

SPECIAL BULLETIN COVID-19 #265: Ending Clinical Policy Flexibilities Associated with the Federal Public Health Emergency

Flexibilities ending at or after the end of the Federal Public Health Emergency

The policy changes listed within this bulletin will apply to NC Medicaid Direct and NC Medicaid Managed Care.

To support providers and the NC Medicaid community, the NC Medicaid team is providing a list of all the clinical policy flexibilities related to the Federal Public Health Emergency (PHE), including:

- Flexibilities that have been or are being incorporated into permanent policy
 - All flexibilities in permanent NC Medicaid policy can be found on the [NC Medicaid Program Specific Clinical Coverage Policies](#) page.
- Temporary Disaster SPA flexibilities that will end at the end of the federal PHE (May 11, 2023)
- Temporary Appendix K flexibilities that will end six months after the end of the federal PHE (Nov. 11, 2023)

NC Medicaid has evaluated data from the use of federal COVID-19 public health emergency flexibilities and stakeholder feedback on the State's pandemic response. Based on this review, many of the policy flexibilities implemented during federal PHE have been or will be incorporated into permanent NC Medicaid Clinical Coverage Policy. These flexibilities have been shown to be beneficial for both providers and members, improving the access and/or quality of care provided to NC Medicaid beneficiaries.

NC Medicaid continues to be committed to providing as much advance notice as possible to the provider community as temporary COVID-19 flexibilities end. NC Medicaid continues to monitor a variety of factors, including:

- Beneficiary and provider impact of sunseting some flexibilities
- Time needed by providers to adjust to the rescinding of the policy given the unprecedented nationwide workforce shortages, which impact providers' ability to deliver care

Please see the details in the document linked in this bulletin for more information on which flexibilities will be sunseting.

As a reminder, many flexibilities associated with the end of the North Carolina State of Emergency ended on June 30, 2022. These flexibilities were published in [COVID-19 Special Bulletin #237](#). The flexibilities which ended on June 30, 2022, are also included in each section for providers to reference.

Contact

Medicaid.COVID19@dhhs.nc.gov

Please find the COVID Flexibilities and Changes for the Following Areas on the Following Pages:

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Permanent Telehealth Services Flexibilities

NC Medicaid updated telehealth flexibilities in:

- Policy 1-H: Telehealth, Virtual Communications and Remote Patient Monitoring
- Policy 1A-34: Dialysis Services
- Policy 1E-7: Family Planning Services
- Policy 1M-2: Childbirth Education
- Policy 4A: Dental Services
- Policy 8-C: Outpatient Behavioral Health Services Provided by Direct-Enrolled Providers
- Policy 8-F: Research-Based Behavioral Health Treatment (RB-BHT) for Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD)
- Policy 8-G: Peer Support Services
- Policy 8-J: Children’s Developmental Service Agencies (CDSAs)
- Policy 8-P: North Carolina Innovations
- Policy 10-A: Outpatient Specialized Therapies
- Policy 10-B: Outpatient Specialized Therapies Independent Practitioners
- Policy 10-C: Outpatient Specialized Therapies Local Education Agencies (LEAs)
- Policy 10-D: Respiratory Therapy Services by Independent Practitioner Provider

All NC Medicaid policies can be found on the [NC Medicaid Program Specific Clinical Coverage Policies](#) page. Please see the below table with a summary of all telehealth flexibilities which were made permanent across different areas:

| Telehealth Services Provision | Made into Permanent Policy | Sunsetting 5/11/23 | Sunsetting 11/11/23 | Comments |
|---|----------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|
| Evaluation and Management (E/M) Services | | | | |
| Office or Other Outpatient Services 99202, 99203, 99204, 99205, 99211, 99212, 99213, 99214, 99215, | X | | | Policies 1H, 8C, 8J |
| Subsequent Hospital Care 99231, 99232, 99233 | X | | | Policy 8C |
| Hospital Discharge Day Management 99238, 99239 | X | | | Policy 8C |
| Office Consultation 99241, 99242, 99243, 99244, 99245 | X | | | Policies 1H, 8C, 8J, 1E-7 |
| Inpatient Consultation 99251, 99252, 99253, 99254, 99255 | X | | | Policies 1H, 8C |
| Core Service Code | | | | |
| T1015 | X | | | Policy 1D-4 |

| Telehealth Services Provision | Made into Permanent Policy | Sunsetting 5/11/23 | Sunsetting 11/11/23 | Comments |
|---|-----------------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|---|
| Home Services | | | | |
| 99347, 99349, 99349, 99350 (Hybrid Model*) | X | | | *See policy 1H for use of these codes for hybrid model Policy 8C |
| Online Digital Evaluation and Management 99421, 99422, 99423 | X | | | Policy 1H |
| Telephonic E/M and Virtual Patient Communication 99441, 99442, 99443, G2012 | X | | | Policy 1H |
| Interprofessional Assessment and Management 99446, 99447, 99448, 99449 | X | | | Policy 1H |
| Remote Physiologic Monitoring 99453, 99454, 99457, 99458 | X | | | *See policy 1H for use of these codes |
| Self-Measured Blood Pressure Monitoring 99473, 99474 | X | | | Policy 1H |
| Outpatient Behavioral Health | | | | |
| Interactive Complexity 90785 | X | | | * See policy 8C for prior approval requirements and limitations Policy 8J |
| Psychiatric Diagnostic Procedures 90791, 90792 | X | | | * See policy 8C for prior approval requirements and limitations Policy 8J |
| Psychotherapy 90832, 90833, 90834, 90836, 90837, 90838 | X | | | * See policy 8C for prior approval requirements and limitations Policies 8J, 10C |
| Psychotherapy for Crisis 90839, 90840 | X | | | * See policy 8C for prior approval requirements and limitations Policy 8J |
| Other Psychotherapy 90846, 90847, 90849, 90853 | X | | | * See policy 8C for prior approval requirements and limitations Policies 8J, 10C |
| Developmental/Psychological/Neuropsychological Testing 96110, 96116, 96130, 96131, 96132, 96133, 96146 | X | | | Policies 8C, 8J |

| Telehealth Services Provision | Made into Permanent Policy | Sunsetting 5/11/23 | Sunsetting 11/11/23 | Comments |
|--|-----------------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|--|
| Outpatient Services | | | | |
| End-Stage Renal Disease (ESRD) Services 90951, 90952, 90953, 90954, 90955, 90956, 90957, 90958, 90959, 90960, 90961, 90962, 90963, 90964, 90965, 90966, 90967, 90968, 90969, 90970, 90989, 90993 | X | | | Policy 1A-34 |
| Special Otorhinolaryngologic Services 92507, 92521, 92522, 92523, 92524, 92526 | X | | | Policies 8J, 10B, 10C |
| Evaluative and Therapeutic Services 92607, 92608, 92609 | X | | | Policies 10B, 10C |
| Pulmonary Diagnostic Testing and Therapies 94664, 94760 | X | | | Policy 10D |
| Home Health Procedures/Services 99504 | X | | | Policy 10D |
| Dentistry | | | | |
| Synchronous Teledentistry D9995 | X | | | Policy 4A |
| Research Based Behavioral Health Treatment for Autism Spectrum Disorder | | | | |
| Adaptive Behavior Assessment 97151, 97152 | X | | | Policy 8F |
| Adaptive Behavior Treatment 97153, 97154, 97155, 97156, 97157 | X | | | Policy 8F *If two-way audio-visual equipment is not available, 97156 and 97157 may be offered via telephone |
| Peer Services H0038 | X | | | Policy 8G |
| Birthing Classes, Nonphysician Provider S9442 | X | | | Policy 1M-2 |
| Screening to determine the appropriateness of consideration of an individual for participation in a specified program, project or treatment protocol (Diagnostic Assessment) T1023 | X | | | Policy 8J; 8A-5 |

| Telehealth Services Provision | Made into Permanent Policy | Sunsetting 5/11/23 | Sunsetting 11/11/23 | Comments |
|---|----------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|
| <p>NC Innovations and NC TBI Waivers: Community Living Supports, Day Supports, Supported Employment, Life Skills Training, Supported Living, Community Networking</p> <p>H2011, H2015, H2016, H2025, S5110, S5111, S5125, S5150, S5165, T1005, T1015, T2013, T2014, T2020, T2021, T2025, T2027, T2033, T2034, T2038, T2041</p> | X | | | Policy 8P and TBI Waiver |

Behavioral Health Services

All temporary behavioral health *policy* flexibilities outlined in [COVID-19 Special Bulletins](#) that have not been made permanent or ended on June 30, 2022 with the end of the NC State of Emergency, will be end-dated on either May 11, 2023 for Disaster SPA flexibilities which end with the end of the federal PHE, or November 11, 2023 for Appendix K flexibilities, which end 6 months after the federal PHE.

Temporary Behavioral health COVID-19 policy flexibilities found in the following COVID-19 Special Bulletins [#9](#), [#19](#), [#20](#), [#35](#), [#46](#), [#59](#), [#60](#), [#76](#), and [#108](#) which did not end on June 30, 2022, will end on either May 11, 2023 or November 11, 2023.

Please see the table below for a summary of the flexibilities that were made permanent and/or will end effective May 11, 2023 or November 11, 2023:

| Behavioral Health Services Provision | Made into Permanent Policy | Sunsetting 5/11/23 | Sunsetting 11/11/23 | Comments |
|--|----------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|-------------|
| CPT codes 96110, 96116, 96130, 96131, 96132, 96133, 96146 | X | | | |
| CPT codes 90785, 90832, 90834, 90837, 90839, 90840, 90846, 90847, 90849, and 90853 were made telehealth- and telephonic- eligible. | X | | | Policy 8C |
| CPT codes 90791, 90792, 90833, 90836, and 90838 were made telehealth-eligible. | X | | | Policy 8C |
| Evaluation and Management CPT codes 99202-99205, 99304-99337, 99341-99350 and 99417 were made telehealth-eligible. | X | | | Policy 8C |
| Peer Support Services may be provided by telehealth or telephonically, audio-only communication but limited to 20% or less of total service time provided per beneficiary per fiscal year. | X | | | Policy 8G |
| Facility Based Crisis for Children may be covered up to 45 days in a 12-month period (or may exceed with medical necessity). | X | | | Policy 8A-2 |
| Psychiatrist shall conduct a psychiatric assessment of each beneficiary in person or by telehealth within 24 hours of admission. | X | | | Policy 8A-2 |
| Allow psychiatric evaluation to be completed by telehealth instead of on-site at the facility and billed separately. | X | | | Policy 8A-2 |
| (b)(3) Supported Employment (Initial and Maintenance): For Supported Employment for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities, service may be provided by two-way, real-time audio and video, as well as telephonically. | X | | | (b) waiver |
| (b)(3) Individual Support: Service may be provided by two-way, real-time audio and video as well as telephonically. | X | | | (b) waiver |

