

www.cookchhp.org
Comments or suggestions may be emailed to

Network Development

CCHPNetworkDev@cookchildrens.org

Or call 682-885-2247

Membership Update

As of March 1, 2009, Cook Children's Health Plan has a membership of 57,610. Cook Children's Health Plan now covers 30,850 Medicaid STAR members and 26,760 CHIP members. We appreciate the support you continue to provide to Cook Children's Health Plan.

PCP Office Managers Meeting

CCHP has started videoing the PCP Office managers meetings as of January 2009. If you are not able to attend a meeting and would like a DVD copy for your information, please contact the Network Development department at 682-885-2247 or CCHPNetworkDev@cookchildrens.org. Thank you.

The need for a Referral

What services do not need a referral? You can make direct appointments within the CCHP Network without a referral for:

- OB/GYN;
- Chiropractor;
- Vision;
- Dental;
- Emergency Care; and
- Behavioral Care

All out of network referrals/services require prior authorization.

New Care Management Fax Number

New Fax number is 682-885-8402

Cook Children's Health Plan VIP



Cook Children's Health Plan is Proud to Recognize Dr. Leon as a VIP Provider

Dr. Leon graduated from the University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston, Texas. He is a bilingual (Spanish and English) pediatrician who commits himself to open communication and collaborative relationships with his young patients and their parents. His high-energy, positive attitude and dedication serve him well in this role. He has been in practice in Arlington since 1990.

Cook Children's Health Plan is a licensed Health Maintenance Organization offered by Cook Children's Health Care System.

Cook Children's Health Plan was designed to provide CHIP and STAR members of all ages with access to quality health care in North Texas and promote the well being of its members. Cook Children's Health Plan has locally based Care Management, Provider Relations, Claims and Member Services staffs.

Migrant Farm Worker Information?

- Part of the Frew Settlement requires an acceleration of Services to Children of Migrant Farm Workers.
- CCHP will make appropriate aggressive efforts to reach each identified worker to provide acceleration of services, timely medical check-ups and follow-up care if needed. CCHP will also maintain a list of Children of Migrant Farm Workers enrollees as they are identified.
- If you are aware of any Migrant Farm Workers as part of your CCHP membership, *please contact us*.

New Covered Benefit

Texas Medicaid has Revised Developmental and Neurological Assessment and Testing Reimbursement

Information which was posted December 5, 2008: Effective for dates of service on or after January 1, 2009, Texas Medicaid will implement revised reimbursement rates for developmental and neurological assessment and testing following a public rate hearing on November 17, 2008. Click on the title to view the details.

The following reimbursement rates for developmental and neurological assessment and testing are effective for dates of service on or after January 1, 2009.

Procedure Code	Medicaid Reimbursement
5-96105	\$54.13 (1.89 relative value units [RVUs], \$28.640 conversion factor)
5-96110	\$10.31 (0.36 unit RVU, \$28.640 conversion factor)
5-96111	\$104.54 (3.65 RVUs, \$28.640 conversion factor)
1-96116	\$77.90 (2.72 RVUs, \$28.640 conversion factor)

Information is available at the following web links along with a copy of the banners which ran in November:

http://www.tmhp.com/File%20Library/File%20Library/Banner%20Messages/2008/111708_BM.pdf

(11/14/08 through 12/05/08) *** Attention All Medicaid Providers*******

Effective for dates of service on or after January 1, 2009, aphasia assessment, developmental screening and testing, and neurobehavioral assessment are benefits of Texas Medicaid. Details of these changes are available on the TMHP website at www.tmhp.com and will be published in the March/April 2009 *Texas Medicaid Bulletin*, No. 223.

Here is a link to the coverage criteria:

<http://www.tmhp.com/homepage%20File%20Library/Developmental%20Neurological%20Assessment%20and%20Testing.pdf>

Here is the reimbursement rate article:

<http://www.tmhp.com/txtlstvw.aspx?LstID=1680ce61-176c-48df-bc26-83774e50f7e0>

For more information, call the TMHP Contact Center at 1-800-925-9126.

Medicaid Children's Loan Repayment Program

The Medicaid Children's Loan Repayment Program is available to physicians and dentists who provide services to children on Medicaid. For details, contact the Texas Primary Care Office at 512-458-7518 or TexasPCO@dshs.state.tx.us.

Eligibility Requirements

To be eligible for student loan repayment through the Medicaid Children's Loan Repayment Program, the applicant must:

- Have a license from the appropriate licensing board before applying. Subspecialists must have board certification.
- Have a Medicaid number before applying.
- Have eligible outstanding student loans. This program does not reimburse for payments already made.
- Provide services for four continuous years and meet the appropriate target number of Medicaid visits to children under the age of 21 as listed below for each 12-month service period.

