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Change to Signature Requirements for Title XIX (Medicaid) Home Health Services

Background:

HHSC has recently adopted rules in alignment with 42 Code of Federal Regulations §440.70. Amendments to 1 Texas Administrative Code rules 354.1031, 354.1035, 354.1037, 354.1039, 354.1040, and 354.1043 bring Texas into compliance with the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services CMS-5531-Interim Final Rule with Comment (IFC). The adopted rules for home health services became effective on September 21, 2022.

Key Details:

Signature requirements for Title XIX (Medicaid) Home Health Services have changed. Medicaid-enrolled physicians and allowed practitioners can now sign prior authorizations and order covered Medicaid Home Health Services, including skilled nursing, home health aide services, durable medical equipment and supplies, and adult physical and occupational therapy services.

An allowed practitioner is a physician assistant (PA) or an advanced practice registered nurse who is licensed as a certified nurse practitioner (CNP) or clinical nurse specialist (CNS).

Action:

MCOs are expected to update their procedures and train staff to process prior authorization requests in accordance with updated rules. MCO staff should also be prepared to inform providers about this change.

Additional Information:

A provider notification update has been published at <https://www.tmhp.com/>

Resources:

[eCFR :: 42 CFR 440.70 -- Home health services.](#)

[Federal Register :: Medicare and Medicaid Programs, Basic Health Program, and Exchanges; Additional Policy and Regulatory Revisions in Response to the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency and Delay of Certain Reporting Requirements for the Skilled Nursing Facility Quality Reporting Program](#)

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