



MONTH MEETING NOTES

June 17, 2022

CKF Update

Shoshi Preuss, CKF, provided an update on public charge. The Supreme Court announced that it will not allow a coalition of Republican states to defend the 2019 public charge rule. This means that the lower court decision to stop implementation of the 2019 rule remains in effect. The Biden administration, which stopped defending the rule early in Biden's presidency, is expected to release a final rule on public charge this summer.

HCPF Updates

Lisa Pera, Mitchell Scott, Shawn Bodiker, and Trish Grodzicki, the Colorado Department of Health Care Policy and Financing (HCPF), provided information on upcoming legislative changes, and the communications plan for the new postpartum coverage rule.

The following bills go into effect on July 1, 2022:

- [SB 21-025](#): Medical Assistance New Limited Family Planning Services Income Expansion
 - Extended coverage of limited family planning services to individuals with incomes between 134-260% of the Federal Poverty Level who are not eligible for a full coverage Medical Assistance benefit. Individuals must be U.S. citizens or lawfully residing to qualify. There is no restriction on age or gender. Benefits include contraceptives and counseling services focused on preventing, delaying, or planning a pregnancy. This benefit will be eligible for presumptive eligibility as well, and all applicants will be asked if they want to opt-out of receiving these services when submitting an application.
- [SB21-009](#): Reproductive Health Services for Undocumented Individuals
 - Individuals who would meet eligibility criteria for Health First Colorado (Colorado's Medicaid Program), if not for their citizenship or immigration status, will be eligible for reproductive health care services. Services include contraceptive methods and family planning counseling. Members will be enrolled for 12 months. After 12 months, members will receive a renewal packet to redetermine their eligibility.
 - Individuals can apply for this program using a new question added to the application that asks if they want to be considered for reproductive health benefits.
- [Emergency Medicaid](#)
 - Individuals enrolled in Emergency Medicaid will be covered under the program for 12 months. After 12 months, the member will receive a renewal. Previously,

members had to re-apply for each instance of care. Services must still be considered an emergency treatment to be covered.

- Individuals can apply for Emergency Medicaid using a new question on the application that asks if they want to be considered for coverage for treatment of emergency services. This question will screen for both Emergency Medicaid and the Reproductive Health Services benefit for people without documentation.
- [SB21-194](#): Postpartum Expansion to 12 Months
 - Extends postpartum coverage from 60 days to 12 months for pregnant members enrolled in Health First Colorado or Child Health Plan *Plus* (CHP+). Members do not need to apply, and will be kept on benefits regardless of changes in circumstances, such as income or family size. Members must disclose their pregnancy to receive this benefit.
 - This coverage can be retroactive.
- [SB20-033](#): Allow Medicaid Buy-In Program after 65
 - The Working Adults with Disabilities Program will be available to individuals 65 and older. Previously, eligibility ended once an individual turned 65. The expansion applies to new and existing members. All other eligibility criteria remain the same.
 - Members will be redetermined on their original diary date, or end date for disability determination, regardless of their age.
- [SB21-016](#): Protecting Preventative Health Care Coverage
 - Expands mandatory family planning-related services to include counseling, prevention, contraception, and screening for sexually transmitted infections. The bill also revises rules for providing certain preventive services to minors without the consent of a parent or legal guardian. It also allows members to receive services outside of their Managed Care Organization.
- [HB22-1289](#): Health Benefits for Colorado Children and Pregnant Persons (“Cover All Coloradans”)
 - Expands coverage in a variety of ways over the next few years. On July 1, it will allow breast pumps as covered benefit for perinatal people enrolled in Health First Colorado and CHP+. A prescription is required for the equipment, and can be requested as early as the 28th week of a pregnancy. Individuals must order the equipment ahead of time, and will not be able to receive a breast pump at the hospital.
 - As of July 1, the CHP+ enrollment fee will be permanently removed.

HCPF is developing a communications plan for the four bills related to reproductive health equity. The communications focus on educating members on how to disclose their pregnancy to the state so that they may receive the postpartum coverage. HCPF is developing materials, including a flyer, with a QR code directing individuals to more information on the HCPF website. A toolkit will be available by July 1, and communications will evolve based on feedback.

Effective July 1, Friday Health Plan will no longer be a service provider for CHP+. Members will be automatically enrolled into another CHP+ plan. Notices were mailed to members with their new plan information.

Connect for Health Colorado Updates

Jessalyn Hampton, Connect for Health Colorado, provided a legislative update, as well as information on CoverCo.

Starting January 2024, the Cover All Coloradans bill will create a Special Enrollment Period in the marketplace for uninsured pregnant Coloradans. Customers can request retroactive coverage to the 1st of the month in which a provider confirms the beginning of pregnancy.

[HB22-1269](#): Healthcare Cost Sharing Arrangements requires non-qualified health plans to report a variety of data to the Division of Insurance, beginning October 2022. Required information will include the number of participants in a plan, the total amount of payments collected from enrollees, and more. This will enable Connect for Health Colorado enrollment specialists to assist customers in choosing the right coverage.

[SB22-081](#): Exchange Marketing and Outreach Campaign directs the Connect for Health Colorado Board to design and implement a marketing and outreach campaign. The goal of the campaign is to educate consumers about health coverage options.

CoverCo will be a free, virtual event from October 11-13. Topics for this year include the Health Insurance Affordability Enterprise, the family glitch, Colorado option plans, hospital financial assistance, and surprise billing. Meeting participants suggested the following topics: an update on Health First Colorado and CHP+ renewals and anything assisters can do to help, the end of the public health emergency, and tips for speaking to people who are moving from Health First Colorado to Connect for Health Colorado.

Next meeting: July 15, 2022