



Eligibility Operations Memo 12-03
March 12, 2012

TO: MassHealth Eligibility Operations Staff

FROM: Amy Andrade, Director, Member and Provider Services

RE: **Average Cost for Nursing Facility Services**

Introduction In accordance with 130 CMR 520.019(G)(1), MassHealth must impose a period of ineligibility for payment of nursing facility services when it has determined that a MassHealth applicant or member has made a disqualifying transfer of resources.

When calculating the period of ineligibility, MassHealth uses the average cost to a patient paying privately for nursing facility services in the Commonwealth. Periodically, this figure is revised to reflect increased costs.

Revised Average Cost of Nursing Facility Services Effective March 1, 2012, the average cost to a patient paying privately for nursing facility services in the Commonwealth increased from \$274 a day to \$279 a day.

The date MassHealth receives the application or eligibility review form determines which of the following amounts to use when calculating the period of ineligibility for a disqualifying transfer of resources.

- If received before March 1, 2012: use \$274.
 - If received on or after March 1, 2012: use \$279.
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Questions If you have any questions about this memo, please have your MEC designee contact the Policy Hotline.
