



Florida Medicaid Issues That May Affect Early Steps Providers

Early Steps Statewide Meeting

July 29, 2008

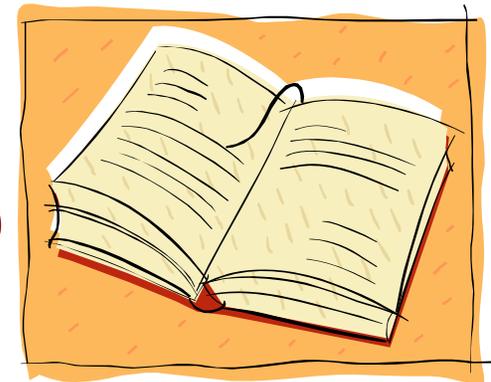
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Early Intervention Evaluation Procedures

- The most recent Florida Medicaid Early Intervention Services Coverage and Limitations Handbook included changes in the fee schedule.
- Changes allowed Early Intervention (EI) providers to bill for their individual involvement in initial and follow-up interdisciplinary psychosocial and developmental evaluations (IPDEI, IPDEF).
- Previously, these evaluations were billed on a per event, rather than an individual, basis.

Early Intervention Evaluation Procedures, continued

- **Every licensed and non-licensed Early Intervention professional who participates in the evaluations and expects reimbursement from Florida Medicaid *must be enrolled as a Florida Medicaid Early Intervention (type 81) provider.***
- This requirement must be met even if the provider is enrolled with Florida Medicaid as another type of provider.
- It is not acceptable for providers to participate in an EI interdisciplinary evaluation and seek reimbursement from Medicaid under a different program.

Early Intervention Sessions

- Medicaid allows licensed therapists who are enrolled as type 81 (EI) providers to bill for performing EI sessions.
- Unlike therapy sessions, EI sessions are not intended to be clinical in nature. The therapist should be seen in the role of a “family interventionist” who works with the parents, caregivers, and child within the natural environment.
- Medicaid will not reimburse the same licensed practitioner to provide services under both the Early Intervention and Therapy Services Programs to the same child on the same day.

Prepaid Therapy Program

- Implementation anticipated in late 2008.
- Care Access will subcontract with ATA to serve AHCA's geographical areas 1-7.
- Companion Life will subcontract with TRS to serve AHCA's areas 8-11.
- A map of the areas that will be served by each vendor, as well as other information, can be found on the Prepaid Therapies website:

http://ahca.myflorida.com/Medicaid/prepaid_therapies

Prepaid Therapy Program

- Enrollment will be a "phased-in" process, with children determined eligible for Medicaid through Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) related categories being enrolled prior to those determined eligible through Supplemental Security Income (SSI).
- AHCA will contact those on the Interested Parties list directly regarding actions taken in the rule development process and other program updates.
- To be added to the Interested Parties list, please send an email to prepaidtherapies@ahca.myflorida.com.

TCM Regulations

- The federal regulations regarding targeted case management, which went in effect on March 1, 2008, are now in a moratorium status.
- President Bush signed H.R. 2642 into law on June 30th. It places a moratorium on six Medicaid regulations, including Optional Case Management, until April 1, 2009.
- Florida Medicaid is currently in communications with the Federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services to determine how exactly the Child Health TCM programs will be affected.
- **At this time, no changes to the Child Health TCM programs have been made.**

Questions?