| Behavioral Health Services Provision | Made into Permanent Policy | Sunsetting 5/11/23 | Sunsetting 11/11/23 | Comments |
|--|----------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------|
| (b)(3) Transitional Living Skills: Service may be provided by two-way, real-time audio and video as well as telephonically | X | | | (b) waiver |
| (b)(3) In-Home Skill Building: Service may be provided by two-way, real-time audio and video. | X | | | (b) waiver |
| Diagnostic Assessment: Diagnostic Assessment can be provided by telehealth per NC Medicaid Clinical Coverage Policy 1-H. | X | | | Policy 8A-5 |
| Research Based – Behavioral Health Treatment (RB-BHT): CPT codes 97151, 97152, 97153, 97154, 97155, 97156, 97157, were made telehealth-eligible. | X | | | Policy 8F |
| Research-Based – Behavioral Health Treatment (RB-BHT): If two-way audio-visual options are not accessible to the beneficiary, the following services may be offered by telephonic modality: 972156 and 97157 | X | | | Policy 8F |
| NC Innovations and NC TBI Waiver: Waive requirement for beneficiary to attend the Day Supports provider once per week. | X | | | Policy 8P and NC TBI Waiver |
| NC Innovations: Real-time, two-way interactive audio and video telehealth for the following services: Community living supports, day supports, supported employment, life skills training, supported living and community networking. | X | | | Policy 8P |
| NC Innovation and NC TBI Waiver: Direct care services may be provided in a hotel, shelter, church, or alternative facility-based setting or the home of a direct care worker because of COVID-19-related issues. | X | | | Policy 8P and NC TBI Waiver |
| NC Innovations and NC TBI Waiver: Allow for additional 90-day periods for existing staff to continue providing services when staff are unable to complete the hands-on portion of the Crisis Prevention/De-Escalation training or the hands-on portion of the Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation training. Where the extension of the waiver of provider determinations falls outside of the expiration date of the Appendix K, the state will submit either an amended Appendix K or a simple waiver amendment. | X | | | Policy 8P and NC TBI Waiver |

| Behavioral Health Services Provision | Made into Permanent Policy | Sunsetting 5/11/23 | Sunsetting 11/11/23 | Comments |
|---|-----------------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|---|
| Substance Abuse Medically Monitored Community Residential Treatment: Service may not be billed for more than 45 days in a 12-month period | X | | | <i>SPA has been approved by CMS.</i> |
| Ambulatory Detoxification: Physician assessments must be conducted within 24 hours of admission in-person or by telehealth | X | | | Policy 8A Permitted in current policy. |
| Non-Hospital Medical Detoxification: Service may be covered up to 45 days in a 12-month period (or may exceed with medical necessity). | X | | | <i>SPA approved by CMS.</i> |
| Non-Hospital Medical Detoxification: Physician assessments may be conducted in-person or by telehealth. | X | | | Policy 8A Permitted in current policy. |
| Substance Abuse Non-Medical Community Residential Treatment: Service may be billed for 45 days in a 12-month period | X | | | <i>SPA has been approved by CMS.</i> |
| Intensive In-Home: Allow supervision by team lead, or designee as noted above, to occur virtually. | X | | | Policy 8A Permitted in current policy. |
| Ambulatory Detoxification: Allow supervision of LCAS or CCS to occur virtually. | X | | | Policy 8A Permitted in current policy. |
| Non-Hospital Medical Detoxification: Allow supervision of QP, AP and paraprofessionals to occur virtually. | X | | | Policy 8A Permitted in current policy. |
| Assertive Community Treatment: Allow supervision to occur virtually. | X | | | Policy 8A-1 Permitted in current policy. |
| Peer Support Services (PSS): Allow supervision to occur virtually. | X | | | Policy 8G Permitted in current policy. |
| Peer Support Services (PSS): Allow for Peer Support Services Program Supervisor to fulfill 90-day face-to-face contact through telehealth or telephonically. | X | | | Policy 8G |
| Residential Treatment Services Level I and II – Family Type: Allow sex offender training to occur virtually. | X | | | Policy 8D-2 Permitted in current policy. |
| Residential Treatment Services Level III: Allow sex offender specific training to occur virtually. | X | | | Policy 8D-2 Permitted in current policy. |
| Substance Abuse Non-Medical Community Residential Treatment: Allow supervision of QP, AP to occur virtually. | X | | | Policy 8A |

| Behavioral Health Services Provision | Made into Permanent Policy | Sunsetting 5/11/23 | Sunsetting 11/11/23 | Comments |
|--|-----------------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|---|
| Mobile Crisis Management: Allow for supervision by any licensed professional on the team or employed by the agency if team lead is sick or unavailable. | X | | | Policy 8A Permitted in current policy. |
| Multisystemic Therapy: Waive requirement that staff must be dedicated to the team. | X | | | Policy 8A Permitted in current policy. |
| Increased Intermediate Care Facility for Individuals with Intellectual Disabilities (ICF IID) days for therapeutic leave (TL) to 120 days per year. | X | | | SPA has been submitted to CMS to increase TL for ICF IID to 90 days per year. |
| NC Innovations and NC TBI Waiver: Home Delivered Meals | -- | | | <i>This is in review for permanent placement in policy (8P am NC TBI Wavier).</i> |
| NC Innovation and NC TBI Waiver: Waive \$135k individual limit on a case-by-case basis for individuals who are currently receiving waiver services. A new waiver limit will not be established. | -- | | | <i>This is in review for permanent placement in policy (8P am NC TBI Wavier).</i> |
| Substance Abuse Comprehensive Outpatient Treatment: Waive reauthorization after the initial 60-day pass through. | | X | | Policy 8A |
| Mobile Crisis Management: Waive 24 hours as the maximum length of service. | | X | | Policy 8A |
| Mobile Crisis Management: Waive staff training requirements within 90 days of employment, if unable to be obtained during the state of emergency. | | X | | Policy 8A |
| Diagnostic Assessment: Waive prior authorization for additional units beyond one unmanaged Diagnostic Assessment per state fiscal year. | | X | | Policy 8A-5 |
| Intensive In-Home: Waive reauthorization. | | X | | Policy 8A |
| Intensive In-Home: Waive staff training requirements within 30 and 90 days of employment, if unable to be obtained during the state of emergency. | | X | | Policy 8A |
| Intensive In-Home: Waive the two-hour per day minimum service provision and reduce to one-hour per day in order to bill. | | X | | Policy 8A |
| Multisystemic Therapy: Waive reauthorization. | | X | | Policy 8A |

| Behavioral Health Services Provision | Made into Permanent Policy | Sunsetting 5/11/23 | Sunsetting 11/11/23 | Comments |
|---|-----------------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------|
| Multisystemic Therapy: Waive staff introductory and quarterly training requirements if unable to be obtained during the state of emergency. | | X | | Policy 8A |
| Multisystemic Therapy: Waive minimum monthly contacts of 12 in the first month and six contacts in the second and third month must be met unless individual or family member becomes ill during month and cannot receive services. | | X | | Policy 8A |
| Multisystemic Therapy: Waive the three to five-month maximum duration of service. | | X | | Policy 8A |
| Multisystemic Therapy: Allow supervision by another master's level qualified professional (QP) employed by the provider agency if team lead is sick or unavailable. | | X | | Policy 8A |
| Psychosocial Rehabilitation: Waive initial prior authorization and reauthorization. | | X | | Policy 8A |
| Psychosocial Rehabilitation: Waive requirement for a minimum of five hours per day, five days a week of service availability. Service must be available a minimum of 10 hours per week. | | X | | Policy 8A |
| Psychosocial Rehabilitation: Waive staff ratio of 1:8 only if provided by telehealth or telephonic modalities. | | X | | Policy 8A |
| Psychosocial Rehabilitation: Allow service to be provided outside of the facility by telehealth, telephonically or in-person, including in the person's residence. | | X | | Policy 8A |
| Child and Adolescent Day Treatment: Waive reauthorization. | | X | | Policy 8A |
| Child and Adolescent Day Treatment: Waive minimum of three hours of service per day. | | X | | Policy 8A |
| Child and Adolescent Day Treatment: Allow service to be provided outside of the facility by telehealth, telephonically or in-person, including in the person's residence. | | X | | Policy 8A |
| Partial Hospitalization: Waive reauthorization. | | X | | Policy 8A |

| Behavioral Health Services Provision | Made into Permanent Policy | Sunsetting 5/11/23 | Sunsetting 11/11/23 | Comments |
|--|----------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|-----------|
| Partial Hospitalization: Waive requirement of minimum service availability of four hours a day five days per week; but must provide 10 hours of treatment per week in order to bill. | | X | | Policy 8A |
| Partial Hospitalization: Allow service to be provided outside of the facility by telehealth, telephonically or in-person, including in the person's residence. | | X | | Policy 8A |
| Professional Treatment Services in Facility-Based Crisis Program: Waive per person maximum of 30 days of treatment per calendar year. | | X | | Policy 8A |
| Substance Abuse Intensive Outpatient Program: Waive reauthorization after the initial 30-day pass through | | X | | CCP 8A |
| Substance Abuse Intensive Outpatient Program: Waive the required minimum service availability of three hours per day three days per week; but must provide 1.5 hours of treatment per day, three days per week to bill. | | X | | Policy 8A |
| Substance Abuse Intensive Outpatient Program: Waive beneficiary to staff ratio if provided outside of the facility. | | X | | Policy 8A |
| Substance Abuse Intensive Outpatient Program: Waive Urine Drug Screening requirements. | | X | | Policy 8A |
| Substance Abuse Intensive Outpatient Program: Waive requirement for family counseling if the family is unavailable, sick or unwilling to participate in telehealth or telephonic interventions. | | X | | Policy 8A |
| Substance Abuse Intensive Outpatient Program: Allow service to be provided outside of the facility by telehealth, telephonically or in-person, including in the person's residence. | | X | | Policy 8A |
| Substance Abuse Comprehensive Outpatient Treatment: Waive the required for minimum service availability of four hours per day, five days per week; but must provide two hours per day, five days per week to bill. | | X | | Policy 8A |
| Substance Abuse Comprehensive Outpatient Treatment: Waive Urine Drug Screening requirements. | | X | | Policy 8A |
| Substance Abuse Comprehensive Outpatient Treatment: Waive requirement for family counseling if family is unavailable, sick or unwilling to participate in telehealth or telephonic interventions. | | X | | Policy 8A |

