

Fact Sheet for Social Workers

Medicaid Changes Effective 10/1/13

REMINDER: As you know, the Medicaid program change for pharmacy services previously scheduled to be effective on 9/1/13 was implemented by the Department of Social Services on 10/1/13. The Medicaid program changes for non-pharmacy services (i.e medical supplies, home care, PT/OT services) will be effective on 11/1/13.

What is the Medicaid Program Change?

All physicians or other providers who prescribe medications, order tests, or refer to additional providers must be enrolled in the Connecticut Medicaid system (CMAP). If these providers do not enroll, Medicaid will not pay for the prescriptions or services provided. In short, the best way to apply these changes to your daily work is to make sure you use Medicaid providers for any healthcare service. Use of Non-Medicaid providers should be rarely occur.

How may this impact my DCF child or their family?

Because of this new rule, there may be an occasion where you encounter difficulty filling/renewing a prescription or obtaining other needed care for your DCF child.

What do I need to do now?

1. Contact foster parents or congregate care staff caring for your DCF child and tell them to call you immediately, if they have a problem filling a prescription or getting a service (such as DME items, home care, PT/OT services etc). Let them know you will work with a DCF Health Advocate to resolve these problems.

2. Fill all prescriptions for durable medical equipment items, home care or PT/OT services prior to 11/1 when the Medicaid changes are implemented for these services.

3. Contact your Health Advocate immediately when a foster parent/congregate care staff calls you with a problem. You will need Health Advocate intervention to ensure problems are resolved in a timely manner and paid for by Medicaid or DCF funds.

4. Adoptive/relative guardian families should be told to call: CHN (800-859-9889) - medical issues; CTBHP (877-552-8247 - behavioral health issues; CTDHP (866-420-2924) - dental issues or 2-1-1 Infoline for help.

Protocol for Resolving Pharmacy Problems:

- **If a caregiver experiences any difficulty getting prescriptions, they will be given a 14-day supply of the medication.** This will give the prescriber time to decide whether they will enroll in CMAP.
- **Foster parents have been instructed to give you the information below. Please immediately give this same information to your area office Health Advocate so they can best help you:**
 - Cost of the medication (from the pharmacist)
 - Name of the medication and pharmacy
 - Pharmacy name/phone #
 - Prescribing doctor's name
- At the end of the 14 days, the caregiver must go back to the pharmacy to automatically receive an additional supply of medication. If the script was for a 30 day supply, they will get an additional 16 days supply. If the prescription was for 30 or 90 days, they will get a 30 day refill.
- **Prior to the next medication refill, contact your DCF Health Advocate to ensure additional refills can be obtained.**

If you encounter any other problems, contact your area office Health Advocate.