

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES

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March 30, 1993

TO: All County Welfare Directors
All County Administrative Officers
All County Medi-Cal Program Specialists/Liaisons
All County Pickle Coordinators

Letter No.: 93-22

SUBJECT: PICKLE (LYNCH V. RANK) CYCLE

REFERENCE: ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS LETTER 91-36

COUNTY RESPONSIBILITIES

The purpose of this letter is to remind the counties that the Pickle Medi-Cal redeterminations must be completed by the end of April and processed through the Medi-Cal Eligibility Data Base (MEDS) before the May month of eligibility (MOE).

If Medi-Cal redeterminations have not been completed by the end of April, MEDS will automatically terminate Medi-Cal eligibility and a May Medi-Cal card will not be issued. Counties must assume responsibility for issuing zero share of cost Medi-Cal cards until Pickle eligibility has been determined. MEDS must be updated with an EW20 or an EW30 transaction (ESAC 1, 2, or 3). An EW60 will update or delete information on a recipient placed in a Pickle Tickler status for the following year (See pages 4-1 through 4-12 in the Pickle Manual). Pursuant to the Lynch v. Rank court order, counties must ensure that the eligibility redetermination on these 503 Leads individuals is completed prior to discontinuance. Discontinuance cannot take place prior to the May MOE.

Counties must document and verify in the case file that every individual who appears on the April 503 Leads Report has been contacted and a Medi-Cal eligibility determination made by the end of April.

PERSONAL CONTACT REQUIREMENTS

1. In cases where a telephone number for the beneficiary can be ascertained, the county shall attempt on at least two separate dates to reach the beneficiary by telephone. An ascertainable telephone number is one that can be determined by matching the name and address on the 503 Leads Tape list with a name and address in a current local telephone book.

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2. In cases where a telephone contact is not established or no telephone number can be ascertained, a letter was to have been sent out no later than March 1, to the address appearing on the listing. The letter was to inform the beneficiary that he/she must contact the county immediately or he/she will not receive a May Medi-Cal card. The letter was to contain the name and telephone number of the county welfare office. If this letter was not mailed by March 1, 1993, the county must mail a letter immediately.

If the beneficiary is homebound, the county may make a home visit to complete the application or may complete it over the telephone. The individual is required to sign the application. If the signed application is not returned by the assigned due date, the county must make a personal contact to find out why the form was not returned.

Please refer to Pickle Handbook Section 3-1 through 3-3.

If you have any questions, please contact Sylvia Finberg of my staff at (916) 657-0080.

Sincerely,

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY
Frank S. Martucci, Chief
Medi-Cal Eligibility Branch