| Behavioral Health Services Provision | Made into Permanent Policy | Sunsetting 5/11/23 | Sunsetting 11/11/23 | Comments |
|---|-----------------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------|
| Substance Abuse Comprehensive Outpatient Treatment: Allow service to be provided outside of the facility by telehealth, telephonically or in-person, including in the person's residence. | | X | | Policy 8A |
| Ambulatory Detoxification: Waive initial authorization and reauthorization. | | X | | Policy 8A |
| Substance Abuse Non-Medical Community Residential Treatment: Waive initial authorization and reauthorization | | X | | Policy 8A |
| Substance Abuse Non-Medical Community Residential Treatment: Allow LCAS and CCS to provide services by telehealth or telephonically interventions in lieu of being provided in-person at the facility. | | X | | Policy 8A |
| Substance Abuse Medically Monitored Community Residential Treatment: Waive initial authorization and reauthorization. | | X | | Policy 8A |
| Substance Abuse Medically Monitored Community Residential Treatment: Allow LCAS and CCS to provide services by telehealth or telephonically in lieu of being provided in-person at the facility. | | X | | Policy 8A |
| Non-Hospital Medical Detoxification: Waive initial authorization and reauthorization. | | X | | Policy 8A |
| Non-Hospital Medical Detoxification: Allow LCAS and CCS to provide services by telehealth or telephonically in lieu of being provided in-person at the facility. | | X | | Policy 8A |
| Outpatient Opioid Treatment: Waive initial authorization and reauthorization. | | X | | Policy 8A |
| Medically Supervised or ADATC Detoxification Crisis Stabilization: Waive reauthorization. | | X | | Policy 8A |
| Medically Supervised or ADATC Detoxification Crisis Stabilization: Waive maximum of 30-days of treatment within 12 months. | | X | | Policy 8A |
| Community Support Team: Waive reauthorization. | | X | | Policy 8A-6 |
| Community Support Team: Waive requirement that staff must be dedicated to the team | | X | | Policy 8A-6 |
| Community Support Team: Waive requirement that associate licensed professional team lead be fully licensed within 30 months. | | X | | Policy 8A-6 |

| Behavioral Health Services Provision | Made into Permanent Policy | Sunsetting 5/11/23 | Sunsetting 11/11/23 | Comments |
|---|-----------------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------|
| Community Support Team: Waive maximum of eight units for first and last 30-day period for individuals transitioning to and from other services and allow for 40 units of service overlap. | | X | | Policy 8A-6 |
| Assertive Community Treatment: Waive reauthorization. | | X | | Policy 8A-1 |
| Assertive Community Treatment: Waive staff to beneficiary ratio of 1:8 for small teams and 1:9 for medium and large teams. | | X | | Policy 8A-1 |
| Assertive Community Treatment: Waive requirement that team must demonstrate fidelity to the latest tool for Measurement of ACT (TMACT) model of care. | | X | | Policy 8A-1 |
| Assertive Community Treatment: Waive median rate of service frequency and median rate of service intensity. | | X | | Policy 8A-1 |
| Residential Treatment Services Level I and II – Family Type: Allow QP, licensed professional, psychologist, psychiatrist to provide treatment and consultation by telehealth and/or telephonically, as clinically indicated and based on level of expertise, instead of providing on-site at the facility. All supervision and daily structure services must be provided in-person by the appropriate staff. | | X | | Policy 8D-2 |
| Level II – Program Type Residential Treatment Services Waive staff training requirements if unable to be obtained during the state of emergency, except for sex offender specific training. | | X | | Policy 8D-2 |
| Level II – Program Type Residential Treatment Services Allow Sex Offender training to occur virtually. | | X | | Policy 8D-2 |
| Level II – Program Type Residential Treatment Services Allow QP, social worker, psychologist or psychiatrist to provide treatment, services and consultation by telehealth and telephonically, as clinically indicated and based on level of expertise, instead of providing on-site at the facility. | | X | | Policy 8D-2 |
| Residential Treatment Services Level III: Allow QP, social worker, psychologist or psychiatrist to provide treatment, services and consultation by telehealth and telephonically, as clinically indicated and based on level of expertise, instead of providing on-site at the facility. | | X | | Policy 8D-2 |

| Behavioral Health Services Provision | Made into Permanent Policy | Sunsetting 5/11/23 | Sunsetting 11/11/23 | Comments |
|--|-----------------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Residential Treatment Services Level IV: Waive staff training requirement if unable to be obtained during the state of emergency except for sex offender specific training. | | X | | Policy 8D-2 |
| Residential Treatment Services Level IV: Allow sex offender training to occur virtually. | | X | | Policy 8D-2 |
| Research Based – Behavioral Health Treatment (RB-BHT): Waive concurrent authorization under Medicare authorities. | | X | | Policy 8F |
| Research Based – Behavioral Health Treatment (RB-BHT): If two-way audiovisual options are not accessible to the beneficiary, the following services may be offered by telephonic modality: 97151, 97152, 97153, 97154, and 97155. | | X | | Policy 8F |
| Intensive In-Home: Real-time, two-way interactive audio and video telehealth | | X | | CCP 8A |
| Mobile Crisis Management: Waive prior authorization after the initial unmanaged 32 units of service | | X | | CCP 8A |
| NC Innovations: Allow Day Supports, Community Living and Supports, Supported Employment and Community Networking to be provided in the home of the participant, the home of the direct care worker, or the residential setting. Residential setting refers to the setting types listed in the Residential Service definition in the approved NC Innovations Waiver. | | | X | Policy 8P |
| NC Innovations and NC TBI Waiver: Allow for an increase in service hours from what is in the person-centered plan without prior authorization for this time period. | | | X | Policy 8P and NC TBI Waiver |
| NC Innovations and NC TBI Waiver: Respite may be provided when family is out of state due to evacuation/displacement until they return home. | | | X | Policy 8P and NC TBI Waiver |
| NC Innovations and NC TBI Waiver: Waive prior approval for individuals who are displaced and allow Respite to be provided out of state. | | | X | Policy 8P and NC TBI Waiver |

| Behavioral Health Services Provision | Made into Permanent Policy | Sunsetting 5/11/23 | Sunsetting 11/11/23 | Comments |
|---|----------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------|
| <p>NC Innovations and NC TBI Waiver: Annual reassessments of level of care that exceeds the 60-calendar-day approval requirement beginning on March 13, 2020, will remain open, and services will continue for three months to allow sufficient time for the care coordinator to complete the annual reassessment paperwork. Additional time may be awarded on a case-by-case basis when conditions from COVID-19 impedes this process. Annual reassessments of level of care may be postponed by 90 calendar days to allow sufficient time to complete the annual reassessment and accompanying paperwork.</p> | | | X | Policy 8P and NC TBI Waiver |
| <p>NC Innovations: Community Living and Supports may be provided in acute care hospital or short-term institutional stay, when the waiver participant is displaced from home because of COVID-19 and the waiver participant needs direct assistance with ADLs, behavioral supports or communication supports on a continuous and ongoing basis and such supports are otherwise not available in these settings.</p> | | | X | Policy 8P |
| <p>NC Innovations and NC TBI Waiver: Allow beneficiaries to receive fewer than one service per month during this amendment without being subject to discharge.</p> | | | X | Policy 8P and NC TBI Waiver |
| <p>NC Innovations and NC TBI Waiver: Waive the face-to-face requirements for monthly and quarterly care coordination/beneficiary meetings for individuals receiving residential supports, new to waiver or relative-as-provider during this amendment. Waive the face-to-face requirements for quarterly care coordinator/beneficiary meetings. Individuals who do not receive at least one service per month will receive monthly monitoring (which can be telephonic) as quarterly meetings are not sufficient for such individuals. Monthly and quarterly monitoring will occur telephonically. This telephonic assessment/monitoring will be conducted in accordance with HIPAA requirements.</p> | | | X | Policy 8P and NC TBI Waiver |
| <p>NC Innovations and NC TBI Waiver Temporarily include retainer payments to address emergency- related issues.</p> | | | X | Policy 8P and NC TBI Waiver |

| Behavioral Health Services Provision | Made into Permanent Policy | Sunsetting 5/11/23 | Sunsetting 11/11/23 | Comments |
|---|-----------------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| NC Innovations: Allow for relatives of adult waiver beneficiaries to provide services to beneficiaries in Supported Living arrangements prior to background checks and training for 90 days. | | | X | Policy 8P |
| NC Innovations: Respite may be utilized during school hours for sickness or injury, when a student is suspended or expelled, or school hours during the public health emergency necessitate remote learning. | | | X | Policy 8P |
| NC Innovations and NC TBI Waiver: Allow for existing staff to continue to provide service for 90 days when CPR and NCI re-certification has lapsed. | | | X | Policy 8P and NC TBI Waiver |
| NC TBI Waiver: Life Skills Training (for behavioral intervention) and Personal Care may be provided in acute care hospital or short-term institutional stay, when the waiver participant is displaced from home because of COVID-19 and the waiver participant needs direct assistance with ADLs, behavioral supports or communication supports on a continuous and ongoing basis and such supports are otherwise not available in these settings. | | | X | NC TBI Waiver |
| NC Innovations: Waive Support Intensity Scale Assessments/reassessment during amendment. | | | X | |

| Behavioral Health Services Provisions that Ended June 30, 2022 | Comments |
|---|-----------------|
| (b)(3) Supported Employment (Initial and Maintenance): For Supported Employment for individuals with mental health needs (individual placement and support), service may be provided by two-way, real-time audio and video, as well as telephonically. | (b) waiver |
| Substance Abuse Medically Monitored Community Residential Treatment: Allow supervision of QP, AP to occur virtually. | Policy 8A |
| Community Support Team: Allow team meetings to occur virtually. | Policy 8A-6 |
| Community Support Team: Waive requirement that 75% of the service must be delivered face-to-face and outside of agency. | Policy 8A-6 |
| Mobile Crisis Management: | Policy 8A |

