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Healthy Texas Women 1115 Demonstration

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Healthy Texas Women (HTW) 1115 Demonstration

- Goals of the demonstration
- HTW Plus amendment
- Network adequacy
- House Bill (H.B.) 133
- Evaluation design plan
- Public comment



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Goals of the Demonstration (1 of 2)

The goals and objectives of the Healthy Texas Women (HTW) demonstration are to:

- Increase access to women's health and family planning services to avert unintended pregnancies, positively affect the outcome of future pregnancies, and positively impact the health and well-being of women and their families.
- Increase access to preventive health care, including screening and treatment for hypertension, diabetes and high cholesterol; to positively impact maternal health; and reduce maternal mortality.
- Increase access to women's breast and cervical cancer services to promote early cancer detection.



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Goals of the Demonstration (2 of 2)

The goals and objectives of the Healthy Texas Women (HTW) demonstration are to:

- Implement the state policy to favor childbirth and family planning services that do not include elective abortions or the promotion of elective abortions within the continuum of care or services and to avoid the direct or indirect use of state funds to promote or support elective abortions.
- Reduce the overall cost of publicly funded health care (including federally funded health care) by providing low-income Texans access to safe, effective services consistent with these goals.



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HTW Plus Amendment (1 of 2)

- In accordance with Senate Bill 750, 86th Legislature, Regular Session, 2019, HHSC submitted a request to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), seeking to amend the Healthy Texas Women 1115 Demonstration to add an enhanced, cost-effective, and limited postpartum care services package.



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HTW Plus Amendment (2 of 2)

- The enhanced postpartum care services package, called Healthy Texas Women Plus, was initially implemented using state funds on September 1, 2020.
- HHSC submitted a demonstration amendment to CMS seeking federal matching funds in December 2020 with a requested approval date by April 2021.
 - The demonstration amendment is pending with CMS.



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Network Adequacy (1 of 2)

- As described in the Special Terms and Conditions of the HTW Demonstration's Implementation Plan¹, in Demonstration Year 2 the HTW Annual Monitoring Report included new network adequacy benchmarks.
 - HHSC established benchmarks using Demonstration Year 1 (DY1) statewide summary data for each county type (Micro, Metro, and Rural)
- HTW network adequacy measures the distance of HTW clients from at least two active primary care providers (PCP) and one pharmacy provider

¹ Healthy Texas Women 1115 Waiver Special Terms and Conditions, Attachment E:
<https://www.hhs.texas.gov/sites/default/files/documents/laws-regulations/policies-rules/1115-waiver/HTW/cms-htw-1115-stcs.pdf>



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Network Adequacy (2 of 2)

Current outreach strategies to recruit new providers:

- Texas Medicaid & Healthcare Partnership (TMHP) phone and email outreach to uncertified or inactive HTW providers
- Collaborating with Medicaid managed care organizations (MCOs) in targeted areas to recruit more providers
- Surveying MCOs for suggestions to improve network adequacy
- Distributing outreach and recruitment materials to provider associations



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House Bill (H.B.) 133 (1 of 4)

House Bill 133 (87th Legislature, Regular Session, 2021)

- HHSC is implementing House Bill (HB) 133, 87th Legislature, Regular Session, 2021, which requires HHSC seek federal approval for two initiatives that impact the HTW 1115 demonstration:
 - Contract with Medicaid MCOs to provide HTW program services.



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House Bill (H.B.) 133 (2 of 4)

- Extend Medicaid postpartum coverage for an additional four months, which means that when the extended postpartum coverage period is implemented, eligible women will transition to HTW six months after their pregnancy.
- Eligible women will then receive HTW Plus services for the first six months of their HTW 12-month certification period total of 12 months of enhanced postpartum coverage.



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H.B. 133 (3 of 4)



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Component	Implementation & HTW Impact	Timing
Postpartum eligibility extension	<p>HHSC will seek federal approval through an amendment to the 1115 Texas Healthcare Transformation and Quality Improvement Program (THTQIP) waiver.</p> <p>Women who receive six months extended Medicaid postpartum coverage will then receive six months of HTW Plus coverage.</p>	<p>HHSC will submit an 1115 waiver amendment to CMS in May 2022 for federal approval.</p>

H.B. 133 (4 of 4)



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Component	Implementation & HTW Impact	Timing
HTW managed care model	HHSC will seek federal approval through an amendment to the HTW 1115 Demonstration. HTW will be included in the STAR and CHIP managed care organization request for proposals (RFP).	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• RFP Posting: Q1 FY2023• Estimated Notice of Award: Q4 FY2023• Start of Operations: Q4 FY2024

HTW Evaluation Design

- Purpose: Provide insight into whether Texas met the goals of the HTW demonstration
- Main components:
 - Access to and utilization of covered services
 - Women's health and pregnancy outcomes
 - Effective use of public funds
 - Impact of provider eligibility criteria
- Approved by CMS December 15, 2021
- Contracted with external evaluator March 2022



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Additional Information

- Waiver application and approval documents are posted on the HHSC Healthy Texas Women 1115 Waiver webpage: bit.ly/HTW1115
- HHSC will update this webpage with information about future waiver amendments and public forums.



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Public comment

HHSC will now take public comments

- Oral comments provided virtually: Members of the public pre-registered to provide oral comments virtually during this forum by completing the Public Comment Registration form.
- Written comments were accepted until 5:00 p.m. Tuesday, June 7, 2022.
- Oral comments provided in-person.



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Thank you

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