



**STATE OF HAWAII**  
**DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES**  
Med-QUEST Division  
Medical Standards Branch  
P. O. Box 700190  
Kapolei, Hawaii 96709-0190

August 24, 2006

MEMORANDUM

ACS M06-15

TO: Medicaid Acute Care Hospitals, Nursing Facilities, Hospice, Physicians, and Social Services Division

FROM: Wesley Mun, Acting Med-QUEST Division Administrator *WMS*

SUBJECT: HOME AND COMMUNITY BASED SERVICES (HCBS) COUNSELING FOR NURSING FACILITY (SNF AND ICF) OR SUBACUTE LEVEL OF CARE RECIPIENTS

The main goal of HCBS counseling is to provide Medicaid recipients and/or their designee with alternative service choices other than institutionalization. The Department of Human Services, Med-QUEST Division (MQD) would like to clarify its expectations regarding HCBS counseling.

If a recipient is determined to be at a Nursing Facility (NF) or Subacute level of care through the 1147 process, the recipient and/or designee must be informed of all feasible and least restrictive NF or Subacute level of care service alternatives available. If the recipient is presently receiving HCBS, the recipient and/or designee must be informed of any other feasible HCBS alternative service(s) available and be given the choice of either residing in an institution or continuing to receive HCBS [CFR 441.302(c)(2)(d)].

The counseling must be performed by the referring party BEFORE an initial admission into a HCBS program or an institution. For recipients who are currently residing in an institution or receiving HCBS, annual counseling must be provided to the recipient and/or designee. The counseling must be documented on the 1147 form in section 13 when an 1147 reauthorization of the level of care is requested. The 1147 form can not be authorized if this information is missing.

Referring parties may call the Hawaii Centers for Independent Living at (808) 522-5400 for HCBS and or institutional service brochures. Should you have any questions, please call Ms. Kathleen Ishihara, Nurse Consultant, at 692-8159.