| Behavioral Health Services Provisions that Ended June 30, 2022 | Comments |
|--|--|
| Waive requirement that 80% of the service must be provided face-to-face. | |
| Intensive In-Home: Waive requirement that staff must be dedicated to the team. | Policy 8A |
| Intensive In-Home: Waive requirements that 60% of contacts should be face-to-face and 60% of staff time should be spent outside of facility. | Policy 8A |
| Intensive In-Home: Waive team-to-family ratio of 1:12. | Policy 8A |
| Intensive In-Home: Allow for supervision by any licensed professional on the team or employed by the provider agency, within scope and training, if Team Lead is sick or unavailable. | Policy 8A |
| Multisystemic Therapy: Waive requirements that 50% of face-to-face contact with beneficiary and family and 60% of staff time should occur outside of facility. | Policy 8A |
| Multisystemic Therapy: Waive maximum of 480 units per three months. | Policy 8A |
| Outpatient Opioid Treatment: Allow seven days of take-home, reduced from policy flexibility of 28 days take-home. | Policy 8A <i>The 28 days will sunset, but the policy is in review to allow take home doses in line with CFR/State Rule.</i> |
| Child and Adolescent Day Treatment: Waive requirement that staff must be dedicated to the team. | Policy 8A *Only one position is 'dedicated in the policy' |
| Child and Adolescent Day Treatment: Waive requirement that a maximum of 25% of treatment services may be provided outside of the day treatment facility. Waive staff-to-beneficiary ratio if provided outside of the facility. | Policy 8A |
| Child and Adolescent Day Treatment: Waive requirements for staff training within 30 and 90 days of employment and follow-up, and ongoing continuing education requirements for fidelity of clinical models, if unable to be obtained during the state of emergency. | Policy 8A |
| Substance Abuse Intensive Outpatient Program: Waive requirement that the CCS or LCAS be on-site 50% of the hours open; but must be available virtually. | Policy 8A |
| Substance Abuse Comprehensive Outpatient Treatment: Waive beneficiary-to-staff ratio if provided outside of the facility. | Policy 8A |
| Substance Abuse Comprehensive Outpatient Treatment: Waive requirement that CCS or LCAS must be on-site but must be available virtually a minimum of 90% of the hours the service is in operation. | Policy 8A |

| Behavioral Health Services Provisions that Ended June 30, 2022 | Comments |
|---|--|
| Community Support Team: Waive Comprehensive Clinical Assessment beyond six months of treatment. | Policy 8A-6 |
| Community Support Team: Waive staff to beneficiary ratio of 1:12. | Policy 8A-6 |
| Community Support Team: Waive monitoring of delivery of service by team leader. | Policy 8A-6 |
| Community Support Team: Waive staff training requirements within 30 and 90 days of employment, if unable to be obtained during the state of emergency. | Policy 8A-6 |
| Community Support Team: Allow functional assessments and crisis interventions to be completed by telehealth or telephonic modalities, as clinically appropriate. | Policy 8A-6 |
| Assertive Community Treatment: Waive staff training requirements within 120 days of employment, if unable to be obtained during the state of emergency. | Policy 8A-1 |
| Assertive Community Treatment: Allow any agency-employed, licensed staff to provide supervision within scope if team lead is sick or unavailable. | Policy 8A-1 clinical supervision permitted by ACT team clinical leadership with the team leader as the primary clinical supervisor |
| Assertive Community Treatment: Allow Associate licensed professional to have more than 30 months to become fully licensed. | Policy 8A-1 |
| Assertive Community Treatment: Waive requirement that staff must be dedicated to the team. | Policy 8A-1 |
| Developmental and Psychological Testing provided via telehealth: 96110, 96112, 96113, 96116, 96121, 96130, 96131, 96132, 96133, 96136, 96137, 96138, 96139, 96146 | Policy 8C |
| Outpatient Behavioral Health Services Provided by Direct-Enrolled Providers: Waive initial and reauthorization. | Policy 8C |
| Peer Support Services (PSS): Waive staff-to-beneficiary ratio. | Policy 8G |
| Peer Support Services (PSS): Waive requirement that telephone time be 20% or less of total service time per individual per year. | Policy 8G |
| Peer Support Services (PSS): Waive staff training requirements unable to be obtained during the state of emergency within 30 and 90 days of employment. | Policy 8G |
| Peer Support Services (PSS): | Policy 8G |

| Behavioral Health Services Provisions that Ended June 30, 2022 | Comments |
|---|-----------------------------|
| Waive initial authorization and reauthorization. | |
| Residential Treatment Services Level III: Waive staff training requirements if unable to be obtained during the state of emergency, except for sex offender specific training | Policy 8D-2 |
| Residential Treatment Services Level I and II – Family Type: Waive reauthorization. | Policy 8D-2 |
| Residential Treatment Services Level I and II – Family Type: Waive staff training requirements unable to be performed during the state of emergency, except sex offender specific training. | Policy 8D-2 |
| Residential Treatment Services 8D-2 Level II-Program Type: Waive Reauthorization | Policy 8D-2 |
| Residential Treatment Services Level IV: Allow social worker, psychologist or psychiatrist to provide services via telehealth instead of providing them in-person at facility. | Policy 8D-2 |
| Residential Treatment Services Level IV: Waive requirement that parent, and legal guardian must participate in rehabilitation plan development and implementation if unavailable due to illness. | Policy 8D-2 |
| Residential Treatment Services Level IV: Waive opportunity for individual inclusion in community activities. | Policy 8D-2 |
| Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facility for Children under the Age of 21: Allow psychiatrist to provide services via telehealth instead of providing on-site at the facility. | Policy 8D-1 |
| Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facility for Children under the Age of 21: Allow licensed therapist(s) to provide services via telehealth instead of providing on-site at the facility. | Policy 8D-1 |
| Therapeutic Leave for Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facilities for Children under the Age of 21 Residential Treatment Services Levels II-IV: Allow an increase of Therapeutic Leave days from 45 days to 90 days. | Policy 8D-1 and Policy 8D-2 |
| Mobile Crisis Management: Real-time, two-way interactive audio and video telehealth | CCP 8A |
| Multisystemic Therapy: Real-time, two-way interactive audio and video telehealth | CCP 8A |
| Multisystemic Therapy: Telephonic if telehealth not accessible | CCP 8A |
| Child and Adolescent Day Treatment: Allow for supervision by any licensed professional, within scope, employed by the provider agency if team lead is sick or unavailable. | CCP 8A |
| Child and Adolescent Day Treatment: Allow service when school is not in operation. | CCP 8A |
| Intensive In-Home: Telephonic if telehealth not accessible | CCP 8A |
| Assertive Community Treatment: Telephonic if telehealth not accessible | CCP 8A-1 |
| Assertive Community Treatment: Real-time, two-way interactive audio and video telehealth | CCP 8A-1 |
| Community Support Team: Real-time, two-way interactive audio and video telehealth | CCP 8A-6 |
| Community Support Team: Telephonic if telehealth not accessible | CCP 8A-6 |
| Facility-Based Crisis Services for Children and Adolescents: Waive staff training requirements if unable to be obtained during the state of emergency. | Policy 8A-2 |
| Facility-Based Crisis Services for Children and Adolescents: Allow behavioral assessment to be completed by telehealth by the psychologist. | Policy 8A-2 |

For additional details, please see:

- [CCP 8C Outpatient Behavioral Health Services](#) (amended March. 1, 2023).
- [CCP 8G Peer Support Services](#) (amended Aug. 15, 2022).
- [CCP 8A-2 Facility-Based Crisis Services for Children and Adolescents](#) (amended May 15, 2022).
- [CCP 8F – Research Based – Behavioral Health Treatment](#) (Amended Dec. 1, 2020).

For questions, please contact the Behavioral Health Section at 919 527-7630.

Children’s Development Services Agencies

All temporary Children’s Developmental Service Agencies (CDSAs) policy flexibilities outlined in [COVID-19 Special Bulletins](#) that have not been made permanent or ended on June 30, 2022 with the end of the NC State of Emergency, will be end-dated on either May 11, 2023 for Disaster SPA flexibilities which end with the end of the federal PHE, or November 11, 2023 for Appendix K flexibilities, which end 6 months after the federal PHE.

Except where indicated below, all CDSA COVID-19 policy flexibilities documented in COVID-19 Special Bulletin [#34](#) which did not end on June 30, 2022, will end on either May 11, 2023 or November 11, 2023.

Please see the table below for a summary of the flexibilities that were made permanent and/or will end effective May 11, 2023 or November 11, 2023:

| Provision | Made into Permanent Policy | Sunsetting 5/11/23 | Sunsetting 11/11/23 | Comments |
|---|----------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|--|
| For CDSAs and applicable independent practitioners who provide individualized family service plan (IFSP) services on behalf of a CDSA, CPT codes +90785, 90791, 90832, 90834, 90837, 90839, +90840, 90846, 90847, 92507, 92521, 92522, 92523, 92524, 92526, 99201, 99202, 99203, 99204, 99205, 99211, 99212, 99213, 99214, 99215, 99241, 99242, 99243, 99244, 99245 and T1023 were made permanent CDSAs and applicable independent practitioners who provide individualized family service plan (IFSP) services on behalf of a CDSA. | X | | | Policy 8J See Telehealth Billing Code Summary for applicable provider details See Policy 8C for additional information on outpatient behavioral health therapy |
| CPT codes 96110, 96116, 96130, 96131, 96132, 96133, 96146 | X | | | |

| Provisions that Ended June 30, 2022 | Comments |
|---|--|
| For CDSAs and applicable independent practitioners who provide individualized family service plan (IFSP) services on behalf of a CDSA, CPT/HCPCS codes 92630, 92633, 96110, 96112, 96113, 96116, 96121, 96130, 96132, 96133, 97110, 97112, 97116, 97162, 97163, 97164, 97165, 97166, 97167, 97168, 97533, 97535, 97542, 97750, 97763, 97802, 97803, 92526, H0031, H0036, H0036-HI, H0035-HM, H0036-HQ, H0036-TL, H0036-UI, and T1017 telehealth flexibilities will end on June 30, 2022. | Policy 8J See NC Medicaid Telehealth Billing Code Summary for applicable provider details See Policy 8C for additional information on outpatient behavioral health therapy |

For additional guidance, see [Medicaid Bulletin](#) and updates to the following NC Medicaid clinical coverage policies:

- [Clinical Coverage Policy 8J, Children’s Developmental Service Agencies](#) (amended Jan. 1, 2021).
- [Clinical Coverage Policy 10A, Outpatient Specialized Therapies](#) (amended Oct. 15, 2022).
- [Clinical Coverage Policy 10B, Outpatient Specialized Therapies, Independent Practitioners](#) (amended Oct. 1, 2022)
- [Clinical Coverage Policy 8C, Outpatient Behavioral Health Services by Direct-Enrolled Providers](#) (amended Sept. 01, 2021)

For questions, please contact the Behavioral Health Section at 919 527-7630.

Community Alternatives Program for Children and Disabled Adults (CAP/C and CAP/DA)

All temporary Community Alternatives Program for Children and Disabled Adults (CAP/C and CAP/DA) Policy flexibilities outlined in [Medicaid Bulletin #143](#) and [#22](#) have **not** been made permanent for the CAP waiver programs by this publication. A waiver amendment and policy revision are in progress.

All temporary Community Alternatives Program for Children and Disabled Adults (CAP/C and CAP/DA) flexibilities that have not been made permanent that were listed in the special bulletins will be end-dated on November 11, 2023.

