Stakeholder Update: COVID 19

Medicaid and CHIP Services
April 23, 2020
COVID-19 Response

Where we are:
• Rapidly changing situation
• Response is iterative
• Review what’s implemented to date

Communication Channels

**Clients**
• [COVID section on HHS site](#)
• Health plan channels and providers

** Providers**
• [COVID section on HHS site](#)
• [COVID section on TMHP site](#)
• Health plan channels

+ Weekly calls

Submit questions to: [Medicaid_COVID_Questions@hhsc.state.tx.us](mailto:Medicaid_COVID_Questions@hhsc.state.tx.us)
Medicaid Updates

New COVID-19 Testing Group

- On April 16, 2020, HHSC submitted a disaster amendment to the Medicaid State Plan to Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services to provide coverage for individuals who:
  - Meet Medicaid citizenship or immigration status requirements;
  - Are uninsured; and
  - Do not have Medicaid, CHIP, or another form of minimum essential coverage health insurance.
Medicaid Updates - 2

New COVID-19 Testing Group (cont.)

• The proposed amendment includes:
  • Coverage of invitro COVID-19 diagnostic testing and administration of that testing.
  • This group is 100 percent federally-funded.
  • Is effective March 18, 2020 and expires at the end of the emergency period.
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Flexibilities Extended through May

• HHSC has extended several flexibilities granted in light of COVID-19 through May.

• For specific information on what has been extended please see the following webpages:
  • HHS Provider (PL) and Information (IL) letters (http://apps.hhs.texas.gov/providers/communications/letters.cfm).
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Texas Health Steps Medical and Dental Checkups

- HHSC is suspending managed care contractual obligations requiring MCOs and DMOs to ensure children and youth receive checkups within 90 days for new members, or 364 days for existing members.

- HHSC is suspending requirements for MCOs and DMOs to identify and provide outreach to children of migrant farmworkers.
Stakeholder Updates

• Regulatory Services Update
Thank You!

Next update:
April 30, 2020