Department of Health and Human Services
Maine People Living
Safe, Healthy and Productive Lives

Paul R. LePage, Governor Mary C. Mayhew, Commissioner

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March 19, 2012

Richard R. McGreal, Associate Regional Administrator
Department of Health and Human Services
Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services
JFK Federal Building, Government Center
Room 2275
Boston, Massachusetts 02203

Dear Mr. McGreal:

At the request of CMS, the State of Maine Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) is in the process of an IMD analysis for all Private Non-Medical Institution (PNMI) Services. Currently, DHHS staff are conducting facility specific IMD surveys that will require site visits for many of the settings and resident level PASARR assessments in some situations. We write today to request an additional six months to complete this analysis.

As we have discussed with you previously, there are PNMI services provided to individuals with behavioral health diagnoses that are delivered in scattered site settings. We have previously asked for clarification on whether or not these scattered site settings are to be defined as IMDs, and were guided to 4390 of the Medicaid Manual. Interpreting and carrying out the analysis decscribed in Section 4390 has been complex. DHHS has consulted with the States of North Carolina and Washington to gain technical assistance based on their experience with the same IMD analysis, and has found their experience to be equally difficult.

Additionally, in some PNMI Case Mix facilities there are services that are not provided primarily for psychiatric or psychological services, however they may require PASARR assessment as many of these frail elders with chronic conditions also have diagnoses of depression. DHHS staff need to develop a worklplan to complete this requirement and work with facilities to schedule these assessments.

We currently understand the deadline for Maine's IMD analysis to be May 7, 2012. We are asking for an additional six months to complete this analysis, which extends the deadline to November 7, 2012. We thank you for the technical assistance your staff have and continue to provide in this analysis. We are happy to answer any questions you may have about this request.

Sincerely,

Mary C. Mayhew
Commissioner

MCM/klv

cc: Bonnie Smith, Deputy Commissioner
Patricia Dushuttle, Coordinator of Strategic Initiatives