Please see the table below for a summary of the flexibilities that were made permanent and/or will end effective May 11, 2023 or November 11, 2023:

| Community Alternatives Programs for Children and Disabled Adults Provision | Made into Permanent Policy | Sunsetting 5/11/23 | Sunsetting 11/11/23 | Comments |
|--|----------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|---|
| Waiver cost limits. Service and utilization limits may be exceeded when determined service needs are directly related to PHE. | X | | | Service and utilization limits may be exceeded upon a determination of need evaluation. |
| Retroactive approval dates. Allows retroactive approval dates to the effective date of the Appendix K when services are needed and the waiver beneficiary, caregiver or provider is impacted by COVID-19 and cannot complete the service plan within up to 30 calendar days of the request. | X | | | The CAP Clinical Coverage policies (3K-1 and 3K-2) have a retroactive approval process in place. Upon the expiration of the PHE, the service plan may be executed without a signature within up to 30 calendar days of the request, when qualifying conditions are met. |
| Reassessment of need. Allows extended date for annual reassessment of need (or level of care [LOC]) when the assessment cannot be conducted due to the waiver beneficiary, caregiver or provider being directly impacted by COVID-19. Permits the waiving of the annual LOC assessment to maintain continuous enrollment in the waiver through the duration of the public health emergency. | X | | | New process when made into permanent policy – Allows the annual reassessment of need (or level of care [LOC]) to be extended by 90 calendar days when the assessment cannot be conducted due to the waiver beneficiary, caregiver, or provider being directly impacted by unforeseen circumstances or infectious viruses The quarterly multidisciplinary team meeting prior to the annual reassessment confirms that the waiver participant continues to meet the LOC from the assessed functional needs. |

| Community Alternatives Programs for Children and Disabled Adults Provision | Made into Permanent Policy | Sunsetting 5/11/23 | Sunsetting 11/11/23 | Comments |
|---|----------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|--|
| Purchase Order. The coverage of a one-time purchase order process for each approved service to promote an on-demand quick procurement when the goods and service items listed in the Appendix K are readily available in retail. | X | | | <i>To offer an ease of access to goods and services, case management entities can enter into agreement with retailers for a waiver beneficiary to obtain approved services listed in the Plan of Care. This case management process will be permanently added to the 3K-1 and 3K-2 policies.</i> |
| Participant goods and services. Covers disinfectant wipes, hand sanitizer and disinfectant spray for certified nursing assistants or personal assistants who can continue to render in-home, pediatric and/or nurse care to a waiver participant. Covers cloth face mask, smart devices, facial tissue, thermometer, and specific colored trash liners to distinguish dirty linen of infected household member(s) to prevent spread. Also, coverage includes non-medical transportation to Adult Day Health programs when transportation is needed and not available through the Adult Day Health program. | X | | | <i>Goods and services provided during the PHE will be permanently added to the 3K-1 and 3K-2 policy and these services can be used for protection from infectious viruses.</i> |
| Community transition. Covers a less than 90-day institutionalized Medicaid beneficiary experiencing COVID-19 symptoms who can safely transition to home and community-based placement using HCBS services. | X | | | <i>An individual in a nursing facility or hospital who meet a level may access community transition services to begin transitioning to a community setting within 90-days of the institutionalized placement. This process will be added permanently to the 3K-1 and 3K-2 polices.</i> |
| Meals. Covers one lunch meal per day for aged and disabled adults participating in CAP/DA who are approved to receive meal preparation and delivery and their meal delivery services are suspended due to COVID-19. This service may cover one food delivery meal (e.g., Uber Eats, DoorDash, Grub Hub, frozen meal, or similar service) per day. | x | | | <i>Accessing meals through a food delivery services and receipt of frozen meals will be permanently added to the 3K-2 policy.</i> |
| Home accessibility and adaptation. Covers germicidal air filters. | x | | | <i>Goods and services provided during the PHE will be permanently added to the 3K-1 and 3K-2 policies and these</i> |

| Community Alternatives Programs for Children and Disabled Adults Provision | Made into Permanent Policy | Sunsetting 5/11/23 | Sunsetting 11/11/23 | Comments |
|--|----------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|--|
| | | | | <i>services can be used for protection from infectious viruses.</i> |
| Retainer payments. Allows the authorization of retainer payments to a direct worker in the amount, frequency and duration as listed on the currently approved service plan when a waiver participant or hired worker is directly impacted by COVID-19. | X | | | To ensure ongoing access to care when an unforeseen temporary absence from the home is required, the waiver participant may be able to retain their worker for up to a duration of two weeks. This service option will be permanently added to the 3K-1 and 3K-2 policies. |
| Training/Education/Consultative Services. Covers training for the paid worker on the use of personal protective equipment (PPE) and other identified training needs specific to the care needs of waiver participants to prevent the spread of COVID-19. | | X | | <i>Reimbursement to a paid caregiver for training and education will not be added to the 3K-1 and the 3K-2 policies as a permanent accessible service.</i> |
| Case management. Cover quarterly telephonic contact with waiver participant and quarterly telephonic contact with service providers to monitor COVID-19 service plan, other essential case management needs and initial and annual telephonic assessments of level of care and reasonable indication of need. | | | X | The current case management contact engagement as described in the current 3K-1 and 3K-2 policies will be reinstated after the expiration of the PHE. |
| In-home care, pediatric nurse aide, personal care assistance and congregate care. Services are not required to be used on a monthly basis. Services approved in the service plan may be rendered in various amounts, frequencies, durations, and settings, but no less than what has been approved in the service plan. Covers payment to in-home care, pediatric nurse aide, personal care assistance and congregate care to a non-live-in close relative or legally responsible person for waiver participant whose hired worker is not able to render the service because of impact from COVID-19. | | | X | Waiver participants enrolled in the CAP/C and CAP/DA waivers who are not using waiver services due to the PHE flexibilities must be reassessed on an identified schedule beginning May 11, 2023 to identify the ongoing need for waiver services. All participants will be required to use waiver services after the expiration of the PHE for CAP/C and CAP/DA waivers. |

| Community Alternatives Programs for Children and Disabled Adults Provisions that Ended June 30, 2022 | Comments |
|--|----------|
| Flexibilities allowing individuals to transfer from one CAP benefit plan to another. | |

For questions, please contact the CAP/C or CAP/DA Section at 919-855-4340.

Dental Services

All temporary Dental *policy* flexibilities outlined in [COVID-19 Special Bulletins](#) that have not been made permanent or ended on June 30, 2022 with the end of the NC State of Emergency, will be end-dated on either May 11, 2023 for Disaster SPA flexibilities which end with the end of the federal PHE, or November 11, 2023 for Appendix K flexibilities, which end 6 months after the federal PHE.

All dental flexibilities that have not been made permanent that were listed in the COVID-19 Special Bulletins [#36](#) and [#87](#) which did not end on June 30, 2022, will end on either May 11, 2023 or November 11, 2023.

Please see the table below for a summary of the flexibilities that were made permanent and/or will end effective May 11, 2023 or November 11, 2023:

| Dental Services Provision | Made into Permanent Policy | Sunsetting 5/11/23 | Sunsetting 11/11/23 | Comments |
|--|----------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|---|
| Allow provider to provider teledentistry services (D9995 Teledentistry – synchronous, real time encounter) via synchronous, live audio and video transmission when reported with oral evaluation codes D0140 or D0170. | X | | | |
| Allow the application of silver diamine fluoride (D1354 Interim caries arresting medicament application per tooth) for all ages. | -- | | | <i>This is in review for permanent placement in policy.</i> |
| Allow the application of silver diamine fluoride (D1354 Interim caries arresting medicament application per tooth) for all permanent teeth (1-32). | -- | | | <i>This is in review for permanent placement in policy.</i> |
| Allow provider to provider teledentistry services (D9996 Teledentistry – asynchronous, information stored and forwarded to dentist for subsequent review) when reported with oral evaluation codes D0140 or D0170. | -- | | | <i>This is in review for permanent placement in policy.</i> |

| Dental Services Provisions that Ended June 30, 2022 | Comments |
|--|---|
| Allow the topical application of fluoride varnish (D1206) for all ages. | This reverts to the original coverage for D1206 under age 21. |
| Allow the topical application of fluoride varnish (D1206) once per three calendar month period (approximately every 90 days) for patients at high risk for caries (active disease or previous caries related treatment). | This reverts to the original coverage for D1206 to every six calendar months. |
| Allow provider to patient teledentistry services (D9995 Teledentistry – synchronous, real time encounter) via synchronous, live audio and video transmission when reported with oral evaluation codes D0140 or D0170. | |

| Dental Services Provisions that Ended June 30, 2022 | Comments |
|--|----------|
| Allow provider to patient teledentistry services (D9996 Teledentistry – asynchronous, information stored and forwarded to dentist for subsequent review) via synchronous, live audio and video transmission when reported with oral evaluation codes D0140 or D0170. | |
| Allow provider to patient teledentistry services (D0999 telephone or audio-only encounters) that do not result in a diagnosis. | |

For questions, please contact the Dental Program Section at (919) 855-4280.

Durable Medical Equipment

All temporary Durable Medical Equipment (DME) policy flexibilities outlined in [COVID-19 Special Bulletins](#) that have not been made permanent or ended on June 30, 2022 with the end of the NC State of Emergency, will be end-dated on either May 11, 2023 for Disaster SPA flexibilities which end with the end of the federal PHE, or November 11, 2023 for Appendix K flexibilities, which end 6 months after the federal PHE

Please see the table below for a summary of the flexibilities that were made permanent and/or will end effective May 11, 2023 or November 11, 2023:

| Provision | Made into Permanent Policy | Sunsetting 5/11/23 | Sunsetting 11/11/23 | Comments |
|---|----------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|-------------|
| HCPCS E0445, portable pulse oximeter for purchase was added for permanent coverage effective Oct. 1, 2020 | X | | | Policy 5A-2 |
| PA requirement was permanently removed for HCPCS E0575, nebulizer, ultrasonic | X | | | Policy 5A-2 |
| HCPCS A4670, automatic blood pressure monitor was added for permanent coverage effective Oct. 1, 2020 | X | | | Policy 5A-3 |
| HCPCS E1639, scale, each was added for permanent coverage effective Oct. 1, 2020 | X | | | Policy 5A-3 |
| PA requirement was permanently removed for HCPCS E2100, blood glucose monitor with integrated voice synthesizer | X | | | Policy 5A-3 |
| PA requirement was permanently removed for non-therapeutic continuous glucose monitors and supplies, HCPCS A9276, A9277 and A9278 | X | | | Policy 5A-3 |

| Provisions that Ended June 30, 2022 | Comments |
|---|----------|
| Except where noted above, all temporary COVID-19 DME prior authorization and quantity limit waivers | |
| HCPCS A4928, surgical mask, per 20, coverage ending June 30, 2022, unless prior approved as a non-coverage exception via EPSDT or 42CFR, part 440.70. | |

All DME COVID-19 policy flexibilities are documented in COVID-19 Special Bulletins #[2](#), [10](#), [15](#), [29](#), [52](#) and [69](#). This section is **not** intended to summarize all DME policy updates made during calendar years 2020 and 2021. It is intended only to address temporary COVID-19 flexibilities communicated via COVID-19 Special Bulletins #[2](#), [10](#), [15](#), [29](#), [52](#) and [69](#).

