



# MEDICAL ASSISTANCE BULLETIN

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA • DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WELFARE

ISSUE DATE

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EFFECTIVE DATE

December 27, 1994

NUMBER

18-94-01

SUBJECT

Clarification of  
Bulletin 18-93-01

BY

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## PURPOSE:

To clarify Bulletin 18-93-01 regarding payment of non-emergency transportation for medical assistance residents in nursing facilities.

## SCOPE:

This bulletin applies to all ambulance companies enrolled in the Medical Assistance Program.

## BACKGROUND:

On December 27, 1993, the Department issued Bulletin 18-93-01 to ambulance companies to clarify who is responsible for payment of medically necessary non-emergency transportation services for medical assistance recipients residing in a nursing facility. This bulletin created confusion among ambulance providers.

## DISCUSSION:

In Bulletin 18-93-01, the Department used the terminology non-emergency to identify those services that are non-compensable services. Non-compensable transportation is transportation to and from doctors' appointments, dentists' appointments, other practitioners' appointments and partial hospitalization treatment programs. Under the Medical Assistance Program such transportation service is the responsibility of nursing facilities. If an ambulance provider is used to supply this transportation to the residents, the ambulance company should seek reimbursement from the nursing facility not the patient or the patients' family for these services and other non-compensable non-emergency services as listed at § 1245.54.

The regulatory terms for non-emergency transportation services are services identified in the Medical Assistance Program Fee Schedule with a procedure code and applicable modifiers, such as, transportation from a patient's residence to a renal dialysis facility, renal dialysis facility to patient's residence, nursing home to hospital, hospital to nursing home, and

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Division of Outpatient Programs  
P.O. Box 8043  
Harrisburg Pennsylvania

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discharge/transfer from one hospital to another. These are non-emergency transportation services that medical assistance will make payment to an ambulance company provided the services are medically necessary and meet the payment conditions established at § 1245.52.