

(2) EXCEPT AS OTHERWISE PROVIDED IN THIS TITLE:

(I) PAYMENT FOR THIS COST OF CARE SHALL BE MADE BY THE RECIPIENT OF SERVICES OR A CHARGEABLE PERSON; AND

(II) THEIR LIABILITY FOR THIS PAYMENT IS JOINT AND SEVERAL.

(3) LIABILITY MAY NOT BE IMPOSED UNDER THIS TITLE ON ANY SPOUSE OR CHILD OF A RECIPIENT OF SERVICES, IF THE SPOUSE OR CHILD HAS BEEN ABANDONED BY THE RECIPIENT OF SERVICES. THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ADOPT RULES AND REGULATIONS THAT DEFINE ABANDONMENT FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS SUBSECTION.

(B) TIME AND AMOUNT.

(1) THE DEPARTMENT:

(I) SHALL SET THE TIME AND AMOUNT OF PAYMENTS; AND

(II) MAY CHANGE ITS ORDERS AS TO PAYMENTS, AS CIRCUMSTANCES MAY WARRANT.

(2) IN SETTING THE AMOUNT OF PAYMENTS, THE DEPARTMENT:

(I) SHALL CONSIDER THE FINANCIAL MEANS AND ABILITIES OF THE RECIPIENT OF SERVICES AND ANY CHARGEABLE PERSON; AND

(II) MAY AGREE TO ACCEPT LESS THAN THE CHARGES SET FOR THE SERVICES PROVIDED.

(C) LIABILITY FOR CONTINUOUS HOSPITALIZATION.

(1) IN THIS SUBSECTION, "CONTINUOUS HOSPITALIZATION" MEANS ALL HOSPITALIZATION WHERE EACH PERIOD OF INPATIENT CARE BEGINS WITHIN 1 YEAR AFTER THE LAST PERIOD OF INPATIENT CARE ENDED.

(2) IF PAYMENT HAS BEEN MADE FOR THE FIRST 30 MONTHS OF CONTINUOUS HOSPITALIZATION, THE LIABILITY OF A CHARGEABLE PERSON FOR CARE OF THE RECIPIENT OF SERVICES AFTER THAT PERIOD MAY NOT EXCEED THE GREATER OF:

(I) THE SUM OF ANY PROCEEDS OF APPLICABLE INSURANCE, GROUP HEALTH PLAN, OR PREPAID MEDICAL CARE THAT THE INSURER OR PLAN PAYS BECAUSE OF LIABILITY FOR THE PAYMENT OF OR REPAYMENT FOR THE COST OF CARE PROVIDED TO THE RECIPIENT OF SERVICES; OR

(II) 15 PERCENT OF THE CHARGES FOR SERVICES SET UNDER § 16-201 OF THIS SUBTITLE.