For additional details, see Medicaid Bulletins:

- [Updates to Clinical Coverage Policy 5A-2, Respiratory Equipment and Supplies](#) dated 10/20/2020.
- [Updates to Clinical Coverage Policy 5A-3, Nursing Equipment and Supplies](#) dated 10/20/2020.

For questions, please contact the DME Section via e-mail at Medicaid.COVID19@dhhs.nc.gov.

End Stage Renal Disease (ESRD) Services

End Stage Renal Disease (ESRD) service flexibilities outlined in [COVID-19 Special Bulletins](#) have been made permanent in [NC Medicaid Clinical Coverage Policy, 1A-34, Dialysis Services](#).

Please see the below table with a summary of the flexibilities which were made permanent.

| Provision | Made into Permanent Policy | Sunsetting 5/11/23 | Sunsetting 11/11/23 | Comments |
|---|----------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|---|
| <p>Provision of End Stage Renal Disease (ESRD) services, including monthly/daily capitation services and training conducted via telemedicine interactive audio-visual communication for new and established patients.</p> <p>NC Medicaid- CPT codes 90951, 90952, 90953, 90954, 90955, 90956, 90957, 90958, 90959, 90960, 90961, 90962, 90963, 90964, 90965, 90966, 90967, 90968, 90969, 90970, 90989, and 90993</p> <p>NC Health Choice- CPT Codes 90954, 90955, 90956, 90957, 90958, 90959, 90964, 90965, 90968, 90969, 90989, and 90993</p> | X | | | <p>Refer to NC Medicaid Clinical Coverage Policy, 1A-34, Dialysis Services.</p> |

For questions, please contact the Medical Health Section at 919-527-7660.

Family Planning

All temporary 1E-7, Family Planning Services Policy flexibilities outlined in [COVID-19 Special Bulletins # 54, 86, and 156](#) which did not end on June 30, 2022, will end on either May 11, 2023 or November 11, 2023.

Please see the table below for a summary of the flexibilities that were made permanent and/or will end effective May 11, 2023 or November 11, 2023:

| Provision | Made into Permanent Policy | Sunsetting 5/11/23 | Sunsetting 11/11/23 | Comments |
|--|----------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|----------|
| Established Patient Evaluation and Management visits via telehealth (CPT codes 99212, 99213, 99214 and 99215) | X | | | |
| Office Consultations via telehealth (CPT codes 99241, 99242, 99243, 99244, 99245) | X | | | |
| Removing the Annual Comprehensive Preventive Medicine Examination requirement and replacing with an Annual Assessment requirement. | X | | | |

For questions, please contact the Medical Health Section at 919-527-7660.

Home Health

All temporary Home Health flexibilities that have not been made permanent that were listed in the [COVID-19 Special Bulletins](#) that have not been made permanent or ended on June 30, 2022 with the end of the NC State of Emergency, will be end-dated on either May 11, 2023 for Disaster SPA flexibilities which end with the end of the federal PHE, or November 11, 2023 for Appendix K flexibilities, which end 6 months after the federal PHE.

Please see the table below for a summary of the flexibilities that were made permanent and/or will end effective May 11, 2023 or November 11, 2023:

| Provision | Made into Permanent Policy | Sunsetting 5/11/23 | Sunsetting 11/11/23 | Comments |
|--|----------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|----------|
| Coverage for weight scales HCPCS code E1639 (Bulletin# 52) Updated in HH fee schedule | X | | | |
| Coverage for automatic blood pressure monitors HCPCS code A4670 (Bulletin #29) Updated in HH fee schedule effective March 30, 2020. | X | | | |
| Coverage for pulse oximetry monitoring device HCPCS code E0445 (Bulletin# 52) | X | | | |

| Provisions that ended June 30, 2022 | Comments |
|---|---------------------------------|
| Lifting annual nursing and home health aide annual visit limits (Bulletin #5) | |
| Waived the requirement of a nurse to conduct onsite supervisory visits every 2 weeks. Allowing them to be conducted utilizing eligible technologies that allow supervising Registered Nurses to remotely communicate and evaluate services rendered as long as it is part of the patient's plan of care and does not replace needed in-person visits. (Bulletin #72) | |
| Waived the requirement of a nurse to conduct onsite supervisory visits every 2 weeks. Allowing them to be conducted utilizing eligible technologies that allow supervising Registered Nurses to remotely communicate and evaluate services rendered as long as it is part of the patient's plan of care and does not replace needed in-person visits. (Bulletin #72) | |
| Waived the Prior Authorization requirement for Home Health Skilled Nursing visits post hospitalization in order to expedite a hospital's ability to discharge patients to a lower level of care when medically appropriate. This applies to both NC Medicaid Direct and NC Medicaid Managed Care Standard Plans. Standard Plans are permitted to require notification within three calendar days of Home Health admission to facilitate care management and care transitions. Home Health providers can begin services with verbal orders from the physician or as per CMS Interim Final Rule 42 CFR 440.40, Licensed Practitioners, as defined by CMS. (Bulletin #178). | <i>Ended September 30, 2021</i> |

For questions, please contact the LTSS Section via e-mail at Medicaid.COVID19@dhhs.nc.gov.

Home Infusion Therapy (HIT)

All temporary Home Infusion Therapy flexibilities that have not been made permanent that were listed in the [COVID-19 Special Bulletins](#) that have not been made permanent or ended on June 30, 2022 with the end of the NC State of Emergency, will be end-dated on either May 11, 2023 for Disaster SPA flexibilities which end with the end of the federal PHE, or November 11, 2023 for Appendix K flexibilities, which end 6 months after the federal PHE.

Please see the table below for a summary of the flexibilities that were made permanent and/or will end effective May 11, 2023 or November 11, 2023:

| Provision | Made into Permanent Policy | Sunsetting 5/11/23 | Sunsetting 11/11/23 | Comments |
|---|----------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|---|
| Coverage for weight scales HCPCS code E1639 (Bulletin #52) | X | | | |
| Coverage for automatic blood pressure monitors HCPCS code A4670 (Bulletin #29) | X | | | |
| Two additional drug categories: Immunotherapy (S9338) and Hydration (S9376 and S9377) (Bulletin #26) | -- | | | <i>This is in review for permanent placement in policy.</i> |

For questions, please contact the LTSS Section via e-mail at Medicaid.COVID19@dhhs.nc.gov.

Hospice

All temporary Hospice flexibilities that have not been made permanent that were listed in the [COVID-19 Special Bulletins](#) that have not been made permanent or ended on June 30, 2022 with the end of the NC State of Emergency, will be end-dated on either May 11, 2023 for Disaster SPA flexibilities which end with the end of the federal PHE, or November 11, 2023 for Appendix K flexibilities, which end 6 months after the federal PHE.

Please see the table below for a summary of the flexibilities that were made permanent and/or will end effective May 11, 2023 or November 11, 2023:

| Provision | Made into Permanent Policy | Sunsetting 5/11/23 | Sunsetting 11/11/23 | Comments |
|---|----------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|----------|
| Waived requirement for a nurse to conduct onsite supervisory visits every two (2) weeks, allowing them to be conducted utilizing eligible technologies that allow the supervising nurse to remotely communicate and evaluate services rendered. Allowing these described methods of eligible technologies in all areas of Hospice so long as it is part of the patient’s plan of care and does not replace needed in-person visits. (Bulletin #81) | | X | | |

| Provisions that Ended June 30, 2022 | Comments |
|---|----------|
| Waived the requirement to send to NC Medicaid for prior approval for third and subsequent benefit periods, however, continue the same processes for eligibility. (Bulletin #81) | |
| Waiving the requirement to fax PA confirmation sheet to NC Medicaid; however, election statement must continue to be uploaded to NC Medicaid as required by Hospice Policy: section: 5.12.4. (Bulletin #81) | |
| For Hospice Providers Working with a SNF not designated as a COVID Outbreak or COVID: Response site continued to be reimbursed at 95% of the rate for the SNF in which they were providing services. (Bulletin #100) | |
| For Hospice Providers Working with a SNF designated as a COVID Outbreak or COVID: Response site must follow rate increase requirements outlined in Bulletin #100 to be reimbursed at 95% of the rate for these SNFs. (Bulletin #100) | |

For questions, please contact the LTSS Section via e-mail at Medicaid.COVID19@dhhs.nc.gov.

NC Medicaid Optional Eligibility Group (Includes MAFDN Family Planning Medicaid and Uninsured MCV Beneficiaries)

All temporary NC Medicaid Optional Eligibility Group policy flexibilities outlined in [COVID-19 Special Bulletins](#) that have not been made permanent or ended on June 30, 2022 with the end of the NC State of Emergency, will be end-dated on either May 11, 2023 for Disaster SPA flexibilities which end with the end of the federal PHE, or November 11, 2023 for Appendix K flexibilities, which end 6 months after the federal PHE.

Please see the table below for a summary of the flexibilities that were made permanent and/or will end effective May 11, 2023 or November 11, 2023:

| Provision | Made into Permanent Policy | Sunsetting 5/11/23 | Sunsetting 11/11/23 | Comments |
|--|----------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|----------|
| Laboratory Services for COVID-19 Testing. CPT/HCPCS codes 87811, 86408, 86409, U0001, U0002, U0003, U0004, U0005, 87426, 87428, 87635, 87636, 87637, 0225U, 0226U, 0240U, 0241U, 86328, 86769, 36415, C9803, G2023, and G2024 | | X | | |
| COVID Vaccine Booster Administration. CPT codes 91300, 0001A, 0002A, 0003A, 0004A, 91301, 0011A, 0012A, 0013A, 91303, 0011A, 0012A, 0031A, 0034A, 0064A, 0071A, 0072A, 91305, 91306, M0201 | | X | | |
| COVID Monoclonal Antibody Administration. CPT codes M0220, M0221, M0239, M0240, M0241, M0243, M0244, M0245, M0246, M0247, M0248, M0249, M0250 | | X | | |
| COVID Vaccination Counseling. Preventative medicine counseling and/or risk factor reduction intervention (s) provided to an individual, up to 15 minutes (CPT 99401) | | X | | |
| Treatment of COVID-19 with coverage guidelines outlined in Special Bulletin COVID-19 #206: Coverage for COVID-19 Treatment for NC Medicaid Optional Eligibility Group | | X | | |

For questions, please contact the Medical Health Section at 919-527-7660.

