



**NACDEP**  
**National Coalition for Dually Eligible People**  
3315 Tulane Avenue  
New Orleans, Louisiana 70119

February 20, 2003

NACDEP improves access to home health services

For 104,000 dually eligible people in Louisiana.

**Louisiana Medicaid makes *Home Health Supervision*, CPT Code G0181,  
a payable service for dually eligible people with Medicare and Medicaid  
following NACDEP's request.**

Dually eligible people use more home health services because they are older, poorer, sicker, and more disabled than non-dually eligible Medicare beneficiaries. They also have less family and caregiver support.

Previously, Louisiana Medicaid *denied* payment for Home Health Supervision, Code G0181, for dually eligible people. This decreased the total reimbursement for this service by 20% to 87%, and made it more difficult for dually eligible people to obtain this Medicare-approved service.

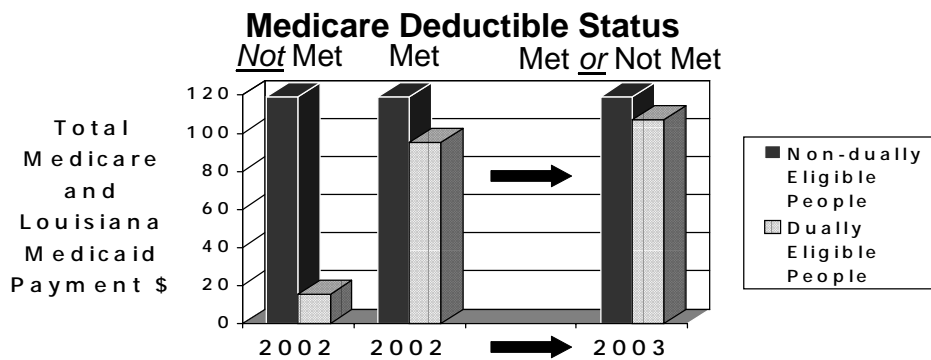
In response to our request to restore payment for this service, Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals has agreed to make Home Health Supervision an *allowable service* in 2003 and pay this service at the Medicare rate, almost.

Although not yet equal to the payment for a non-dually eligible Medicare beneficiary, the restoration of this single Medicare-Medicaid crossover payment marks the beginning of the road that will turn healthcare disparity into healthcare equality for 104,000 dually eligible people in Louisiana.

Medicare pays for three pillars of community health care for dually eligible people — the physician's office, the hospital, and home health — while Medicaid pays for the single pillar of nursing home care.

Home health services help dually eligible people live in the *Medicare-supported* community and out of an expensive *Louisiana Medicaid-supported* nursing home. By helping dually eligible people stay in the Medicare-sponsored community the Louisiana treasury saves Medicaid nursing home dollars.

From Disparity **➔** To (Almost) Equality  
 Dually Eligible People and  
Home Health Supervision — Code G0181



*Congratulations to Louisiana Medicaid!*

In 2002, with the Medicare deductible *not* met the total payment for this service was only 13% of the Medicare “allowed charge.”

In 2002, with the Medicare deductible met the total payment for this service was 80% of the allowed charge.

Beginning in 2003 the total payment for this service will be approximately 90%, regardless of the Medicare deductible status.

--- Sheldon Hersh, MD