

11/24/2020

## COVID-19 MCO Notices Extension Updates

### Background:

In response to COVID-19, HHSC has been posting MCO Notices to TexConnect with guidance that contains dates for which the guidance applies. Many dates on posted guidance are set to expire on Nov.30, 2020.

### Key Details:

HHSC is updating many MCO Notices with guidance dates that expire at the end of Nov. 30,2020 to extend through Dec. 31, 2020, unless federal approval for these flexibilities ends sooner. HHSC will provide additional information, if so.

The previously posted individual notices in TexConnect will be edited the week of Nov. 30 to reflect the new extension dates.

### The following flexibility is ending Nov.30, 2020:

#### Remote Delivery:

Allow FQHCs to be reimbursed as telemedicine and telehealth distant site providers. *Effective December 1, 2020, FQHCs may be reimbursed as telemedicine and telehealth distant site provider as permanent policy change per S.B. 670, Texas Legislature, Regular Session, 2019.*

### The following flexibilities are ending Dec.31, 2020:

#### Electronic Visit Verification:

Extend visit maintenance time frame from 60 days to 180 days.

Suspend claims matching requirement with a look back to program integrity.

Providers should continue to capture visits using EVV when possible.

#### Prior authorizations:

Extend pre-existing authorizations for which a beneficiary has previously received prior authorization.

See attached for a list of all the updated MCO Notices. If you do not see one of these notices posted in TexConnect, then it is not relevant to your health plan. The three tables of updated notices are:

#### 1. MCO Notices Updated with Extensions Through December 31, 2020

These Medicaid and CHIP flexibilities have been extended through December 31, 2020 unless the U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services ends the public health emergency earlier. If the public health emergency ends earlier, HHSC will provide additional information.

#### 2. MCO Notices with Flexibilities That Have Ended

This includes flexibilities that have ended July 31, 2020; October 23, 2020; November 30, 2020; and flexibilities that will end December 31, 2020.

#### 3. Information on Other COVID-19 MCO Notices

These various notices were not updated as the guidance either remains in effect until rescinded or the extension details remain the same. Please view these notices in TexConnect for flexibility details.

### Resources:

Extensions - COVID MCO Notices Tables (Attached)

**Contact:**

MCO\_COVID-19\_Inquiries@hhsc.state.tx.us

**Attachment:** Extensions - COVID MCO Notices Tables.pdf

**Type:** Informational

**To:** CHIP; CMDS; DMO; MMP; STAR; STAR+PLUS; STARHEALTH; STAR\_KIDS

**From:** Other