Nursing Facility

All temporary nursing facilities policies outlined in COVID-19 Special Bulletins [#15](#), [#34](#), [#46](#), [#79](#), and [#103](#) which did not end on June 30, 2022, will end on either May 11, 2023 or November 11, 2023.

Please see the table below for a summary of the flexibilities that were made permanent and/or will end effective May 11, 2023 or November 11, 2023:

| Provision | Made into Permanent Policy | Sunsetting 5/11/23 | Sunsetting 11/11/23 | Comments |
|---|----------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|----------|
| Allowance for Remote MDS validations via Myers and Stauffer | X | | | |
| Waived requirement for a 3-day prior hospitalization for coverage of a skilled nursing facility stay | | X | | |
| Coverage for certain beneficiaries who recently exhausted their SNF benefits renewed without first having to start a new benefit period | | X | | |

| Provisions that Ended June 30, 2022 | Comments |
|---|----------|
| Allowing SNFs to bill for Telehealth as the originating site | |
| Allowance for Remote Level 2 PASRR Assessments | |
| Telehealth provisions for SNF physicians, nurse practitioners, and physician assistants and codes 99307, 99308, 99309, and 99310 as outlined in Special Bulletin #103 | |

For questions, please contact the LTSS Section via e-mail at Medicaid.COVID19@dhhs.nc.gov.

Obstetrical Services

1E-5, Obstetrical Services policy flexibilities outlined in [COVID-19 Special Bulletins](#) that have not been made permanent or ended on June 30, 2022 with the end of the NC State of Emergency, will be end-dated on either May 11, 2023 for Disaster SPA flexibilities which end with the end of the federal PHE, or November 11, 2023 for Appendix K flexibilities, which end 6 months after the federal PHE.

Please see the table below for a summary of the flexibilities that were made permanent and/or will end effective May 11, 2023 or November 11, 2023:

| Obstetrical Services Provision | Made into Permanent Policy | Sunsetting 5/11/23 | Sunsetting 11/11/23 | Comments |
|--|----------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|--|
| Maternal Support Services: Birthing Classes, Nonphysician Provider, Per Session via telemedicine interactive audio-visual communication (HCPCS Code S9442) | X | | | Refer to NC Medicaid Clinical Coverage Policy 1M-2, Childbirth Education |
| <p>Perinatal Care: Provision of perinatal (antepartum or postpartum) visits to be conducted via telemedicine interactive audio-visual communication to a new or established patient.</p> <p>Global/Package Billing: CPT codes 59400, 59510, 59410, 59515, 59425, 59426, 59430</p> <p>Individual Prenatal Visit Billing: Evaluation and Management Codes 99202-99205 (New Patient) and 99211-99215 (Established Patient)</p> <p>FQHC, FQHC Look-Alike or RHC Billing: Core HCPCS code T1015</p> | X | | | |
| <p>Perinatal Care: Hybrid telemedicine with supporting home visit for perinatal services.</p> <p>Global/Package Billing: Originating site facility HCPCS code Q3014 billed in conjunction with global package codes 59400, 59510, 59410, 59515, 59425, 59426, or 59430</p> <p>FQHC, FQHC Look-Alike or RHC Billing: Originating site facility HCPCS code Q3014 billed in conjunction with T1015</p> <p>Individual Prenatal Visit Billing: Originating site facility HCPCS code Q3014 billed in conjunction with the appropriate home visit CPT code 99347-99350</p> | X | | | |

| Obstetrical Services Provision | Made into Permanent Policy | Sunsetting 5/11/23 | Sunsetting 11/11/23 | Comments |
|--|----------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|----------|
| Postpartum Depression Screening: Brief emotional/behavioral assessment [e.g., depression inventory, attention-deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) scale], with scoring and documentation, per standardized instrument provided via telemedicine interactive audio-visual communication to a new or established patient. (CPT Code 96127- Billed by the mother’s provider) | X | | | |
| Postpartum Depression Screening: Administration of caregiver-focused health risk assessment instrument (e.g., ‘health hazard appraisal’), for benefit of the patient, with scoring and documentation per standardized instrument provided via telemedicine interactive audio-visual communication to a new or established patient. (CPT Code 96161- Billed by the child’s provider) | X | | | |
| Smoking and Tobacco Cessation: Provision of smoking and tobacco cessation counseling to be conducted completed via telemedicine interactive audio-visual communication for obstetrical patients. CPT codes 99406 and 99407 | X | | | |

| Obstetrical Services Provisions that Ended June 30, 2022 | Comments |
|---|----------|
| Maternal Support Services: Home Visit for Postnatal Assessment via telemedicine audio-visual communication (CPT Code 99501) | |
| Maternal Support Services: Home Visit for Newborn Care and Assessment via telemedicine audio-visual communication (CPT code 99502) | |

For questions, please contact the Medical Health Section at 919-527-7660.

Outpatient Specialized Therapies

All temporary Outpatient Specialized Therapies policy flexibilities outlined in [COVID-19 Special Bulletins](#) that have not been made permanent or ended on June 30, 2022 with the end of the NC State of Emergency, will be end-dated on either May 11, 2023 for Disaster SPA flexibilities which end with the end of the federal PHE, or November 11, 2023 for Appendix K flexibilities, which end 6 months after the federal PHE.

Please see the table below for a summary of the flexibilities that were made permanent and/or will end effective May 11, 2023 or November 11, 2023:

| Outpatient Specialized Therapies Provision | Made into Permanent Policy | Sunsetting 5/11/23 | Sunsetting 11/11/23 | Comments |
|--|----------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|----------------------|
| CPT codes 92507, 92521, 92522, 92523, 92524, 92526, 92607, 92608 and 92609 were added for permanent telehealth coverage when provided by speech-language pathologists effective July 1, 2021 | X | | | Policies 10A and 10B |
| CPT codes 90832, 90834, 90837, 90847 and 90853 were added for permanent telehealth coverage when provided by school psychologists and school counseling professionals effective Jan. 1, 2021 | X | | | Policy 10C |
| CPT codes 92507, 92521, 92522, 92523, 92524, 92526, 92607, 92608 and 92609 were added for permanent telehealth coverage when provided by speech-language pathologists effective June 15, 2021 | X | | | Policy 10C |
| CPT codes 94664, 94760 and 99504 were added for permanent telehealth coverage when provided by respiratory therapists effective Jan. 1, 2021 | X | | | Policy 10D |

| Outpatient Specialized Therapies Provision that Ended June 30, 2022 | Comments |
|--|----------|
| Temporary waiver of prior authorization for outpatient respiratory therapy | |
| Temporary telehealth flexibilities activated for audiology CPT codes 92630, and 92633 | |
| Temporary telehealth flexibilities activated for speech-language pathology CPT codes 92630, 92633, and 96125 | |
| Temporary telehealth flexibilities activated for occupational therapy CPT codes 97165, 97166, 97167, 97168, 97750, 92065, 92526, 97110, 97112, 97116, 97530, 97533, 97535, 97542, and 97763 | |
| Temporary telehealth flexibilities activated for physical therapy CPT codes 97161, 97162, 97163, 97164, 97750, 97110, 97112, 97116, 97530, 97533, 97535, 97542, 97763, and 95992 | |
| Temporary telehealth flexibilities activated for respiratory therapy CPT codes 94010, 94060, 94150, 94375, and 99503 | |

| Outpatient Specialized Therapies Provision that Ended June 30, 2022 | Comments |
|--|----------|
| Temporary telehealth flexibilities activated for school psychology and school counseling CPT codes 96110, 96112, 96113, 96130, and 96131 | |

For questions, please contact the Outpatient Specialized Therapies Section via e-mail at Medicaid.COVID19@dhhs.nc.gov.

Personal Care Service

All temporary Personal Care Service (PCS) policy flexibilities established in [COVID-19 Special Bulletin #30](#), [COVID-19 Special Bulletin #58](#) and [COVID-19 Special Bulletin #73](#) that have not been made permanent or ended on June 30, 2022 with the end of the NC State of Emergency, will be end-dated on either May 11, 2023 for Disaster SPA flexibilities which end with the end of the federal PHE, or November 11, 2023 for Appendix K flexibilities, which end 6 months after the federal PHE.

Please see the table below for a summary of the flexibilities that were made permanent and/or will end effective May 11, 2023 or November 11, 2023:

| Provision | Made into Permanent Policy | Sunsetting 5/11/23 | Sunsetting 11/11/23 | Comments |
|--|----------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|----------------------|
| Acceptance of electronic physician signatures for referrals. | X | | | Permitted by policy. |
| Acceptance of electronically submitted documentation which would typically be reviewed during face-to-face assessment. | X | | | Permitted by policy. |

| Provisions that Ended June 30, 2022 | Comments |
|---|----------|
| Use of telephonic assessments in place of in-person assessments. | |
| Use of virtual real-time supervisory visits in place of in-person. | |
| Use of telephonic mediation and appeal resolution. | |
| Extension from 90 days to 120 days for the requirement to meet with practitioner in the preceding period for new referrals. | |
| Authorization for In-Home PCS delivered in a temporary alternate primary private location. | |
| In situations where beneficiary or legally responsible person's written consent cannot be attained, acceptance of a "verbal signature" or "verbal concurrence". | |

For questions, please contact the LTSS Section via e-mail at Medicaid.COVID19@dhhs.nc.gov.

Pharmacy

All temporary Pharmacy flexibilities that had not been made permanent that were listed in the [COVID-19 Special Bulletins](#) and relayed via [Pharmacy Newsletters](#) which did not end on June 30, 2022, will end on either May 11, 2023 or November 11, 2023. The one area of the pharmacy program which was suspended was restarted July 1, 2022.

