



# **Stakeholder Update: COVID 19**

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**Medicaid and CHIP Services  
October 7, 2021**



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# Stakeholder Session Update

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- *Beginning May 6, 2021, HHSC will post pre-recorded sessions monthly.*
- *These sessions will continue to share information with stakeholders about the implementation of various Medicaid/CHIP flexibilities in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.*
- *HHSC may return to weekly sessions as needed if there are changes to the public health emergency.*





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# **Medicaid & CHIP Flexibilities**

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**Sarah Gonzaga, *Manager V***

**Medical Benefits – Management & Support**

# Medicaid & CHIP Flexibilities

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- Many Medicaid and CHIP flexibilities have been extended through **October 31, 2021**, unless the federal Public Health Emergency ends sooner.
  - HHSC will provide more information if there are changes.
- Other Medicaid and CHIP flexibilities have been extended through December 31, 2021 because they include teleservices that are being analyzed in alignment with House Bill 4.



# Medicaid & CHIP

## Flexibilities (cont.)

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**Information on the flexibilities and extensions can be found on the following webpages:**

- **TMHP Coronavirus (COVID-19) Information**  
(<http://www.tmhp.com/Pages/COVID-19/COVID-19-HOME.aspx>)
- **HHS Provider (PL) and Information (IL) letters**  
(<http://apps.hhs.texas.gov/providers/communications/letters.cfm>)
- **HHS Coronavirus (COVID-19) Provider Information**  
(<https://hhs.texas.gov/services/health/coronavirus-covid-19/medicaid-chip-services-information-providers>)



# COVID-19 Updates

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## **Additional Diagnosis Code for Monoclonal Antibody Therapy Administration Code M0243 – TMHP Notice Posted September 7, 2021**

- On July 30, 2021, the FDA revised the emergency use authorization (EUA) for REGEN-COV (casirivimab and imdevimab, administered together authorizing REGEN-COV for emergency use as post-exposure prophylaxis (prevention) for COVID-19 in adults and pediatric individuals (12 years of age or older weighing at least 40kg) who are at high risk for progression to severe COVID-19, including hospitalization or death.



# COVID-19 Updates (cont.)

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- Effective for dates of service on or after July 30, 2021, diagnosis code Z20822, indicating possible exposure to COVID-19, will be added as a payable diagnosis for procedure code M0243 for monoclonal antibody therapy administration.
- Affected claims submitted with dates of service from July 30, 2021, through August 12, 2021, will be reprocessed.
  - Providers may receive an additional payment, which will be reflected on future Remittance and Status Reports.





# COVID-19 Updates (cont.)

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- **For more information, call:**
  - The TMHP Contact Center at **800-925-9126** or
  - The TMHP-CSHCN Services Program Contact Center at **800-568-2413**.
- **Resources:** <https://www.tmhp.com/news/2021-09-07-additional-diagnosis-code-monoclonal-antibody-therapy-administration-code-m0243>





# COVID-19 Updates (cont.)

## COVID-19 Vaccine Administration Procedure Code M0201 Now a Benefit

- Notice posted to TMHP website September 16, 2021.
- Effective August 24, 2021, for dates of service on or after June 8, 2021, COVID-19 vaccine administration add-on procedure code M0201 is now a benefit of Medicaid and the Children with Special Health Care Needs (CSHCN) Services Program.



# COVID-19 Updates (cont.)

- Procedure code M0201 is an add-on procedure code for use when a COVID-19 vaccine is administered in the home setting and is the only service provided in the same home on the same date.
  - Procedure code M0201 must be billed with one other COVID-19 vaccine administration code (0001A, 0002A, 0003A, 0011A, 0012A, 0013A, or 0031A).



