RICK SNYDER GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS MICHIGAN ADMINISTRATIVE HEARING SYSTEM

SHELLY EDGERTON



Date Mailed: April 3, 2018 MAHS Docket No.: 17-017019

Agency No.:

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: Lynn M. Ferris

HEARING DECISION

Following Petitioner's request for a hearing, this matter is before the undersigned Administrative Law Judge pursuant to MCL 400.9 and 400.37; 7 CFR 273.15 to 273.18; 42 CFR 431.200 to 431.250; 42 CFR 438.400 to 438.424; 45 CFR 99.1 to 99.33; and 45 CFR 205.10; and Mich Admin Code, R 792.11002. After due notice, a telephone hearing was held on March 22, 2018, from Detroit, Michigan. The Petitioner was represented by himself. The Department of Health and Human Services (Department) was represented by

ISSUE

Did the Department properly close the Petitioner's Medical Assistance benefits for the Healthy Michigan Plan (HMP)?

FINDINGS OF FACT

The Administrative Law Judge, based on the competent, material, and substantial evidence on the whole record, finds as material fact:

- 1. The Petitioner was sent a redetermination for his Medical Assistance on October 4, 2017 which was due to be returned on November 3, 2017. Exhibit B.
- 2. The Department did not receive the redetermination by the due date or any time thereafter.
- 3. The Department issued a Health Care Coverage Determination Notice on November 17, 2017 closing the Petitioner's Medical Assistance for the HMP program effective December 1, 2017, ongoing for the reason that he failed to return the redetermination.

4. The Petitioner requested on December 26, 2017 protesting the Department's actions closing his case.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Department policies are contained in the Department of Health and Human Services Bridges Administrative Manual (BAM), Department of Health and Human Services Bridges Eligibility Manual (BEM), Department of Health and Human Services Reference Tables Manual (RFT), and Department of Health and Human Services Emergency Relief Manual (ERM).

The Medical Assistance (MA) program is established by Title XIX of the Social Security Act, 42 USC 1396-1396w-5; 42 USC 1315; the Affordable Care Act of 2010, the collective term for the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, Pub. L. No. 111-148, as amended by the Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act of 2010, Pub. L. No. 111-152; and 42 CFR 430.10-.25. The Department (formerly known as the Department of Human Services) administers the MA program pursuant to 42 CFR 435, MCL 400.10, and MCL 400.105-.112k.

In this case, the Department closed the Petitioner's Medical Assistance when it did not receive the redetermination that was sent to him on October 4, 2017. The Department never received a redetermination from the Petitioner. The Department had no record of receiving a redetermination document from the Petitioner. The Petitioner testified that he mailed the redetermination on October 24, 2018; however, had no proof of mailing the document and sending in an envelope he addressed himself.

A complete redetermination/renewal is required at least every 12 months. Bridges sets the redetermination/renewal date according to benefit periods. Benefits stop at the end of the benefit period **unless** a renewal is completed **and** a new benefit period is certified. Also, the renewal month is 12 months from the **date the most recent complete application was submitted.** BAM 210, p. 3

Verifications are due the same date as the redetermination/review interview. When an interview is not required, verifications are due the date the packet is due.

Bridges allows clients a full 10 calendar days from the date the verification is requested (date of request is not counted) to provide all documents and information. If the tenth day falls on a weekend or holiday, the verification would not be due until the next business day.

MAGI Medicaid beneficiaries have 30 calendar days to return the pre-populated renewal form. BAM 210 (January 2018), p. 16.

At renewal if an individual is required to return a pre-populated renewal form, allow 30 calendar days for the form to be returned.

At application, renewal, ex parte review, or other change, explain to the client/authorized representative the availability of your assistance in obtaining needed information. Extension may be granted when the following exists:

- The customer/authorized representative need to make the request. An extension should not automatically be given.
- The need for the extension and the reasonable efforts taken to obtain the verifications are documented.
- Every effort by the department was made to assist the client in obtaining verifications.

Verifications are considered to be timely if received by the date they are due. For electronically transmitted verifications (fax, email or MI Bridges document upload), the date of the transmission is the receipt date.

Send a case action notice when:

- The client indicates refusal to provide a verification, or
- The time period given has elapsed. BAM 130 (January 2016), p. 8-9.

Based upon the fact that no redetermination was received and no proof of mailing was offered in evidence, the Department correctly closed the Petitioner's Medical Assistance (HMP).

The Petitioner may reapply for medical assistance at any time.

The Administrative Law Judge, based on the above Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, and for the reasons stated on the record, if any, finds that the Department acted in accordance with Department policy when it closed the Petitioner's HMP Medical Assistance case for failure to return the verification.

DECISION AND ORDER

Accordingly, the Department's decision is **AFFIRMED**.

LF/tm

Lynn M. Ferris

Administrative Law Judge for Nick Lyon, Director

M. Jenis

Department of Health and Human Services

NOTICE OF APPEAL: A party may appeal this Order in circuit court within 30 days of the receipt date. A copy of the circuit court appeal must be filed with the Michigan Administrative Hearing System (MAHS).

A party may request a rehearing or reconsideration of this Order if the request is received by MAHS within 30 days of the date the Order was issued. The party requesting a rehearing or reconsideration must provide the specific reasons for the request. MAHS will not review any response to a request for rehearing/reconsideration.

A written request may be mailed or faxed to MAHS. If submitted by fax, the written request must be faxed to (517) 335-6088; Attention: MAHS Rehearing/Reconsideration Request.

If submitted by mail, the written request must be addressed as follows:

Michigan Administrative Hearings Reconsideration/Rehearing Request P.O. Box 30639 Lansing, Michigan 48909-8139

