

Elizabeth McGill

From: Dianna Spieker
Sent: Tuesday, July 21, 2009 10:29 AM
To: Elizabeth McGill
Subject: FW: SSI and Indigent Health Care Procedure

Procedure #1 was what was approved.

From: Dianna Spieker
Sent: Wednesday, July 15, 2009 12:17 PM
To: Mike Brown; Richard Easingwood; Steve Floyd; Ralph Hoelscher; Aubrey deCordova
Cc: Ilma Perez; Debbie Holland; Sylvia Martinez; Nathan Craddock
Subject: SSI and Indigent Health Care Procedure

“Consider Indigent Health Care Procedure as it relates to SSI” (Dianna Spieker)

Gentlemen –

Below are two procedures. I have discussed this issue with Nathan as a procedure is needed due to the discovery of clients being approved, but the bills not being paid, pending SSI Determination. Under the Prompt Payment Statute, I need to pay bills by the 31st day from receipt/date of invoice. Either procedure will satisfy that requirement, but as you read there are pros and cons to both. The Commissioners’ Court has the choice on how to proceed; therefore, I will need direction as to which procedure you wish followed.

Fact: SSI can take between 90-120 days for confirmation of either denial or approval.

Fact: Individuals being screened by Indigent Health Care Office are normally flagged as potentially eligible for SSI – SSI makes final determination

Fact: Very few first time applicants to SSI get approved.

Fact: The Indigent Health Care book states "if someone is receiving SSI payments they are ineligible for Indigent Health Care"

Fact: Indigent Health Care Staff encourage applicants to apply for all other potential benefits they may qualify for.

Procedure #1 Pay first ask for Reimbursement later if applicable

1. Client comes into office and goes through screening process
2. If client has SSI coverage, client is denied IHC coverage.
3. If client may be eligible for SSI we request them to bring proof of application to SSI.
4. Once we receive proof of application of SSI, we schedule an appointment with case worker
5. Case Worker determines if client is eligible and determination is made. Either Approved or Denied.
6. If Client is approved; bills are paid upon receipt
7. When and if client is approved for SSI, we request reimbursement for our expenses.
8. Client gets services they need, without waiting for SSI to approve them.
 - Pro- Client gets their medical needs met quicker
 - Pro - We have proof client applied for another resource
 - Pro - Can get reimbursed if other resource is approved
 - Con- County pays money out first

7/23/2009

Procedure #2

1. **Client comes into office and goes through screening process**
2. **If client has SSI coverage, client is denied IHC coverage.**
3. **If client may be eligible for SSI we request them to bring proof of application to SSI.**
4. **Once we receive proof of application of SSI, we schedule an appointment with case worker.**
5. **At that time the case worker explains until we receive a "Denied" Form from SSI their case will go into a pending status. The client is NOT approved for Indigent Health Care.**
6. **When client returns 90-120 later with a denied form Case Worker determines if client is eligible and determination is made. Either Approved or Denied.**
7. **If Client is approved; client bills are paid upon receipt**
8. **Client must wait to get services they need, as Health Care facilities may turn them away when they have no means of payment.**

- **Pro- County pays money out only after denial from other resource.**
- **Con- We lose ability to ensure clients will apply for other resource, thus making us the only one that pays**
- **Con -Clients will not want to apply for SSI when they discover if they apply we pend their application**
- **Con- Client may be turned down for Health Services for lack of payment resources.**

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