

03/10/2023

Federal Public Health Emergency Set to End May 11, 2023 – Update on COVID Flexibilities

Background:

The Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) has received notice that the COVID-19 federal public health emergency (PHE) declared January 31, 2020, will end on May 11, 2023. In response to the PHE, HHSC implemented certain flexibilities for managed care organizations (MCOs) and dental maintenance organizations (DMOs), providers and members, and has issued guidance through MCO Notices with dates to reflect when that guidance is set to expire.

Key Details:

HHSC is reminding MCOs and DMOs that remaining COVID flexibility guidance was set to expire on April 30, 2023. Most of these items will now end on May 11, 2023.

New MCO Notices have been posted to TexConnect to provide updated guidance and required actions as a result of the PHE ending. As a reminder, the following direction was previously issued:

- *Case Management for Children and Pregnant Women (CPW) COVID-19 Flexibilities* – posted to TexConnect Jan. 23, 2023
- *Remote Delivery of THSteps Medical Checkups Ending at End of PHE* – posted to TexConnect April 25, 2022
- *Telephone (Audio-only) Nutritional Counseling Services Ending at End of PHE* – posted to TexConnect April 25, 2022

HHSC will update the previously posted individual notices to reflect the PHE will now end on May 11, 2023. See attached for an updated list of all MCO Notices previously published and new notices just issued. If you do not see one of these notices posted in TexConnect, then it is not relevant to your health plan.

Resource:

COVID MCO Notices Flexibility Updates - Final (Attached)

Contact:

MCO_COVID-19_Inquiries@hhsc.state.tx.us

Attachment:

COVID MCO Notices Flexibility Updates - Final.pdf

Type: Informational

To: CHIP; CMDS; DMO; MMP; STAR; STAR+PLUS; STARHEALTH; STAR_KIDS

From: Other