



Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene
201 W. Preston Street • Baltimore, Maryland 21201

Martin O'Malley, Governor – Anthony G. Brown, Lt. Governor – John M. Colmers, Secretary

**MARYLAND MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM
TRANSPORTATION GRANTS TRANSMITTAL NO. 8
HOSPITAL TRANSMITTAL No. 198
October 17, 2007**

TO: Transportation Grants Managers
Hospital Administrators

FROM: Susan J. Tucker, Executive Director
Office of Health Services

RE: Transportation between Hospitals

NOTE: Please ensure that appropriate staff members in your organization are informed of the contents of this transmittal.

The purpose of this transmittal is to clarify the circumstances under which transports between hospitals are covered under the Transportation Grants program, and when they are covered as a Hospital service. When a recipient needs to be transported from one hospital to another hospital, there are two possible coverage scenarios.

First, when the recipient is being discharged from one hospital and admitted to another, the transport is covered under the Transportation Grant. Examples of such transports include transfer of a woman in labor because the sending hospital lacks appropriate labor and delivery facilities, or the transfer of a psychiatric patient because the receiving hospital is the only hospital which has an open bed, etc. In such cases, the discharging hospital should call the local jurisdiction in which the recipient usually resides to make arrangements for the transport.

The second scenario involves situations where the recipient is not discharged from the first hospital nor admitted to the second hospital as an inpatient. Instead, the recipient merely receives a procedure not available at the first hospital (e.g., PET scan) and then returns on the same day to the first hospital for continued inpatient care. In such a case, the transportation is a covered hospital service and is reimbursed as such under the appropriate revenue code. Because the transportation is not a covered service under the Transportation Grant, the sending hospital should not contact the local jurisdiction to arrange for the transport.

If you have any questions regarding this transmittal, please call the Transportation staff specialist at 410-767-1739 or the Hospital Program staff specialist at 410-767-1722.