	Year							
	Year 1		Year 2		Year 3		Year 4	
Loan Payout Amount, by year	\$20,000	\$40,000	\$15,000	\$30,000	\$20,000	\$40,000	\$15,000	\$30,000
Specialty ,Subspecialty	Target number of Medicaid visits for children under the age or 21 per month. (Monthly average will be calculated over a 12-month period.)							
Family Physician, Internal Medicine & Ob/Gyns	25	50	40	80	75	150	75	150
Pediatrician	N/A	50	N/A	80	N/A	150	N/A	150
Pediatric Subspecialists	N/A	15	N/A	24	N/A	45	N/A	N/A
General Dentists	25	50	37	75	50	100	50	100
Pediatric Dentists	N/A	50	N/A	75	N/A	100	N/A	100

Providers who do not meet the service requirements will be ineligible to apply for other Texas loan repayment programs.

Eligible Loans

To be eligible for repayment, a loan must:

- Have been made for undergraduate, graduate or medical education at an accredited institution in the United States. (Note: Loans made during residency are ineligible.)
- Not be from relatives or the provider's own insurance or pension plan.
- Not have an existing service obligation or be subject to another student loan repayment or forgiveness program.
- Not be consolidated with non-educational loans or loans held by another entity.
- Not be in default.

Repayments are paid annually upon completion of the eligible service, contingent upon availability of funds. The state is seeking a legal opinion on the taxability of loan repayment funds. Additional information will be provided as available.

Key Dates for First Application Cycle

March 1, 2009 Application released.

June 1, 2009 All parts of the application must be received for inclusion in this application cycle.

July 1–15, 2009 Selected applicants notified.

September 1, 2009 Beginning date for services to Medicaid children for Year 1 participants.

August 31, 2010 End date of 12-month service period for Year 1 participants.

October 2010 Year 1 Loan Repayment funds sent to lending agency.

How to Apply

Starting March 1, 2009, you may obtain an application at www.dshs.state.tx.us/chpr/default.shtm or by calling the Texas Primary Care Office at 512-458-7518. All parts of the application must be received by June 1, 2009, for consideration in the first review cycle.

2009 HEDIS Season is Upon Us

- As a Medicaid and CHIP HMO in the state of Texas, the quality of medical care delivered to Cook Children's Health Plan members is monitored by the Texas Health and Human Services Commission. We rely on a set of standard measures developed by the National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA). These measures are referred to as the "HEDIS" quality of care measures.
- Cook Children's Health Plan has contracted with **Austin Provider Solutions** to perform medical record reviews and abstractions for HEDIS 2009. Austin Provider Solutions may be in contact with your office during the months of March – May to either request that your office fax or mail pertinent medical record information to them -- or if we are requesting 8 or more records, to schedule an on-site visit to obtain the medical record(s).
- Be assured that the review of the record is permissible under applicable state and federal privacy laws and regulations, including those issued out of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA), without requiring a separate consent by the patient or guardian.
- We understand the demands on your office and sincerely appreciate your assistance and cooperation. Should you have any questions or additional concerns relating to this request, please contact David Titus, Manager of Quality Improvement, at 628-885-1410.

EPSDT - TH Steps:

These are the elements that constitute a complete EPSDT/THSteps check up:

- Comprehensive health and development history
- Comprehensive unclothed physical
- Appropriate immunizations – using the Texas Vaccine for Children immunizations
- Lab tests (including lead blood level assessment appropriate for age and risk factors)
- Health education (including anticipatory guidance)
- Age-appropriate vision and hearing screening
- Direct referral to dental checkups beginning at 12 months of age

Please remember:

The Medical Transportation Program (MTP) provides categorically eligible Medicaid and Children with Special Health Care Needs (CSHCN) recipients with the most cost-effective means of transportation to appointments for their covered medical and dental care services within the reasonable proximity of their residence. Call MTP toll-free at 1-877-MEDTRIP (1-877-633-8747) during the normal business hours of 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., weekdays at least two working days in advance of the trip.

New providers

We have added 101 new providers in January and February. There were 31 providers which were both CHIP/STAR, 33 providers to the CHIP program and 37 new providers to STAR. They include:

