



OLTL Updates Medical Assistance Advisory Committee (MAAC)

June 27, 2024

OLTL Updates Topics

- OLTL Updates
 - Procurement Updates
 - Community HealthChoices (CHC) Waiver and OBRA Waiver Amendment Public Comment Period
 - CHC Waiver Renewal and OBRA Waiver Amendment Changes
 - Recent OLTL Communications
 - Change Healthcare Data Breach Update

OLTL Updates

OLTL Procurement Updates

- Procurement Updates
 - Community HealthChoices (CHC) Request for Application (RFA)
 - Was posted to e-Marketplace on January 30, 2024.
 - **All questions regarding the RFA and its contents should be directed to Procurement via the resource account RA-pwrfaquestions@pa.gov.**
 - There are no updates on the following that can be shared at this time.
 - Agency with Choice (AWC)

▶ OLTL CHC and OBRA Public Comment Period

- CHC Waiver and OBRA Amendment Public Comment Period
 - Renewal and Amendment will be effective 1, 2025
 - For CHC -CMS requires 1915(c) Home and Community Based Services Waivers be renewed every 5 years.
 - Many of the substantive changes in CHC also require amendments to the OBRA waiver for consistency.
 - **Public Notices were published on June 15, 2024**, in the Pennsylvania Bulletin announcing the availability of the CHC waiver renewal and the OBRA amendment.
 - A 30-day comment period for written comments is open now that the Public Notices are published. **The public comment period ends on July 14, 2024.**

OLTL CHC and OBRA Waiver Changes

- CHC Waiver Renewal and OBRA Waiver Amendment Changes
 - Benefits Counseling
 - Add WIP-C certification for providers of Benefits Counseling to expand the pool of individuals who may provide the service.
 - Employment Skills Development
 - Add text to emphasize that sheltered workshop employment is not funded through the waiver.
 - Home Adaptations
 - Add language to better differentiate between Home Adaptations in the waiver and Home Accessibility Durable Medical Equipment covered by the State Plan.
 - Structured Day Habilitation Services
 - Change years of experience for Individual Support Staff from 5 years to 2 years to increase the pool of eligible workers to address workforce shortages.

▶ OLTL CHC and OBRA Changes cont'd

- CHC Waiver Renewal and OBRA Waiver Amendment Changes cont.
 - Teleservices will allow Cognitive Rehabilitation Therapy Services and Counseling Services to be provided remotely.
 - Chore Services consist of heavy household chores which are necessary to maintain the functional use of the home or provide a clean, sanitary and safe environment. This service may be authorized only when an unclean and cluttered living space impedes service delivery or increases the probability of injury from environmental hazards, such as falls or burns.
 - Remove language about OHCDS and the Participant Review Tool (CHC only)
 - Both of these items are outdated information.

▶ OLTL CHC and OBRA Changes cont'd - 2

- CHC Waiver Renewal and OBRA Waiver Amendment Changes cont.
 - Child abuse clearances (CHC and OBRA)
 - Clearances are required for all direct care workers and service providers, including Service Coordinators and contractors, providing services in homes where children reside are present.
 - Appendix G: Participant Safeguards (CHC and OBRA)
 - Language revised throughout regarding Critical Incidents – ensure timeframes stated in waiver and responsibilities of entities involved in the process are accurate.
 - Appendix H: Quality Improvement Strategy (CHC only)
 - Language revised throughout to current process.

▶ OLTL CHC and OBRA Changes cont'd 3

- CHC Waiver Renewal and OBRA Waiver Amendment Changes cont.
 - Service Plans (CHC and OBRA)
 - Add language to reinforce that if a participant's rights in a setting need to be modified due to an assessed need, it must be documented in the PCSP and if a provider creates a treatment or service plan, that plan must be incorporated into the PCSP.
 - Reduce the timeframe of PCSP implementation. (CHC only)
 - PCSPs must be completed developed and implemented no later than 30 15 days from the date the comprehensive needs assessment or reassessment is completed.
 - Fair Hearings (OBRA only)
 - Change the timeframe in which a participant may request a fair hearing and have services continue from 10 days to 15 days.

Recent OLTL Communications

- Recent OLTL Communications

- In September 2024, the Department of Human Services (DHS), OLTL will be submitting an amendment to the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) for the OBRA 1915(c) home and community-based services waiver.
 - To view a side-by-side comparison of the current and revised language, and to access the amendment in its entirety, please go to the [OLTL-Waiver Amendments and Renewals](#) webpage. On this site, select “2025 OBRA Waiver Amendment.”
- In September 2024, the Department of Human Services (DHS) Office of Long-Term Living (OLTL) will be submitting a renewal to the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) for the CHC 1915(c) home and community-based services waiver.
 - To view a side-by-side comparison of the current and revised language, and to access the renewal in its entirety, please go to the [OLTL-Waiver Amendments and Renewals](#) webpage. On this site, select “2025 CHC Waiver Amendment.”

Recent OLTL Communications - 2

- Recent OLTL Communications
 - The revised **Need for Comprehensive Needs Reassessment Following a Lapse in Medical Assistance (MA) Long-Term Care (LTC) Eligibility Ops memo (CHC 2020-01)** has been posted to the public site and [HealthChoices Extranet](#) with an issue date of May 13, 2024.
 - This ops memo clarifies when a comprehensive needs reassessment is required following a lapse in MA LTC eligibility. Revisions were made to remove language referring to the MA unwinding.
 - The revised, **Home Accessibility Durable Medical Equipment (HADME) Ops Memo (CHC 2023-07)**, has been posted to the public site and [HealthChoices extranet](#) with an issue date of May 13, 2024.
 - This Ops Memo was revised to provide additional clarification to the Managed Care Organizations as to what should be considered HADME and what should be a Home Adaption.

Change Healthcare Update

- Change Healthcare
 - On February 21, 2024 Change Healthcare became aware of deployment of ransomware in its computer system. An investigation began
 - March 7, 2024 they confirmed that a substantial quantity of data had been exfiltrated from its environment
 - Beginning June 20, 2024, CHC will begin providing notice to those customers [providers] impacted so they can in turn share information with potentially impacted individuals. The link is: <https://www.changehealthcare.com/hipaa-substitute-notice>
 - Change Healthcare is still investigating whose personal information may have been involved

Change Healthcare Individual Protection Actions

- While the investigation continues, potentially impacted individuals can take the following actions
 - Individuals should be on the lookout and regularly monitor the explanation of benefits statements received from their health plan and statements from health care providers, as well as bank and credit card statements, credit reports, and tax returns, to check for any unfamiliar activity.
 - If individuals notice any health care services they did not receive listed on an explanation of benefits statement, they should contact their health plan or doctor.
 - If individuals notice any suspicious activity on bank or credit card statements or on tax returns, they should immediately contact their financial institution and/or credit card company or relevant agency.
 - If an individual believes they are the victim of a crime, they can contact local law enforcement authorities and file a police report.

Questions?

