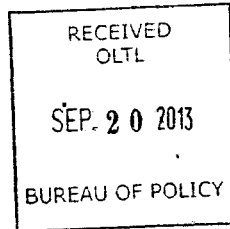




# 3019

**Specialty Hospital**

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2545 Schoenersville Road  
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14-535-6

September 19, 2013

Dept of Public Welfare  
Office of Long-Term Living  
Bureau of Policy and Regulatory Management  
P.O. Box 8025  
Harrisburg, Pa 17805-8025

ATT: Marilyn Yocum

I am writing to request that you consider providing a stipend to the Medicaid reimbursement for nursing homes that accept ventilator/trach patients. As a care manager in Long Term Acute Care (LTACH), I am responsible for discharge planning for complex cases including many ventilator patients who are unable to be weaned in the acute setting. Options of placement are very limited for these medically complex patients, and require facilities to have appropriate trained staff (nursing and respiratory therapy) in addition to pulmonologists on consult; as well as high cost supplies for ventilators/oxygen/disposable equipment.

I have worked closely with several facilities including Fox Subacute and have always had professional/courteous and prompt response to referrals. Fox works to help transition these patients from acute care, and also work with distraught families to help with adjustment to long term care and to make future care decisions.

~~Some states have no long term vent facilities due to cost of care/limited reimbursement,~~ therefore placement becomes a "nightmare" for patients/families residing in those states. It would be unfortunate to loose any referral options from the few vent capable long term care facilities that are located in Pennsylvania due to reduced funding. Your prompt attention to this matter would be most appreciated

Sincerely,

Charlene Rauch RN/caremanager (phone 484-884-5010)

2013 SEP 23 PM 3:27

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