CHIP and STAR: PCP: Bedford - Jaysasankari Ponnusamy, M.D., Internal Medicine, **Fort Worth** – Sheri Crummey, F.N.P., Family Practice, Ehab Faheid, M.D., Internal Medicine, Rowena Maclin, D.O., Family Practice, Olugbeminiyi Olubanjo, M.D., Family Practice, Robin McKelvey, M.D., Internal Medicine, Cherryll Libed, M.D., Pediatrics; **Specialists: Arlington** – John Tong, M.D. – Ophthalmology, Brian Webb, M.D., Sports Medicine, **Dallas** - Furgan Moin, M.D., Neonatology, **Fort Worth** – Charles DeBarardinis, D.O., Cardiology, David Eakin, M.D., Radiology, Christine Estrada, D.O., Palliative Care, Gloria Glidewell, N.M. – Ob/Gyn, Elwyn Grimes, M.D., Ob/Gyn, Harland Harris, LPC, Licensed Professional Counselor, Elizabeth Hulsey P.A., Orthopedic Surgery, Ruth Kested, P.A., Ob/Gyn, Yuvaraj Kumar, M.D., Cardiology, Aslam Malik, M.D., General Surgery, Cheryl Nichols, LPC, Licensed Professional Counselor, Alston Porter, M.D., Neonatology, Denise Sullivan, M.D., Anesthesiology – Pediatric, Jamie Taylor R.N.C., Ob/Gyn; **Grapevine** - Johnny Melendez, M.D., Neonatology, Mineral Wells – Jorge Ramirez, M.D., Radiology, Jason Rowling, D.O., Anesthesiology; **Ancillary and Facilities: Dallas** – Pedia Care of Texas, Inc.; **Denton** – Denton Surgery Center at Presbyterian Hospital of Denton, Family Care Pharmacy #2; **Tyler** – Exceptional Home Care.

CHIP only: PCP: Euless – Mary Williams, N.P., Pediatrics; **Fort Worth** – Ricky Edwards, M.D., Family Practice, Barbara Estment, M.D., Family Practice, Josephine Fowler, M.D., Family Practice, Tuan Nguyen, M.D., Family Practice, Alba Perez, F.N.P., Family Practice, Phyllis Thornton F.N.P., Family Practice, Michel Fernandez, M.D., Internal Medicine, Kerri Waldron, M.D., Internal Medicine, Deborah Alexander, P.A., Pediatrics; **Joshua** – Walid Saade, M.D., Family Practice, **Weatherford** – Heather Back, D.O., Family Practice Rupa Pachigolla, M.D., Family Practice; **Specialists: Bedford** – John Broussard EdD., Psychology; **Benbrook** – Michele Gortney, LPC, Licensed Professional Counselor, **Fort Worth** – Chelsea Morrow, LPC, Licensed Professional Counselor, Shazia Hamid, M.D., Psychiatry – Pediatric, Jamie Taylor, N.P., Ob/Gyn, Sonya Basak, CRNA, Anesthesiology – Pediatric, Marion LeGros CRNA, Anesthesiology – Pediatric, Suzanne Sparks, CRNA, Anesthesiology – Pediatric, Delia Wiles, CRNA, Anesthesiology – Pediatric, Dale White, D.C., Chiropractic, Ugonna Chike-Obi, M.D., Neonatology, Donald Stewart, M.D., Orthopedic Surgery, Artee Gandhi, M.D., Anesthesiology – Pediatric, **Lewisville** – Dale Panbgan O.D. Optometry; **Mansfield** – Dharmesh Bhakta, D.P.M., Podiatry; **Mineral Wells** – Narayana Atluru, M.D., Anesthesiology, Michael Zanchi M.D., Anesthesiology, **Weatherford** - John Offutt CRNA, Anesthesiology; **Facilities: Fort Worth** – CareNow

STAR only: PCP: Decatur – Christine Holland, M.D., Family Practice; **Euless** – Mary Williams, N.P. Pediatrics; **Ft. Worth** - Thomas Diver, P.A., Family Practice, Annu Mehta, M.D. Family Practice, Phyllis Thornton F.N.P., Family Practice, Kerri Waldron, M.D. M.D., Internal Medicine, Deborah Alexander, P.A., Pediatrics, Ana Avalos Mishaan, M.D., Pediatrics, **Watauga** – Erin Nguyen, M.D. Family Practice, **Specialists: Arlington** – Tamra Fortenberry, M.D., Ob/Gyn, Whitney Lachar, M.D., Pathology; **Decatur** – Kevin James, M.D., Orthopedic Surgery; **Fort Worth** – J. Michael Badgwell, M.D., Anesthesiology – Pediatric, Amber Lesley, M.D., Internal Medicine, Kevin Aceves, LPC, Licensed Professional Counselor, Timothy Kremer, M.D., Ob/Gyn, Candis Pannell, N.M., Ob/Gyn, Ricardo Cristobl, M.D., Otolaryngology, Cynthia Kurtz, DPM, Podiatry; **Granbury** – Christopher Niles, M.D., Anesthesiology, Toni Elliott, LPC, Licensed Professional Counselor; **Grand Prairie** – Juanita Day – Optometry; **Mineral Wells** – Adam Lenz, M.D. Anesthesiology, Jose Gomez, M.D. Family Practice.

Important phone numbers:

Cook Children's Health Plan Member Services	8 a.m. – 5 p.m., Monday – Friday 800-964-2247 or 682-885-2247 www.cookchp.org 682-885-2148 fax
Care Management	800-860-2247 or 682-885-2252 www.cookchp.org 682-885-8402 fax
Mental Health Services - LifeSynch	866-258-0942
Vision Services – Total Vision Health Plan	800-465-6853
Network Development/Provider Relations	682-885-2247 or CCHPNetworkDev@cookchildrens.org