

Karen House, Administrator for the Office of
Client and Community Services/Healthy Kids

Authorized Signature

Number: SS-IM-12-070

Issue Date: 12/14/2012

Topic: Medical Benefits

Subject: Pursuing Assets procedure update for medical programs –
Unemployment Compensation

Applies to (check all that apply):

- | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | All DHS employees | <input type="checkbox"/> | County Mental Health Directors |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Area Agencies on Aging | <input type="checkbox"/> | Health Services |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Children, Adults and Families | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Seniors and People with Disabilities |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | County DD Program Managers | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Other (please specify): CAF SSP
transmittal group |

Message: At the request of field staff, and to align more closely with TANF policy, the policy in medical programs for determining when an individual has met the requirement to pursue UC has been revised.

- Effective immediately, eligibility workers can accept the client's statement that they have applied for UC benefits;
- This applies to potential UC claims within Oregon and from another state;
- Pursuing UC means applying for UC and, if eligible, meeting the Employment Department work search (or other) requirements;
- The eligibility worker can assume the individual will continue to follow through with the Employment Department's requirements and consider the client to have met the requirement to pursue UC;
- If it is later discovered the client did not follow through with meeting the Employment Department's requirements, after considering good cause, it may be necessary to end their medical benefits.

Example: *Dave and his children apply for medical benefits. Dave has a potential UC claim and is pended to pursue this claim. Dave contacts the worker and indicates he has applied for UC. Dave has met the pended requirement to pursue UC. Dave and his children meet all other eligibility requirements and are determined eligible for MAA. Two months later Dave files a SNAP application. Upon review of*

SNAP eligibility, the worker determines Dave did not continue pursuing his UC claim. The eligibility worker considers whether Dave has good cause not to pursue the UC claim by calling the client. The eligibility worker determines there is no good cause. Dave is sent a 10-day close notice and a [DHS 462A](#) to end his benefits. His children remain eligible for MAA.

Example: John is receiving OPU and reapplies for medical benefits. John has a potential UC claim and is pended to pursue this claim. John contacts the worker and indicates he has applied for UC. John has met the pended requirement to pursue UC. John meets all other eligibility requirements and is determined eligible for OPU. Two months later, John files a SNAP application. Upon review of SNAP eligibility, the worker determines John did not continue pursuing his UC claim. Whether or not John has good cause to not pursue the UC claim, his OPU benefits will continue through the remainder of his OPU eligibility period. At the next redetermination, evaluate whether or not John has a potential UC claim. If he does have a potential claim and does not have good cause not to pursue UC, consult with a medical policy analyst to determine what John will need to do to meet the requirements of pursuing UC.

Example: Anna and her children apply for medical benefits. The eligibility worker determines the family is eligible for MAA benefits except Anna has a potential UC claim. Anna tells the worker she is not going to apply for UC benefits. The worker determines Anna does not have a good cause reason to not apply for UC. Anna is sent a denial for failure to pursue assets and the children are opened to MAA.

Note: When the worker pends for pursuit of UC, the notice should include a statement directing the client to contact the worker if they have concerns about applying for UC. The following Notice Writer notices can be used when pending a client to apply for UC: GSUCPDA and GS0UCPD.

For more information about pursuit of UC policy, see the Family Services Manual (FSM) [Medical Chapter](#). The FSM will be updated to reflect this procedure change effective December 14, 2012.

If you have any questions about this policy, contact:

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