



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Health and Human Services
Office of Medicaid
One Ashburton Place, Room 1109
Boston, Massachusetts 02108



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MassHealth

www.mass.gov/eohhs

NOTICE OF AGENCY ACTION

SUBJECT: MassHealth: Amendment to the Standard and CarePlus Alternative Benefit Plan State Plans (Home Health Services)

AGENCY: Massachusetts Executive Office of Health and Human Services (EOHHS)

Background

EOHHS has determined that certain conforming amendments to its Standard and CarePlus Alternative Benefit Plan State Plans (ABP State Plans) are warranted.

EOHHS is expanding providers qualified to order home health services per the expansion of the CARES Act. Qualified providers now include physician, a nurse practitioner, physician's assistant, or a clinical nurse specialist who is licensed in the state of Massachusetts to perform medical services in accordance with their scope of practice.

EOHHS is amending the home health benefit for both CarePlus and Standard to trigger PA after visit limits are reached in a calendar year, under this change, the prior authorization threshold resets every January 1. This change applies to home health nursing, home health medication administration visits, home health aide services, and home health therapy services.

EOHHS is removing scope limitations on home health aide services; such services are available to assist with two or more Activities of Daily Living.

EPSDT and Tribal Consultation

The amendments will not affect how MassHealth provides Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic and Treatment (EPSDT) services. EOHHS has followed the tribal consultation noticing process established under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 and set forth in its approved state plan.

Public Comments

EOHHS will hold a public comment period until March 15, 2023, relative to these ABP State Plan Amendments. Individuals may submit written comments by emailing ehs-regulations@state.ma.us.

Please email comments as an attached Word document or as text within the body of the email with the phrase, "ABP Home Health Services" in the subject line. All submissions must include the sender's full name and email address.

Individuals who are unable to send comments by email should mail written comments to

EOHHS, c/o Debby Briggs
100 Hancock Street, 6th Floor
Quincy, MA 02171

To be considered, written comments must be received by 5:00 p.m. on March 15, 2023.

Posted: February 28, 2023