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# IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & WELFARE

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## MEDICAID INFORMATION RELEASE MA20-19

**To:** All professionals involved in admitting individuals into Nursing Facilities (NFs)

**From:** Matt Wimmer, Administrator

**Subject:** Idaho's 1135 Waiver: PASRR Level I, Abbreviated Level II and Level II Flexibilities

The Idaho Department of Health and Welfare continues to monitor and prepare for impacts resulting from the 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19). We are working with the Governor's Office and other state agencies including the Idaho Office of Emergency Management, local public health districts, and healthcare providers around the state, as well as the Centers for Disease Control and other state governments. During this time it is vitally important that Medicaid participants receive services and get their needs met.

The Division of Medicaid recognizes that nursing facilities may need to quickly admit individuals from either community or hospital settings during this pandemic. Preadmission Screening and Resident Review (PASRR) is an important part of the nursing facility admission process for individuals with serious mental illness and developmental disabilities. It is also essential that individuals receive the care they need in the most appropriate setting, which may change rapidly due to various challenges associated with COVID-19. To support expedited nursing facility admissions, **PASRR Level I, Abbreviated Level II and Level II may be delayed for each admitting individual for up to 30 days after admission.** The temporary suspension is effective immediately and will continue until emergency declarations are lifted.

### Level I

- The Level I **is not** required upon admission, for any individual, to a Medicaid certified nursing facility.
- The Level I must be completed by the admitting nursing facility within 30 days of admission.
- A **positive** Level I **must** be submitted to the regional Bureau of Long Term Care (BLTC) office within 30 days of admission.
- A **negative** Level I **does not** need to be submitted for review by BLTC.
- Failure to submit the Level 1 screen within 30 days of admission may result in claims for services being denied.

### Abbreviated Level II and Level II

- Abbreviated Level II and Level II evaluations will be completed by the appropriate PASRR authorities.

- Completed evaluations will be returned to the admitting nursing facility via fax.
- Level II evaluations will be completed via telehealth or, if telehealth is not an option, will be completed as soon as resources are available after the emergency declarations are lifted.

**Specialized Services**

- Specialized services that are not feasible to deliver based upon current resource availability and safety measures associated with COVID-19 may be temporarily suspended. The specialized services should resume as soon as resources are available after the emergency declarations are lifted.

Please see the Preadmission Screening and Resident Review page on the [DHW website](#) for further guidance. Questions relating to PASRR policy and procedures may be directed to Alex Childers-Scott at [Alexandria.Childers-Scott@dhw.idaho.gov](mailto:Alexandria.Childers-Scott@dhw.idaho.gov) or 208-364-1891. For questions related to individual PASRRs please contact the regional BLTC office:

**Region I**

Fax - (208) 666-6856

Phone - (208) 769-1567

**Region III**

Fax - (208) 454-7625

Phone - (208) 769-1567

**Region V**

Fax - (208) 736-2116

Phone - (208) 736-3024

**Region VII**

Fax - (208) 528-5756

Phone - (208) 528-5750

**Region II**

Fax - (208) 799-5167

Phone - (208) 799-4430

**Region IV**

Fax - (208) 334-0953

Phone - (208) 334-0940

**Region VI**

Fax - (208) 239-6269

Phone - (208) 239-6260

We thank you for your service to Idaho Medicaid participants and appreciate your work to address this public health threat.

MW/acs