

Provider Memorandum

Flexibilities Offered Under Appendix K Will End for Waiver Members

Molina Healthcare of Illinois (Molina) reminds providers that the COVID Public Health Emergency (PHE) ended on May 12, 2023*. With this comes a number of rollbacks, including emergency orders keeping members enrolled in waiver services throughout the pandemic.

Unwinding of the PHE includes reversing the flexibilities offered under Appendix K, an emergency coverage document for members receiving services through a Medicaid waiver. Appendix K provisions took effect on March 1, 2020, to give flexibility to Home Care members during the COVID PHE.

With the reversal, providers can expect:

- Waiver closure for members unable to be contacted after 90 days of attempts.
- Waiver closure for members who have Determination of Need (DON) scores below 29.
- Reduced services for members whose needs are assessed at a level below what they are currently receiving.
- Respite hours will be reduced from 480 to 240.
- Authorization/services for home-delivered meals terminated for Illinois Department on Aging (IDoA) waiver members.
- Waiver closure for members failing redetermination or not submitting for redetermination.

Elderly Waiver Recipients

Per the IDoA: Regarding elderly waiver recipients, effective May 12, 2023, homemakers **cannot** be spouse, power of attorney, representative payee, guardian, or any other person legally responsible for care of the member. Members who currently have one of these legally responsible individuals caring for them as homemaker may continue to have that person care for them until further notice.

Time Frame

As of today, HFS has not released an official date. The changes may go into effect immediately upon the end of the PHE on May 12, 2023, or over a period of months, as typically allowed for Appendix K terminations. Molina will issue further updates as new information becomes available.

Medicaid Redetermination Reminder

As the Public Health Emergency (PHE) unwinds, Medicaid redetermination of eligibility will continue. Providers are asked to encourage members to review their mail and act on any redetermination requirements promptly to avoid interruptions in coverage.

Providers are also encouraged to check member eligibility often, as changes may occur in their overall Medicaid eligibility and/or to their waiver eligibility as the Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services (HFS) receives and reviews member redetermination packets.

Molina will notify providers of termination of a waiver service only when the members remain active with Molina. Given eligibility details will change rapidly during the redetermination period, we encourage providers to use these tools to verify both waiver and plan eligibility:

- [Participant Search](#) for IDoA members
- [WebCM](#) for DHS Division of Rehabilitation Services (DRS) members
- [Availity Essentials Provider Portal](#)

Questions?

We're here to help. Contact your dedicated Provider Network Manager or email the Provider Network Management team at MHILProviderNetworkManagement@MolinaHealthcare.com. For help identifying your dedicated Provider Network Manager, visit [Molina's Service Area page](#) at MolinaHealthcare.com.

Provider Portal Alert

We are sunsetting the Molina Legacy Provider Portal this year. Ensure that you and your staff have access to streamlined claims management, authorizations, eligibility/benefit verification, and more. Get started with Availity Essentials Provider Portal today! [Click here](#).

Get Critical Updates

Receive news and updates about Molina services and plan requirements delivered straight to your inbox! [Click here](#) to receive Molina's provider updates.

Note: Molina's website and documents are best viewed in Google Chrome or Microsoft Edge.

* "Based on current COVID-19 trends, the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) is planning for the federal Public Health Emergency (PHE) for COVID-19, declared under Section 319 of the Public Health Service (PHS) Act, to expire **at the end of the day on May 11, 2023**." Source: HHS.gov.