



Stakeholder Update: COVID 19

**Medicaid and CHIP Services
May 21, 2020**



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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





Stakeholder Updates

Regulatory Services Update

- New CMS memo for nursing homes: QSO-20-30-NH
- **Updates:** Assisted Living Facilities COVID-19 Response Plan
- **Suspended:** Medicaid nursing home bed deallocation
- **New HHSC guidance:**
 - FAQ on testing initiative
 - Personal Assistance Services Infection Control Tool
 - “Helping Individuals With Intellectual Disabilities and Related Conditions Prevent the Spread of COVID-19”



Stakeholder Updates (2)

Regulatory Services Update

- **Webinars:**
 - PPE extended through June 2020
 - Weekly FAQ webinars
- Hurricane season begins June 1



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Medicaid Updates

June Waiver Extensions

- HHSC is extending level of care assessments and individual service plans (ISPs) for 90 days for individuals enrolled in the following waiver programs who have ISPs expiring through June 30, 2020:
 - Medically Dependent Children's Program (MDCP)
 - STAR+PLUS Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) program





Medicaid Updates (2)

June Waiver Extensions

- The extension also applies to any level of care assessments and service plans that were previously extended in March 2020.
- HHSC continues to explore extensions for other waiver programs.



Medicaid Updates (3)

Teleassessments

- HHSC is allowing managed care organizations (MCOs) to conduct initial MDCP and STAR+PLUS HCBS waiver assessments via telehealth (audio + visual).
- HHSC is not allowing reassessments via telehealth in order to comply with federal law.





Medicaid Updates (4)

Teleassessments

- MCOs will continue to:
 - Conduct service coordination and service planning via telephone or telehealth.
 - Contact members whose level of care or ISP has been extended to help ensure the extended ISP addresses their needs.





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Thank You!

**Next update:
May 28, 2020**