

Department of Health and Human Services

**OFFICE OF
INSPECTOR GENERAL**

**PAYMENTS FOR SERVICES TO
DECEASED RECIPIENTS -
MINNESOTA**



JANET REHNQUIST
Inspector General

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A-05-02-00068

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REGION V
OFFICE OF
INSPECTOR GENERAL

February 18, 2003

Report Number A-05-02-00068

Kevin Goodno
Commissioner
Minnesota Department of Human Services
444 Lafayette Road North
St. Paul, Minnesota 55155-3815

Dear Mr. Goodno:

This letter provides you with the results of our audit of Medicaid payments for services provided after death. The objective of the audit was to determine if payments were made for medical services provided after the recipients' death. Our review was conducted in accordance with generally accepted government auditing standards.

For the period October 1, 1998 through September 30, 2001, we identified recipients who were Medicaid eligible and deceased. We determined the amounts paid for services provided during the period including the month after their death through January 2002. We then reviewed a statistical sample of 200 claims to determine the amount of overpayments. From the sample of 200 claims, we found only one claim that was not identified as an overpayment and recovered. We apprised State agency officials of this claim and they made the appropriate adjustment.

Based on the above results, we concluded that the State agency had procedures in place to ensure that payments related to payments for services provided after the death of a recipient were recovered. Accordingly, we determined that there were no reportable weaknesses in this area.

If you have any comments or concerns, please contact Leon Siverhus at (312) 353-7907. To facilitate identification, please refer to Report Number A-05-02-00068 in all correspondence related to this letter.

We appreciate the courtesies extended our audit staff during the course of the review.

Sincerely,

Paul Swanson
Regional Inspector General
for Audit Services

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

This report was prepared under the direction of Paul Swanson. Other principal Office of Audit Services staff who contributed include:

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