

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

Med-QUEST Division
Health Care Services Branch
P. O. Box 700190
Kapolei, Hawaii 96709-0190

December 29, 2021


MEMORANDUM

MEMO NO.

QI-2136 [Replaces QI-1507]

FFS 21-14 [Replaces FFS-M15-05]

TO: QUEST Integration (QI) Health Plans
Home Health Agencies, Home Care Agencies, Hospice Providers

FROM: Judy Mohr Peterson, PhD 
Med-QUEST Division Administrator

SUBJECT: UNIVERSAL PRECAUTIONS FOR QUEST INTEGRATION MEMBERS RECEIVING
AT-RISK AND HOME AND COMMUNITY BASED SERVICES (HCBS)

The purpose of this memorandum is to notify the health plans that this memo replaces QI-1507, FFS-M15-05 which was previously issued on February 12, 2015. The following content is unchanged and will continue to apply under the QI contract RFP-MQD-2021-008.

The Department of Human Services, Med-QUEST Division (MQD) is issuing this memorandum to provide guidance regarding reimbursement for personal protective equipment (PPE) for individuals receiving At-Risk and HCBS in the QI program.

Standard precautions should be used to prevent the transmission of infectious agents not only to health care workers, but also to QI members and their families.

Single use disposable gloves shall be worn when performing wound care, respiratory care, perineal or incontinence care, and cleaning up blood spills or body fluids, e.g., cerebrospinal fluid (CSF), synovial fluid, pleural fluid, peritoneal fluid, pericardial fluid, amniotic fluid, feces, nasal secretions, sputum, sweat, tears, urine, and emesis. Hands should be washed thoroughly before and after providing care. Gloves should not be reused.

The QI health plans are responsible for providing PPE for self-direct use and for use by natural supports for QI members who are receiving At-Risk and HCBS. PPE includes but is not limited to single use disposable gloves, gowns, masks, and face shields.

The type of and amount of PPE to be issued by the health plan to each member will be determined through the assessment of the member's needs. If the amount of PPE to include gloves used exceeds the authorized amount, the member is responsible to inform the QI health plan of a change in condition requiring additional PPE or for the member to provide additional PPE to include gloves.

Agencies that provide At-Risk and HCBS to QI members in their home to include but not limited to home health agencies, home care agencies, and hospice providers are responsible to provide PPE for their staff to use.

QI health plan staff who enter a member's home are required to use PPE, as indicated, supplied by the QI health plan.

Please contact Jon Fujii via e-mail at jfujii@dhs.hawaii.gov should you have any questions.