



EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
ONE ASHBURTON PLACE, ROOM 1109
BOSTON, MA 02108

MAURA T. HEALEY
GOVERNOR

KATHLEEN E. WALSH
SECRETARY

KIMBERLEY DRISCOLL
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

PUBLIC NOTICE

SUBJECT: State Plan Amendment - Targeted Case Management Services Provided by the Department of Children and Families

AGENCY: Massachusetts Executive Office of Health and Human Services

The Massachusetts Executive Office of Health and Human Services (EOHHS) intends to submit a state plan amendment to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) for Targeted Case Management (TCM) services. These TCM services are provided by the Department of Children and Families (DCF) social workers to MassHealth eligible children receiving services from DCF. TCM services include comprehensive assessment and periodic reassessment of eligible individuals to determine service needs; development (and periodic revision) of a specific care plan; referral and related activities to needed services; and monitoring and follow-up of needed services.

The proposed amendment updates the claiming methodology for TCM services provided by DCF, in accordance with Section 1915(g) of the Social Security Act as amended by the Deficit Reduction Act of 2005 and codified in 42 CFR § 440.169. EOHHS currently claims Federal Financial Participation for TCM services provided by DCF based on actual statewide expenditures of employee salaries and associated overhead expenditures. Costs for TCM services provided by DCF social workers are accumulated and reimbursed after expenses are incurred. The expenditures are captured via DCF's cost allocation plan (CAP). The CAP uses a Random Moment Time Study (RMTS) to isolate expenditures associated with TCM services. Room and board costs are excluded.

EOHHS currently uses two distinct RMTS moments for TCM claiming purposes:

- Conducting or updating a family assessment and action plan; and
- Monitoring progress toward achieving the goals in the family assessment and action plan.

EOHHS proposes adding the following activity as a third distinct RMTS moment for TCM claiming purposes:

- Referring children and families to services and resources outlined in the action plan.

Once fully implemented, EOHHS estimates that this proposed amendment would result in an annual aggregate expenditure of approximately \$2,400,000 annually to the General Fund for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

The proposed changes will go into effect on March 1, 2024.

Individuals may submit electronic comments as an attached Word document or as text within the body of an email with the name of this amendment in the subject line. All submissions must include the sender's full name, mailing address, and organization or affiliation, if any. Individuals who are unable to submit comments by email should mail written comments to EOHHS, c/o D. Briggs, 100 Hancock Street, 8th Floor, Quincy, MA 02171. Written comments must be submitted by 5:00 p.m. on February 28, 2024, to the following email: EHS-Publications@Mass.gov.

Anyone who would like to review the current draft of the proposed actions may request a copy in writing or in person from MassHealth Publications, 100 Hancock Street, 6th Floor, Quincy, MA 02171.

EOHHS may adopt a revised version of the proposed actions based on public feedback and any proposed alternatives.

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