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Healthy Texas Women 1115 Demonstration

**Post Award Forum
June 8, 2023**

Healthy Texas Women (HTW) 1115 Demonstration

Agenda

- Goals of the Demonstration
- Amendments Update
- End of Continuous Medicaid Coverage
- Provider Recruitment
- Evaluation Design
- Additional Information
- Public Comment



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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Amendments Update: Senate Bill (S.B.) 750 (1 of 2)



HTW Plus Amendment



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



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Amendments Update: S.B. 750 (2 of 2)



HTW Plus Amendment

- ➔ The enhanced postpartum care services package, called HTW 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 waiver amendment is pending with CMS.



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Amendments Update: HTW COVID-19 Amendment



HTW COVID Amendment

- ➔ Requested adding COVID-19 testing as a benefit as well as: Services for specimen collection, Viral testing, Antibody testing, and Telephonic visits.
- ➔ Submitted to CMS on July 15, 2020.
- ➔ The waiver amendment is pending with CMS.



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Amendments Update: House Bill (H.B.) 133 (1 of 3)



H.B. 133
87th
Legislature,
Regular
Session
2021

- ➔ HHSC is implementing H.B.133, which requires HHSC seek federal approval for two initiatives that impact the HTW 1115 demonstration:
- ➔ Contract with Medicaid managed care organizations (MCOs) to provide HTW program services.
- ➔ Extend Medicaid for Pregnant Women postpartum coverage an additional four months, meaning when implemented, eligible women will transition to HTW six months after their pregnancy.



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Amendments Update: H.B. 133 (2 of 3)



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Transition Healthy Texas Women to 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 MCO request for proposals (RFP):

- RFP Posted: December 7, 2022
- Estimated Notice of Award: Quarter (Q) 2 Fiscal Year (FY) 2024
- Start of Operations: Q2 FY2025



Carving into managed care is expected to improve continuity of care across a woman's life cycle and improve access to HTW services.

Amendments Update: H.B. 133 (3 of 3)



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Extend Medicaid Postpartum Coverage Period

- ➔ Requested to extend Medicaid postpartum coverage through six months, for eligible women. Women who receive six months extended Medicaid postpartum coverage would then receive six months of HTW Plus coverage.
- ➔ HHSC submitted an amendment to the 1115 Texas Healthcare Transformation and Quality Improvement Program (THTQIP) waiver to CMS in May 2022.
- ➔ The waiver amendment is pending with CMS.

Amendments Update: Future Actions

- HTW carve-in to managed care.
- HTW waiver renewal; current waiver expires on December 31, 2024.



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End of Continuous Medicaid Coverage (1 of 2)

- Congress passed the 2023 Consolidated Appropriations Act, which separated the continuous Medicaid coverage requirement from the federal public health emergency.
- The continuous coverage requirement ended on March 31, 2023. Beginning April 1, 2023, states may disenroll members who are no longer eligible after a Medicaid redetermination.
- Texas is using a population-based staggered approach for redetermining eligibility. Members receiving continuous Medicaid coverage were assigned to one of three cohorts.
- Texas initiated the first cohort in April 2023 and will stagger initiating the remaining cohorts through September 2023.



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End of Continuous Medicaid Coverage (2 of 2)

- Members enrolled in HTW were continuously enrolled from March 2020 – March 31, 2023, in alignment with continuous Medicaid coverage requirements.
- Beginning on April 1, 2023, HHSC began the process of redetermining the eligibility for all individuals receiving Medicaid, including HTW, through the staggered approach.
- Women who were in continuous Medicaid coverage for Pregnant Women’s Medicaid and have completed their postpartum coverage period will be evaluated for HTW eligibility if they are not eligible for another Medicaid or CHIP program at the time of their eligibility redetermination in the staggered approach.



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Provider Recruitment

Current outreach strategies to recruit new providers:

- Texas Medicaid & Healthcare Partnership (TMHP) phone and email outreach campaign to recruit HTW eligible providers.
- Distributing outreach and recruitment materials to provider associations.



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External Evaluation (1 of 3)

- **Purpose:** Examine the state's progress on 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, and
 - Impact of provider eligibility criteria.



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External Evaluation (2 of 3)

- **Evaluation Design Plan:**
 - Approved by CMS in December 2021.
- **External Evaluator:**
 - Contract with University of Texas (UT) Health Science Center at Houston executed in March 2022.
- **Interim Evaluation Report:**
 - Draft prepared in December 2023.
- **Summative Evaluation Report:**
 - Draft prepared in June 2026.



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External Evaluation (3 of 3)

- HHSC, partners the University of Texas Health Science Center (UT Health) and Social Science Research Solutions (SSRS) are reviewing the HTW program:
 - Beneficiary surveys
 - Provider surveys



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Additional Information

- HHSC is evaluating legislation that passed from the 88th Texas legislative session that may impact the HTW 1115 waiver.
- The HTW 1115 Demonstration DY3 2022 Annual Report can be found here: [HTW 2022 Annual Monitoring Report \(texas.gov\)](#)
- HHSC will update the [HTW 1115 Demonstration web page](#) 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 6, 2023.
- Oral comments provided in-person.



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Thank you

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