December 10, 2009

To: Intermediate Care Facility for the Mentally Retarded (ICF/MR) Providers

Subject: Information Letter No. 09-177
Augmentative Communication Device (ACD) systems, Additional Information Provided

Information Letter 09-111, dated August 19, 2009, Removal of Cost Limits for Augmentative Communication Devices (ACDs) Prior Authorizations, informed Intermediate Care Facility for the Mentally Retarded (ICF/MR) Providers that the Department of Aging and Disability Services (DADS) was adding Augmentative Communications Device (ACD) systems as a service in the DADS community ICF/MR Program.

The purpose of this letter is to provide additional information about obtaining an ACD system for an eligible ICF/MR resident. Certain specific requirements must be met before DADS can authorize the ACD system request for purchase by the ICF/MR provider and before the provider can be reimbursed for the ACD system and related services.

Information related to the eligibility criteria, required documentation, authorization request, and approval processes ICF/MR providers must use is outlined in the below documents:

- ICF/MR Augmentative Communication Device System Authorization Form - Form 8728;
- Form 8728 instructions and
- Form 8728 Attachment 1.

The following link may be used to access the Form 8728, form instructions and policy attachment: http://www.dads.state.tx.us/forms/8728.

These documents must be used to ensure accurate and timely payment for services. When requesting authorization of an ACD system, it is strongly recommended by DADS that the provider print and fully review the above listed documents prior to beginning the process. Review of the above documents prior to initiating the process for completing the Form 8728 should assist in avoiding unnecessary returns or denials of incomplete submissions.

Should you have additional comments or questions after reviewing this letter and the above referenced documents, please contact Sean Ivie at 512-438-5208 or by email at sean.ivie@dads.state.tx.us.

Sincerely,

[signature on file]

William Campbell, Director
Institutional Services Section
Provider Services

WC:gw