STATE OF CALIFORNIA—HEALTH AND WELFARE AGENCY

GEORGE DEUKMEJIAN, *Governor*

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES
714/744 P STREET
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814

July 8, 1988

Letter No.: 88- 45

TO: All County Welfare Directors
All County Administrative Officers

SUBJECT: MEDS TRACKING OF IRCA AND OBRA RECORDS

REFERENCE: ACWDLs 87-55, 87-56 and 88-21
SYSM ODHS 88041

This letter is to provide clarification regarding the tracking of Medi-Cal beneficiaries who have been identified as Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1986/Immigration Reform and Control Act (OBRA/IRCA) aliens.

As you know, ACWDL 88-21 specifies that beneficiaries who come to your attention from redetermination or beneficiary reporting activities must be tracked retroactively to January 1988. There has been some confusion on how to track OBRA/IRCA aliens on the Medi-Cal Eligibility Data System (MEDS) Network when current eligibility exists and no other change to the MEDS record is appropriate. In this situation, counties may only report the OBRA/IRCA aid codes to MEDS in the following way.

1. Counties may use the EW30 - "Modify Existing MEDS Record (Individual), transaction to input the OBRA/IRCA aid codes for current month, one month prior or for future month. When updating current or future month, the OBRA/IRCA aid code will rollover on MEDS with each active month of eligibility.

   The required fields are COUNTY-ID PER-MEDS, MEDS-ID, BIRTHDATE, ELIG-INFO-EFF-DATE, and ORIG-AID.

2. Counties must submit EW15 - "Request Immediate Need Card Issuance", transactions for all other retroactive months to January 1988.

   The required fields are COUNTY-ID PER-MEDS, MEDS-ID, BIRTHDATE, CARD-ISSUE-LOCATION (LOGS), REASON-FOR-ISSUANCE (02), VALID-MMYY AND ORIG-AID.

Please note that once legislation is passed and the new ongoing system is implemented, counties will be able to report OBRA/IRCA aid codes retroactively to January 1988, by using a new, online only MEDS transaction or continuing to use the process described above for tracking. Counties will receive instructions regarding the use of the new online transaction within the next month.

For policy questions regarding OBRA/IRCA tracking, please contact Sandra Bierer at (916) 324-4971. For system related questions please contact your State MEDS Liaison.

Sincerely,

Original signed by

Frank S. Martucci, Chief
Medi-Cal Eligibility Branch

cc: Medi-Cal Liaisons
Medi-Cal Program Consultants

Expiration Date: December 31, 1988