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MARYLAND MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

MCO Transmittal No. 219 Home Visiting Transmittal No. 2 LHD Transmittal No. 21 July 15, 2024

TO: Managed Care Organizations

Healthy Families America Home Visiting Programs Nurse-Family Partnership Home Visiting Programs

Local Health Departments

FROM: Sandra Kick, Director Suche E Kick

Office of Medical Benefits Management

RE: Superseding Guidance: Coverage of Home Visiting Services for HealthChoice

and Medicaid Fee-For-Service Enrollees

NOTE: Please ensure that appropriate staff members in your organization are

informed of the contents of this transmittal.

This transmittal updates and clarifies previous guidance in transmittal PT 35-22 for reimbursement for home visiting services (HVS). The transmittal includes the updated requirement that enrollment in Nurse Family Partnership (NFP) is limited to individuals with no previous live births. Additionally, the updated transmittal clarifies, in accordance with Healthy Families America (HFA) and NFP standards, that HVS visits are billable on a calendar week basis.

Effective January 13, 2022, Maryland Medicaid expanded coverage for evidence-based home visiting services to all Medicaid beneficiaries. Home visitors associated with one of two evidence-based models, HFA or NFP, will provide supportive services for pregnant individuals during pregnancy and childbirth, as well as support for parents and children during the postpartum period. HVS providers deliver three kinds of supportive services: prenatal home visits, postpartum home visits, and infant home visits. Home visitors have experience in improving health outcomes for birthing parents and infants. Only HFA accredited and NFP programs meeting fidelity status may enroll with Medicaid to administer home visiting services.

Enrollee Eligibility Criteria

To be eligible to receive HVS, Medicaid participants must:

- Receive services through a HealthChoice Managed Care Organization (MCO) or be enrolled in Fee-For-Service Medicaid; and
- Be pregnant or infant must be younger than 90 days old at the time of enrollment.

Additionally, enrollment in NFP is limited to individuals with no previous live births.

Referral Requirements

A health care professional or an MCO may refer HealthChoice enrollees to HVS; however, a referral is not required for participation. A physician, or other licensed clinician, such as a social worker, nurse practitioner or local health department worker may also refer Medicaid enrollees for HVS. Prior authorization is not required for HVS through an MCO's provider network.

MCO Referrals and Reimbursement to Medicaid-enrolled HVS Providers

MCOs must allow their network providers to refer eligible individuals directly to in-network HVS providers. MCOs should track members who enroll with a HVS provider to ensure they have adequate capacity to serve the eligible population. Through the contracting process, MCOs may require HVS providers to provide notification back to the MCO when a member enrolls in their program.

<u>HealthChoice and Fee-For-Service Reimbursement Methodology for In-Person and Virtual HVS</u>

Qualifying home visits will be reimbursed at \$188 per home visit through the Fee-for-Service program.

MCOs must reimburse contracted HVS providers at a rate no lower than the fee-for-service rate for a home visit.

Participating HVS providers must use the appropriate CPT code and modifiers when submitting claims for reimbursement. The reimbursement timeframe differs between models and is contingent upon Medicaid eligibility. If enrolled in HFA, a participant is eligible for services from the date of acceptance into the program until the child reaches the age of three. If enrolled in NFP, a participant is eligible for services from the date of intake into the program until the child reaches the age of two. These age limits are standards set by the respective evidence-based models.

HVS providers may bill for services, typically delivered on a calendar week basis (Sunday through Saturday), using one of the codes specified in Table 1 below. For example, a participant may receive services on Wednesday of one calendar week, and then receive the next service on Sunday of the following week. This is contingent upon the needs of the family and the evidence-based model requirements themselves. HVS providers are to follow HFA and NFP national guidance and Best Practice Standards for visit cadence.

Per HFA and NFP guidelines, exceptions allowing more than one visit per calendar week can be made in specific instances, such as for a family in crisis.

When home visits begin in the prenatal period, the birthing parent will need to be enrolled with Medicaid, as they are the primary Medicaid participant of the service until the child is born. When home visits begin after an infant is born, during the postpartum period, but within the model's required starting date parameters, the infant will need to be enrolled with Medicaid, as they become the primary individual after birth.

If multiple children are enrolled with the same caregiver (i.e., twins), separate visits can be billed for each unique child under their individual Medicaid Identification Number.

Table 1. Medicaid Home Visiting Services Reimbursement Methodology for Minimum Payment

for Home Visits Rendered In-person or Via Telehealth

CPT Code and Descriptio n	Payment (per unit rate)	Place of Service Description	Place of Service Code	Modifier
99600 - Home Visit, non- specific	\$188	Home visit in home	4/12	None
99600	\$188	Home visit in community	99	None
99600	\$188	Home visit via telehealth	12	GT

<u>Limitations</u>: Providers may only bill the 99600 codes once per calendar week, in accordance with the national HFA and NFP standards.

HVS Provider Enrollment and Conditions of Participation

Eligible HVS providers may now enroll in Maryland Medicaid. HVS providers who have received either (1) a designation of fully accredited by the HFA National Program Office or (2) the designation of fidelity by the NFP National Program Office are eligible to enroll as "HVS provider" type through the electronic Provider Revalidation and Enrollment Portal (ePREP). To enroll as an HVS provider, please visit eprep.health.maryland.gov. Individual home visitors are not eligible to enroll as an HVS provider.

For more information about Home Visiting provider enrollment, please refer to the Home Visiting Program Information for Providers webpage at https://health.maryland.gov/mmcp/medicaid-mch-initiatives/Pages/Home-Visiting-Services-Program-Information-for-Providers.aspx

Please direct questions regarding Maryland's Home Visiting Services or provider qualifications at mdh.medicaidmch@maryland.gov.