

**2580 – SSI RECIPIENT TEMPORARILY IN A NURSING HOME**

<b>POLICY STATEMENT</b>	Section 9115 of the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act amended the Social Security Act to entitle certain SSI individuals to retain their income for the month of admission to a nursing home (NH) and the following three full months.
<b>BASIC CONSIDERATIONS</b>	<p>The SSI recipient must provide SSA with physician certification that the NH confinement should last no more than 90 days. S/he must also show a need to pay outside expenses to maintain their private living arrangements until s/he returns home.</p> <p>The NH and SSI recipients are responsible for providing the physician certification and documentation of living expenses to the Social Security Administration (SSA).</p> <p>The SSI recipient's income is not considered in determining patient liability for the month of admission and the following three full months in the NH.</p>
<b>PROCEDURES</b>	<p>Treat all SSI recipients entering a NH according to standard policy UNLESS written documentation from SSA identifies the individual as temporarily in an institution (LA-D).</p> <p>Follow the steps below to authorize a NH vendor payment if documentation is provided in writing by SSA to verify that the SSI recipient is temporarily in the NH.</p> <p><b>Step 1</b> Authorize the vendor payment to the NH. There is no patient liability for the month of admission and the following three months. Refer to Section 2576, Vendor Payment Authorization.</p> <p><b>Step 2</b> Generate an alert to review the case toward the end of the third full month of the SSI recipient's NH confinement.</p> <p><b>Step 3</b> If the individual remains in the NH in the fourth month after the month of admission, determine patient liability according to regular policy and procedures.</p>