DHCS staffing and resources to provide more effective and efficient oversight and monitoring.
* Could provide an incentive for more entities and individuals to participate as waiver providers, thus enabling more persons to benefit from the waiver services.
* Increases service choice for individuals with developmental disabilities by expanding provision of waiver services in one’s home (not currently available in the DD/CNC Waiver).

**Summary of Services—Nursing Facility/Acute Hospital Waiver (NF/AH)**

* Developed for seniors and persons with disabilities who are medically fragile and technology-dependent Medi-Cal beneficiaries enabling the provision of in-home medical, nursing and other care in a participant’s home or in a Congregate Living Health Facility (CLHF).
* Makes available services to individuals who are at the acute hospital level of care, the Nursing Facility A (NF-A) and NF-B levels of care and the adult and pediatric subacute levels of care. Without this waiver, participants would require extended care in an acute care hospital.
* Services provided in the waiver participant’s home are reimbursed to Medi-Cal waiver-enrolled providers on a service-specific basis; each service is reimbursed individually at a pre-set rate. Services provided in a CLHF are reimbursed to Medi-Cal waiver-enrolled CLHF providers at a bundled per diem rate.
* Services provided in the participant’s home include the following:
* Case management/coordination
* Habilitation services
* Home respite
* Waiver personal care services
* Community transition services
* Environmental accessibility adaptations
* Facility respite
* Family/caregiver training
* Medical equipment operating expense
* Personal Emergency Response Systems (PERS) installation and testing
* Private duty nursing – including home health aide and shared services
* Transitional case management
* Services provided in a CLHF (designated as continuous nursing and supportive services) include the following:
* Continuous nursing
* Medical supervision
* Pharmacy consultation
* Dietary consultation
* Social services
* Recreational services
* Transportation to and from medical appointments
* Housekeeping and laundry services
* Cooking and shopping

**Summary of Services—Developmentally Disabled/Continuous Nursing Care Waiver (DD/CNC)**

* Developed as an extension of California’s Intermediate Care Facilities for the Developmentally Disabled (ICF/DD) State Plan program.
* Currently serves approximately 45 individuals with developmental disabilities who are medically fragile and would otherwise reside in subacute care facilities, acute care hospitals or in developmental centers. These beneficiaries are enrolled with their local Regional Centers, have been determined to be developmentally disabled and meet waiver-designated medical eligibility criteria.
* DD/CNC Waiver providers are licensed by the California Department of Public Health and enrolled in the Medi-Cal program as ICF/DD-Continuous Nursing (CN) waiver provider.
* Services (designated as continuous nursing) provided in the ICF/DD-CN are reimbursed at a bundled per diem rate and include:
* Assistance with ADLs and IADLs
* Ventilator care
* Tracheostomy care
* Oxygen delivery/CPAP/BiPAP
* Suctioning
* Continuous IV therapy
* Total parenteral nutrition
* Gastrostomy and ileostomy care
* Continuous or intermittent tube feeding
* Medication administration
* Pressure sore/decubitus care, all stages
* Other skilled nursing services as specified