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Sent: Thursday, April 25, 2024 3:26 PM
To:

[REDACTED]

Cc: Maciag, Karen (CHFS DMS); Claes, Kelly E (CHFS DMS DCA)
Subject: Important Update: ABI and ABI LTC Waiver Application Implementation



As you know, the amended Acquired Brain Injury (ABI) and Acquired Brain Injury Long Term Care (ABI LTC) waiver applications take effect on May 1, 2024. The Department for Medicaid Services (DMS) is directing ABI and ABI LTC providers to continue delivering services, even those listed as Extended State Plan, to **existing ABI and ABI LTC participants** as you are today from May 1, 2024, until we issue further instructions. For **new ABI and ABI LTC participants**, Occupational (OT), Speech (ST), and Physical Therapy (PT) should be

requested through the state plan. **All other needed waiver services, including Behavior Services and Counseling, can be requested through the waiver.** Specific directions have been included at the end of this email.

OT, ST, and PT have been listed in the waiver application as Extended State Plan Services for several years prior to the most recent amendment. The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) has explicitly told us to move these services into compliance with federal rules and regulations just as we have in other waivers. We are committed to making sure we have an adequate transition period for coverage of OT, ST, and PT. We are working on additional training and guidance, which will be issued as soon as possible.

Throughout the past four years, waiver policy has changed more rapidly than ever before. We are working to bring the waiver programs and the regulations into alignment with each other and with federal requirements. We appreciate your patience as we navigate these circumstances together.

Directions for ABI and ABI LTC Providers Regarding OT, ST, and PT Coverage after May 1, 2024, Until Further Notice

- For **existing** ABI and ABI LTC waiver participants
 - Please continue to provide all waiver services as you are today. Per the directive above, all services listed in the waiver application including OT, ST, PT, Behavior Services, and Counseling can be requested through the waiver.
 - **If you have a participant with an OT, ST, or PT PA expiring soon, continue to request services through the waiver until DMS provides further instruction.**
- For **new** ABI and ABI LTC waiver participants
 - Requests for OT, ST, and PT should be made through the Medicaid state plan. Per the directive above, all other services listed in the waiver application, including Behavior Services and Counseling, can be requested through the waiver.
 - If you are not a state plan OT, ST, and/or PT provider, please refer the participant to a provider of state plan OT, ST, and/or PT.
 - If you are a state plan provider and are serving the waiver participant, **it is your responsibility to request prior authorization through the state plan.**
 - Gainwell/Carewise reviews state plan prior authorization requests. Requests must be submitted using the Essette Provider Portal.
 - Providers use the Kentucky Online Gateway (KOG) to access the Essette provider portal. If your agency does not have a KOG org admin, send an email to FFSUtilizationMgt@ky.gov and include the following information:
 - First and Last Name
 - Organization Name
 - Email Address
 - Provider ID Number
 - Phone Number
 - To learn how to submit requests via the Essette Provider Portal, training is available at <https://moodle.carewisehealth.com/moodle>.
 - You will need to create a profile to log into Moodle. Select **Provider** as your curriculum track.
 - Once logged in, you can complete the training for the **Essette Provider Portal and Independent Therapy**. You do not need to complete any training topics that do not apply to your prior authorization request.
 - If your agency has questions regarding the policy for state plan services, contact the DMS Division of Policy and Operations by phone at (502) 564-6890 or by emailing Kelly Kitchen (Kelly.kitchen@ky.gov) or Eddie Newsome (eddie.newsome@ky.gov).



CABINET FOR HEALTH
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For waiver-policy or case-specific questions, contact the
1915(c) Waiver Help Desk at (844) 784-5614 or
1915cWaiverHelpDesk@ky.gov.

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