

**Department of Human Services
Division of Aging Services
Office of Community Choice Options**

**Enhanced At-Risk Criteria Screening Tool (EARC-PAS)
FACT SHEET**

- ✓ **Target population for the EARC-PAS:** Individuals in an **acute (non-psychiatric) hospital setting** who are entering a Medicaid Certified Nursing Facility, or Special Care Nursing Facility Ventilator Unit, with an expectation of billing NJ Medicaid for all or part of the stay because they are:
 - Medicaid eligible, and **not enrolled** with a NJ Medicaid Managed Care Organization (MCO)
 - Pending Medicaid Spend down (those within the 180 day spend down period) and **not enrolled** with an MCO.

- ✓ **The EARC-PAS Screening Tool, once authorized, is valid for 10 days and serves as a 90 day authorization for Nursing Facility (NF) placement. Medicaid payment may be contingent upon full clinical and financial eligibility within 90 days of admission to the NF as per N.J.A.C. 8:85-1.8(b). MCO assessment or OCCO on-site PAS is required to establish clinical eligibility for Nursing Facility Level of Care (NF LOC).**

PROVIDER RESPONSIBILITIES

- ✓ Determine if an individual is Medicaid eligible by checking REVS or MEVS and enrolled in a NJ Medicaid MCO.
 - Any question related to an MCO member's coverage should be directed to the MCO.
 - The MCO should be contacted for authorization for NF placement.
 - Work with the MCO to coordinate services for dual-eligible MCO members.

- ✓ Provide Options Counseling to any individual/legal representative seeking NF placement via the EARC-PAS process prior to submitting for OCCO Review to ensure understanding of the Medicaid financial and clinical eligibility process required for Medicaid payment.

- ✓ The NF is responsible for alerting OCCO of all admissions via the Notification from Long-Term Care Facility (LTC-2) form upon admission to the facility.

OCCO RESPONSIBILITIES

- ✓ OCCO **will not** review an EARC-PAS or conduct an on-site PAS evaluation for individual's currently enrolled with a NJ Medicaid MCO.

- ✓ OCCO will review an EARC-PAS (LTC-34) following completion of the PASRR Level I (LTC-26) when negative, or when the PASRR Level I is positive and a 30-day exempted hospital discharge is requested or the PASRR Level II outcome indicates no need for Specialized Services.
 - Any EARC-PAS with an incomplete PASRR Level I or Level II outcome will be dismissed and a new EARC-PAS required when above PASRR outcome is met.

MCO RESPONSIBILITIES

- ✓ MCO is responsible for authorizations and payment of services rendered to their members in a NF/SCNF for Sub-Acute or Custodial care.