

## **A/C Reviews for Short Stays Permitted After Discharge**

The Department of Healthcare and Family Services and HSI are pleased to announce that beginning with admissions on or after January 1, 2006, hospitals may request an admission review after discharge for hospitalizations that are eligible for A/C review and for which the lengths of stay are three or fewer days. Review requests for these short-term stays will be accepted if the:

- Requests are submitted using our Web-based review request system, and if the
- Requests are submitted within seven days of discharge.

Under the current policy, we accept an admission review request only if a patient is hospitalized at the time the request is submitted. If a short-term stay occurs and the patient is admitted and discharged before we are notified, the record must be reviewed through the retrospective prepayment review process.

The revised policy affords hospitals a seven-day window during which the review requests may be submitted. By having these hospitalizations reviewed through the A/C process, the scope of the review is limited to a determination of the medical necessity of the admission and length of stay, and your hospital's claims are not suspended while awaiting full prepayment review by nurse reviewers.

As a reminder, this service enhancement is applicable for review requests for stays of three or fewer days when the participant is admitted and discharged and only if the requests are submitted via our Web-based review system within seven days of discharge.

If you have questions about the new policy, please call our Helpline at (800) 418-4045 or contact our Communications Specialist, Rose Serno, at (630) 317-5113.

**HealthSystems of Illinois, NFP**

2050-10 Finley Road, Lombard, Illinois 60148

Helpline: 1-800-418-4045

Phone: 630-317-5100 • Fax: 630-317-5101

Web Site: [www.HSofl.org](http://www.HSofl.org)