

SYNOPSIS

Rule 111-5-1-.05

Patient Selection and Referral

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE AND MAIN FEATURES OF PROPOSED RULE

The purpose of this proposed amendment is to amend existing rules by the elimination of unnecessary administrative burdens and to inject flexibility into program administration.

DIFFERENCES BETWEEN EXISTING AND PROPOSED RULES

Rule 111-5-1-.05(1) is amended by deleting selected language.

Rule 111-5-1-.05(2) is amended by deleting selected language.

111-5-1-.05 Patient Selection and Referral.

(1) ~~The Department shall be responsible for determining an applicant's financial eligibility and the patient referral process for participation in the Program.~~ The Department may, in its discretion, delegate the responsibility for determining the applicant's financial eligibility ~~and patient referral~~ process to a Health Care Provider. In the event that the Department makes such a designation, the Health Care Provider shall make the financial eligibility determinations and patient referrals in accordance with Ga. Admin. Comp. Ch. 111-5-1-.06 and shall only utilize Volunteers in the manner prescribed in Ga. Admin. Comp. Ch. 111-5-1-.04 for making financial eligibility determinations and patient referrals.

(2) ~~The Department shall be responsible for the referral of Patients to Health Care Providers except in those instances in which the Department has delegated the responsibility of determining financial eligibility and making patient referrals to the Health Care Provider as described in Paragraph 1 of this Rule.~~ Health Care Providers shall be required to accept all referrals unless the Contract between the Department and the Health Care Provider(s) authorizes a specific limit on the number of Patients that may be referred to a Health Care Provider.

(3) Neither the Department nor its designees may refer a Patient to a Health Care Provider unless a determination has been made that the Patient is eligible to participate in the Program.

(4) If a Patient has been referred by the Department, neither the Health Care Provider nor the facility in which the Health Care is rendered shall be permitted to charge the Patient.

Authority O.C.G.A. § 31-8-194.