

U.S. House and Senate Notification
Tuesday, August 9, 2011

To: Congressional Health Staff

From: Amy Hall
Director, Office of Legislation
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services

Re: CMS Announces New Medicaid Emergency Psychiatric Demonstration

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) today announced a new Medicaid Emergency Psychiatric Demonstration designed to provide States with more flexibility and resources to care for Medicaid beneficiaries with mental illnesses.

This demonstration provides up to \$75 million in funding to States over three years, as authorized by section 2707 of the Affordable Care Act, to help care for Medicaid patients (aged 21 through 64) with psychiatric emergencies, in private inpatient psychiatric facilities with 17 or more beds, also known as institutions for mental diseases (IMDs). The demonstration defines psychiatric emergencies as expressions of suicidal or homicidal thoughts or gestures resulting in a determination that the patient is dangerous to himself or to others.

The Medicaid Emergency Psychiatric Demonstration is part of the CMS's commitment to improving the quality of care available to Medicaid beneficiaries. The demonstration is being administered by the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation (the Innovation Center). Created by the Affordable Care Act, the Innovation Center is committed to achieving the three aims of better health, better health care, and reduced costs through improvement for CMS beneficiaries by testing delivery system models.

CMS is now accepting applications to participate in this demonstration from interested State Medicaid Directors. States will be selected competitively based on their application proposals. More information, including the solicitation letter to State Medicaid Directors, application, and fact sheet can be found at

<http://www.cms.gov/DemonstrProjectsEvalRepts/MDP/itemdetail.asp?filterType=none&filterByDID=-99&sortByDID=3&sortOrder=ascending&itemID=CMS1249074&intNumPerPage=10>

In addition, a copy of today's press release is available on the CMS website at <https://www.cms.gov/apps/media/press/release.asp?Counter=4054&intNumPerPage=10&checkDate=&checkKey=&srchType=1&numDays=3500&srchOpt=0&srchData=&keywordType=All&chkNewsType=1%2C+2%2C+3%2C+4%2C+5&intPage=&showAll=&pYear=&year=&desc=&cboOrder=date>.

Please contact the CMS Office of Legislation at 202-690-8220 if you have any questions.