



Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene  
201 W. Preston Street • Baltimore, Maryland 21201

Martin O'Malley, Governor – Anthony G. Brown, Lt. Governor – John M. Colmers, Secretary

**MARYLAND MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM**

**Recipient Transmittal No. 1**

**December 22, 2009**

**TO:** Primary Adult Care Program Recipients

**FROM:**   
Susan J. Tucker, Executive Director  
Office of Health Services

**RE:** Coverage of Emergency Room Facility Services and Substance Abuse Services

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The purpose of this transmittal is to announce that effective January 1, 2010, the Primary Adult Care (PAC) program will cover facility charges for medically necessary emergency room services and some community based substance abuse services.

The new emergency room hospital benefit will cover the hospital bill for medically necessary emergency room visits. It will not, however, cover any of the professional bills (such as the doctors, including pathologists and radiologists) generated by an emergency visit. Any doctor that renders service to you during, or in relation to, an emergency room visit may bill you for their charges. These charges will be your responsibility and cannot be sent to or reimbursed by your managed care organization (MCO).

The community based substance abuse services that will be covered beginning January 1<sup>st</sup> are:

- A comprehensive substance abuse assessment
- Individual, family, or group counseling
- Methadone maintenance
- Intensive outpatient treatment

Services received at a hospital or inpatient/residential facility will not be covered. Authorization from your MCO is required for some services so check with your MCO for complete details of your coverage.

As with most PAC benefits, coverage for these new services does not begin until after you are enrolled in an MCO. There is no coverage before you are effective with an MCO.

If you have any questions about the information in this transmittal, please contact the Enrollee Help Line at 800-284-4510 or your MCO.

**Cc:** PAC Managed Care Organizations  
Health Services Cost Review Commission

