

Overview: Colbert Dementia Review

Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services (HFS)



What is a Colbert Dementia Review?

Colbert Dementia Reviews are document based clinical reviews for Cook County nursing facility residents (referred to as Class Members under the Colbert Consent Decree) who have been identified as someone who may potentially have an “severe dementia or other clinically significant and progressed cognitive disorder that is unlikely to improve” which is considered an exclusionary condition.

During the clinical review, using documents provided by the individual’s nursing facility, a qualified clinician, will verify the presence of a major neurocognitive diagnosis, and consider factors such as disease stage or severity, data from available neurological/psychological testing, functional assessments and/or cognitive evaluations/screens, as well as current and historical symptoms, behaviors, medications, etc. All determinations will be reviewed by physician. Mailed outcome letters will indicate whether or not a severe dementia, unlikely to improve, was found and whether or not the person has been excluded from future Prime Agency transition services.

The Colbert Consent Decree

In Illinois, the Colbert v. Pritzker lawsuit claimed that people were living in nursing homes in Cook County, when they could live in the community, which violates the Americans with Disabilities Act and the Rehabilitation Act. Through this settlement and ongoing Colbert Consent Decree, the State agreed to provide supports and services to help Class Members move to and live in the community, in the most integrated setting that meets their needs. However certain provisions do allow for exclusionary conditions, such as a severe dementia unlikely to improve. Class Members are Medicaid eligible adults who are residing in a Cook County Nursing Facility and who are, or who may be, unnecessarily confined and may be able to live in the community with the right supports and services. Additional information on the Colbert Consent Decree can be found here: <https://www.dhs.state.il.us/page.aspx?item=136629>

To be in the Colbert/Williams program, contact the agency assigned to the Cook County nursing facility. This can be done by a Class Members, family, friends, or the general public. To find the right agency, contact IDHS. Call 1.312.814.3784 or email: DHS.ColbertDecree@illinois.gov or DHS.WilliamsConsentDecree@illinois.gov.

Primary Outcomes of the Dementia Exclusionary Review Include:

- 1) Exclusionary Criteria is Met** - meaning the information made available during the Dementia Review supports the presence of a dementia/major Neurocognitive Disorder (NCD) diagnosis and the person clinically presents with severe disease which is unlikely to improve. This also means the person will be excluded from any further Prime Agency services related to assessment and potential transition to the community/Permanent Supportive Housing. This is an appealable decision.
- 2) Exclusionary Criteria is Not Met** - meaning the information made available during the Dementia Review indicated no major NCD only mild NCD, or the information provided was insufficient to allow for a conclusive determination. This also means the person will continue to receive Prime Agency services related to assessment and potential transition to the community/Permanent Supportive Housing.

Information needed by Maximus to establish an exclusionary criteria:

