

Date: 27/01/2021

Note: 415 - 35

For the Attention of Service Providers

Subject: Dealing with the Corona Virus - Appeal to Caregivers

Dear Caregivers, Hello,

Over the past year we have all been experiencing an ongoing emergency routine as a result of the spread of the corona virus.

The population which is entitled to the nursing benefits for which you are caregivers has been defined as a 'population at risk' and they have been forced to cope with social isolation and keeping distance from those who are closest to them.

You, the nursing benefit caregivers, have been recognized as essential workers and have been there throughout the entire period; you have endeavored to go to the homes of those who are eligible; to provide high-quality care in complex situations and help to alleviate the loneliness that characterizes this period - and for that we would like to say 'thank you' and express our appreciation.

Presently, with the expansion of the vaccination campaign, there is reason for hope and optimism that we will be able to once again live our lives normally.

During the period of the corona virus the National Insurance Institute has enabled those who are entitled to nursing benefit to receive the benefit in cash for a limited period of time, due to the fear of being infected with the virus. The vaccination campaign which is being administered by the Ministry of Health has given precedence and priority to senior citizens and home caregivers to receive the vaccine and, accordingly, we wish to inform you that as of 1.4.2021 it will not be possible to receive a nursing benefit in cash due to the fear of the corona virus.

In order to implement this decision and to once again be able to return to the routine of providing full care services at home and in day-care centers, we are appealing to you and requesting that you, the caregivers - for your sake and for the sake of your patients - please go and get vaccinated! The objective of the vaccine is to significantly reduce the morbidity and contagion of the virus and protect at-risk populations.

Wishing you good health and a quick return to routine,

Orna Zamir

Director of the Nursing Division

Copies:

Ms. Orna Varkovitzki - Deputy Director General of Benefits, The National Insurance Institute

Haim Fitoussi - Spokesman for the National Insurance Institute

Tzipi Nachshon Glick - Director of the Division for Senior Citizens, Ministry of Welfare

Heads of Nursing Departments in the branches

Nursing Division