Please see the table below for a summary of the flexibilities that were made permanent and/or will end effective May 11, 2023 or November 11, 2023:

| Provision | Made into Permanent Policy | Sunsetting 5/11/23 | Sunsetting 11/11/23 | Comments |
|--|----------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|----------|
| Allow up to 90-day supply of most non-controlled maintenance medications | X | | | |
| Addition of mailing or delivery fees to certain prescriptions, subject to restrictions | X | | | |

| Provisions that Ended June 30, 2022 | Comments |
|--|--|
| Allow up to 90-day supply of Schedule 2 stimulant and Medicated Assisted Treatment medications | This reverts to “up to 34-day supply”. |
| Allow early refill of certain medications due to the public health emergency | |
| Allow up to 14-day supply of emergency fills for prescriptions waiting on prior authorization (reverting back to three days) and lock-in emergency fills (reverting back to four days) | Emergency fills reverts to three days’ supply. Lock-in emergency fills reverts to four days’ supply. |
| Pharmacy clinical behavioral health edits were temporarily suspended | Edits resumed on July 1, 2022. |
| NC Medicaid enrolled pharmacy providers should resubmit early refill or expanded quantity prescription claims with “09” (Emergency Preparedness) in the PA Type Code field and a valid value for an E.R. override in the Reason for Service, Professional Service and Result of Service fields to override a denial. Do not place any values in the Submission Clarification Code field. | The ER COVID flexibility with use of “09” ended 6/30/2022. Use of “09” (Emergency Preparedness) in the PA Type Code field and a valid value for an E.R override in the Reason for Service, Professional Service and Result of Service fields to override a denial for an early refill is allowed ONLY in the event of a state of emergency or disaster declared by the NC Governor, FEMA, or the US President per Section 7.5 Emergency Preparedness Protocol in Outpatient Pharmacy Policy 9. |

For questions, please contact the Pharmacy Section via e-mail at Medicaid.COVID19@dhhs.nc.gov.

Pregnancy Management Program (formerly Pregnancy Medical Home)

1E-6, Pregnancy Management Program policy flexibilities outlined in [COVID-19 Special Bulletins](#) that have not been made permanent or ended on June 30, 2022 with the end of the NC State of Emergency, will be end-dated on either May 11, 2023 for Disaster SPA flexibilities which end with the end of the federal PHE, or November 11, 2023 for Appendix K flexibilities, which end 6 months after the federal PHE.

Please see the table below for a summary of the flexibilities that were made permanent and/or will end effective May 11, 2023 or November 11, 2023:

| Provision | Made into Permanent Policy | Sunsetting 5/11/23 | Sunsetting 11/11/23 | Comments |
|--|----------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|----------|
| Provision of Pregnancy Medical Home Risk Screening (incentive code S0280) to be completed via telemedicine interactive audio-visual communication for new and established patients. | X | | | |
| Provision of postpartum care for billing the Pregnancy Medical Home Postpartum Incentive (code S0281) to be conducted via telemedicine interactive audio-visual communication . | X | | | |

| Provisions that Ended June 30, 2022 | Comments |
|--|----------|
| Provision of Pregnancy Medical Home Risk Screening (incentive code S0280) to be completed via telephone call, or online patient communication for new and established patients. | |

For questions, please contact the Medical Health Section at 919-527-7660.

Private Duty Nursing

All temporary Private Duty Nursing flexibilities that have not been made permanent that were listed in [COVID-19 Special Bulletins](#) that have not been made permanent or ended on June 30, 2022 with the end of the NC State of Emergency, will be end-dated on either May 11, 2023 for Disaster SPA flexibilities which end with the end of the federal PHE, or November 11, 2023 for Appendix K flexibilities, which end 6 months after the federal PHE.

Please see the table below for a summary of the flexibilities that were made permanent and/or will end effective May 11, 2023 or November 11, 2023:

| Provision | Made into Permanent Policy | Sunsetting 5/11/23 | Sunsetting 11/11/23 | Comments |
|--|----------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|----------|
| Coverage for weight scales HCPCS code E1639 and pulse oximeters HCPCS code E0445 (Bulletin #52) Updated in DME policies 5A-2 and 5A-3 effective Oct. 1, 2020 and *HH fee schedule weight scales | X | | | |
| Coverage for automatic blood pressure monitors HCPCS code A4670 (Bulletin #29) Updated in DME policy 5A-3 effective Oct, 1, 2020 and HH fee schedule | X | | | |
| Coverage for pulse oximetry device HCPCS code E0445 (Bulletin #52) | X | | | |

| Provisions that Ended June 30, 2022 | Comments |
|--|----------|
| Lifting PA requirement obtained when additional PDN hours are needed to cover unscheduled school closures for beneficiaries that have a current PDN PA certification. (Bulletin #5) | |
| PDN beneficiaries not using nursing services during the pandemic, leaving PA in pended status vs discharging. (Bulletin #38) | |
| Approving PAs in pending status for validation of primary insurance. (Bulletin #57) | |
| Allow Supervisory visits to be conducted utilizing eligible technologies that allow the supervising Registered Nurse to remotely communicate and evaluate PDN services rendered. (Bulletin #57) | |
| Lifting the PA requirement for short-term increase in PDN hours (up to 4 weeks) for any PDN beneficiary that has a current PDN PA certification. (Bulletin #5) | |

For questions, please contact the LTSS Section via e-mail at Medicaid.COVID19@dhhs.nc.gov.

Program of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE)

Some temporary Program of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE) policy flexibilities noted below were end-dated effective June 30, 2022. PACE temporary flexibilities documented in COVID-19 Special Bulletins [#27](#), [#47](#), [#145](#), and [#197](#) that have not been made permanent or ended on June 30, 2022 with the end of the NC State of Emergency, will be end-dated on either May 11, 2023 for Disaster SPA flexibilities which end with the end of the federal PHE, or November 11, 2023 for Appendix K flexibilities, which end 6 months after the federal PHE.

Please see the table below for a summary of the flexibilities that were made permanent and/or will end effective May 11, 2023 or November 11, 2023:

| Provision | Made into Permanent Policy | Sunsetting 5/11/23 | Sunsetting 11/11/23 | Comments |
|---|----------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|----------|
| Use of Remote Technology | | X | | |
| Flexibilities on Signature Requirements | | X | | |

| Provisions that Ended June 30, 2022 | Comments |
|--|----------|
| Option to temporarily suspend new enrollments | |
| Delay of an enrollment in the event the PACE organization cannot complete the Initial Health and Safety Assessment | |
| Closure of the Adult Day Health portion of the PACE Center | |
| Suspension or reduction of the Adult Day Health operations | |
| Limiting PACE Center attendance | |
| Suspension of onsite visits by NC Medicaid PACE unit staff. Onsite visits will occur as needed | |

For questions, please contact the LTSS Section at via e-mail at Medicaid.COVID19@dhhs.nc.gov.

Remote Physiologic Monitoring Treatment Management Services

Remote physiologic monitoring service flexibilities outlined in [COVID-19 Special Bulletins](#) have been made permanent in NC Medicaid Clinical Coverage Policy 1H Telehealth, Virtual Communications and Remote Patient Monitoring, which can be found [here](#).

Please see the table below for a summary of the flexibilities that were made permanent and/or will end effective May 11, 2023 or November 11, 2023:

| Provision | Made into Permanent Policy | Sunsetting 5/11/23 | Sunsetting 11/11/23 | Comments |
|--|----------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|----------|
| Remote Physiologic Monitoring CPT Codes 99457 and 99458 | X | | | |

For questions, please contact the Medical Health Section at 919-527-7660.

Smoking and Tobacco Cessation Counseling

Smoking and Tobacco Cessation Counseling flexibilities outlined in [COVID-19 Special Bulletins](#) that have not been made permanent or ended on June 30, 2022 with the end of the NC State of Emergency, will be end-dated on either May 11, 2023 for Disaster SPA flexibilities which end with the end of the federal PHE, or November 11, 2023 for Appendix K flexibilities, which end 6 months after the federal PHE.

Please see the table below for a summary of the flexibilities that were made permanent and/or will end effective May 11, 2023 or November 11, 2023:

| Provision | Made into Permanent Policy | Sunsetting 5/11/23 | Sunsetting 11/11/23 | Comments |
|--|----------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|----------|
| Provision of smoking and tobacco cessation counseling to be conducted completed via telemedicine interactive audio-visual communication . CPT codes 99406 and 99407 | X | | | |

For questions, please contact the Medical Health Section at 919-527-7660.

Well Child Visits

All temporary Well Child Visit policy flexibilities outlined in [COVID-19 Special Bulletins](#) that have not been made permanent or ended on June 30, 2022 with the end of the NC State of Emergency, will be end-dated on either May 11, 2023 for Disaster SPA flexibilities which end with the end of the federal PHE, or November 11, 2023 for Appendix K flexibilities, which end 6 months after the federal PHE.

Except where indicated below, all Well Child Visit COVID-19 policy flexibilities documented in [SPECIAL BULLETIN COVID-19 #66: Telehealth and Virtual Patient Communications Clinical Policy Modifications - Well Child Visits](#) which did not end on June 30, 2022, will end on either May 11, 2023 or November 11, 2023.

Please see the table below for a summary of the flexibilities that were made permanent and/or will end effective May 11, 2023 or November 11, 2023:

| Well Child Visits Provision | Made into Permanent Policy | Sunsetting 5/11/23 | Sunsetting 11/11/23 | Comments |
|--|----------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|---|
| Postpartum Depression Screening: Brief emotional/behavioral assessment [e.g., depression inventory, attention-deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) scale], with scoring and documentation, per standardized instrument provided by telemedicine interactive audio-visual communication to a new or established patient. (CPT Code 96127- Billed by the mother's provider) | -- | | | <i>This is in review for permanent placement in policy.</i> |
| Postpartum Depression Screening: Administration of caregiver-focused health risk assessment instrument (e.g., health hazard appraisal), for benefit of the patient, with scoring and documentation per standardized instrument provided by telemedicine interactive audio-visual communication to a new or established patient. (CPT Code 96161- Billed by the child's provider) | -- | | | <i>This is in review for permanent placement in policy.</i> |

| Well Child Visits Provisions that Ended June 30, 2022 | Comments |
|---|----------|
| Well child preventive medicine evaluation and management services for children under 24 months when provided by telemedicine, interactive audio-visual communication . (CPT codes 99381, 99382, 99391 and 99392) | |
| Well child preventive medicine evaluation and management services for children age two and older when provided by telemedicine, interactive audio-visual communication . (CPT codes 99382, 99283, 99384, 99385, 99392, 99393, 99394, and 99395) | |
| Developmental screening (e.g., developmental milestone survey, speech and language delay screen), with scoring and documentation, per standardized instrument when provided by telemedicine, interactive audio-visual communication . (CPT code 96110) | |

| Well Child Visits Provisions that Ended June 30, 2022 | Comments |
|--|----------|
| Administration of patient-focused health risk assessment instrument (e.g., health hazard appraisal) with scoring and documentation, per standardized instrument when provided by telemedicine, interactive audio-visual communication. (CPT code 96160) | |
| Counseling for vaccine administration, immunization administration through 18 years of age by any route of administration, with counseling by physician or other qualified health care professional; first or only component of each vaccine or toxoid administered when provided by telemedicine, interactive audio-visual communication. (CPT code 90460) | |

For questions, please contact the Medical Health Section at 919-527-7660.