

## **Frequent Change in Care Settings**

In order to promote the health and well-being of a member who has experienced frequent changes in health status, resulting in frequent changes in care settings coverage for Nursing Facility (NF) services may continue even though the member's health status has improved such that he or she no longer meets the medical eligibility requirements for NF level care, and would otherwise be discharged, if the following additional criteria are met:

1. The member has lost medical eligibility for NF services at least twice, while receiving covered services in the NF, during the past nine (9) month period; and
2. The member has a chronic or unstable medical condition that would likely result in re-admission to the NF within three (3) months of discharge; and
3. The various settings (including home), within the last nine (9) months, must be listed, each facility identified with admission and discharge dates documented; and
4. The member (or member's guardian, or member's agent and evidenced by a valid, signed document on file at the NF, available upon request) chooses to continue to stay in the NF, as documented by a signed Choice Letter.

### Initial Request:

The NF shall submit the above required information to the Office of Elder Services with a request for classification under the status of "Frequent Change in Care Settings." If approved, a classification period will be established.

### Request for Extension:

The member must be reassessed within five (5) calendar days prior to the end date of the member's approved classification period, if an additional classification period is requested, by the NF, under this Section. The Office of Elder Services shall consider the member's recent history of frequent changes in care settings, as well as health status, in determining if the member may continue to qualify for NF coverage under this Section.

Upon receipt, review, and approval of the appropriate documents, the member will be determined eligible, as described in the MaineCare Benefits Manual, Chapter II, Section 67.02-7.

Please contact the Office of Elder Services, at 1-800-262-2232, with any questions.