

INFORMATIONAL LETTER NO. 2242-MC-FFS

DATE: July 23, 2021

TO: All Iowa Medicaid Skilled Nursing Facilities and Nursing Facilities

APPLIES TO: Managed Care (MC), Fee-for-Service (FFS)

FROM: Iowa Department of Human Services (DHS), Iowa Medicaid Enterprise (IME)

RE: Minimum Data Set (MDS) / Case Mix

EFFECTIVE: Upon Receipt

On December 8, 2020, [Informational Letter \(IL\) 2196-MC-FFS¹](#), *Minimum Data Set (MDS) / Case Mix*, was issued. This IL is a reminder to providers of the current process for the extraction of MDS assessment data for case mix and to provide important dates for case mix 2021.

In response to the federal Public Health Emergency (PHE), the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) released COVID-19 1135 Blanket Waiver on March 1, 2020, that included waiving 42 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 483.20 timeframe requirements for completing and transmitting MDS assessments until the end of the PHE.

On April 8, 2021, CMS announced they were ending the emergency blanket waiver of the timeframe requirements for completing and transmitting resident assessment information (MDS) effective May 10, 2021.

The IME is aware that the federal PHE and the federal blanket waiver were extended allowing the extension of the MDS submission due dates. However, in an effort to set rates in a timely manner, per Iowa Administrative Code (IAC) 81.6(4), the IME began extracting MDS assessment data from the Quality Improvement Evaluation System (QIES) database in December 2020 for MDS assessment reference dates of April 1, 2020, through June 30, 2020.

The extraction of MDS assessment data is back on schedule for 2021 and the data will be extracted on the specified dates listed in Table 1. The case mix 2021 important dates

¹ <https://secureapp.dhs.state.ia.us/IMPA/Information/ViewDocument.aspx?viewdocument=62b088f9-dfe1-4b37-bbb3-0c6bc5d0b2fd>

are listed in the Iowa Medicaid Portal Access (IMPA) and are located on the DHS website.

Table 1

Case Mix 2021 Important Dates				
Resident Rosters	1st Quarter	2nd Quarter	2nd Quarter	4th Quarter
Applicable Date Range of MDS Assessment Reference Date	January 1 – March 31, 2021	April 1 – June 30, 2021	July 1 – September 30, 2021	October 1 – December 31, 2021
Preliminary Rosters Available to Providers via IMPA	May 20, 2021	August 20, 2021	November 19, 2021	February 18, 2022
Final Day to Submit Corrections to QIES or Payer Change Forms	June 8, 2021	September 3, 2021	December 7, 2021	March 4, 2022
Final Rosters Available to Providers via IMPA	June 25, 2021	September 24, 2021	December 27, 2021	March 25, 2022
Effective Date of Case Mix used	October 1, 2021	January 1, 2022	April 1, 2022	July 1, 2022

Pursuant to HF891, a State Plan Amendment will be submitted for the rating period effective July 1, 2021. Rate letters will be sent to providers upon approval from CMS.

If you have any questions, please contact the IME Quality Improvement Organization Unit at 1-800-383-1173 or by email at casemix@dhs.state.ia.