# COVID-19 Updates (cont.)

- Procedure code M0201 is a benefit for Medicaid and the CSHCN Services Program for the following providers and places of service:

Place of Service	Provider Type
Home	Physician, Physician Assistant (PA), Nurse Practitioner (NP), Clinical Nurse Specialist (CNS), Clinic / Group Practice, Home Health Agency, CCP Provider



# COVID-19 Updates (cont.)

- Affected claims with dates of service on or after June 8, 2021, will be reprocessed, and providers may receive additional payment.
  - Additional payments will be reflected on future Remittance and Status (R&S) Reports.
  - Providers are not required to appeal the claims unless they are denied for additional reasons after the claims reprocessing is complete.
- Providers interested in enrolling as a COVID-19 vaccinator should visit:  
[www.dshs.texas.gov/coronavirus/immunize/provider-information.aspx](http://www.dshs.texas.gov/coronavirus/immunize/provider-information.aspx)



# COVID-19 Updates (cont.)

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- **For more information, call:**
  - The TMHP Contact Center at **800-925-9126** or
  - The TMHP-CSHCN Services Program Contact Center at **800-568-2413**.
- **Resources:** <https://www.tmhp.com/news/2021-09-16-covid-19-vaccine-administration-procedure-code-m0201-now-benefit>





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# Medicaid & CHIP Flexibilities

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**Dana Williamson, *Director***  
**Policy Development Support**

# Medicaid & CHIP Flexibilities

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## Information Letter 2021- 43 to Hospice Providers: Update to Information Letter No. IL 20-37 Telemedicine Flexibility for Face-to-Face Reassessments

- [IL 2021-43](#) posted September 13, 2021.
- Provides notice that the emergency amendment to Title 40, Texas Administrative Code (TAC), Section 30.14(e), permitting face-to-face reassessments to be conducted as a telemedicine medical service for recertification of hospice services, **expires on November 9, 2021.**
  - This flexibility, which was outlined in IL 20-37, will no longer be permitted once the emergency rule expires.





# Medicaid & CHIP Flexibilities (cont.)

- Medicaid hospice providers will be expected to resume the face-to-face reassessments on or before November 9, 2021, as required in the 40 TAC Section 30.14(e)(1), Certification of Terminal Illness and Record Maintenance. The TAC requirements are as follows:

(e) Face-to-face assessment. To determine an individual's continued eligibility for hospice care for a period of care after the initial period, as described in §30.12 of this subchapter, a hospice physician or hospice advanced practice registered nurse must perform a face-to-face assessment of the individual.

(1) The hospice must ensure a face-to-face assessment is performed before each subsequent period of care begins, but no more than 30 days before the period begins.

(2) For an individual who is dually eligible for Medicare and Medicaid, a Medicare face-to-face encounter satisfies the requirement for a face-to-face assessment required by this subsection.

# Medicaid & CHIP

## Flexibilities (cont.)

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- Providers can refer to the Texas Medicaid Provider Procedures Manual, Telecommunication Services Handbook, for additional information about Texas Medicaid telemedicine medical services and telehealth practices.
- For assistance with billing claims through TexMedConnect, providers can contact the Texas Medicaid and Healthcare Partnership at:  
**1-800-626-4117, Option 1.**
- If you have any questions about this letter, please contact the HHSC Hospice Policy staff by email at [HospicePolicy@hhsc.state.tx.us](mailto:HospicePolicy@hhsc.state.tx.us)





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# **LTCR Updates**

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**Diana Conces, *Director***

**LTCR Policy, Rules & Training**

# LTCR Updates

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## LTCR Emergency Rules

- COVID-19 screening / mitigation emergency rules:
  - HCSSA
  - DAHS
  - PPECC
  - TxHmL
- Extensions:
  - HCSSA COVID-19 vaccination authority
  - CNA Transition
  - NF mitigation & visitation



# LTCR Updates

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## Other Guidance

- Revised COVID-19 FAQs:
  - HCS / TxHmL and HCSSA (9/21)
  - ALF (9/28)
- Revised COVID-19 Response Plans
  - DAHS (9/17)
  - HCS / TxHmL (9/21)



# COVID-19 Response

## *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

+ Update calls

Submit questions to:  
[Medicaid\\_COVID\\_Questions@hhs.texas.gov](mailto:Medicaid_COVID_Questions@hhs.texas.gov)



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# Thank You!

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**Next update:  
November 4, 2021**