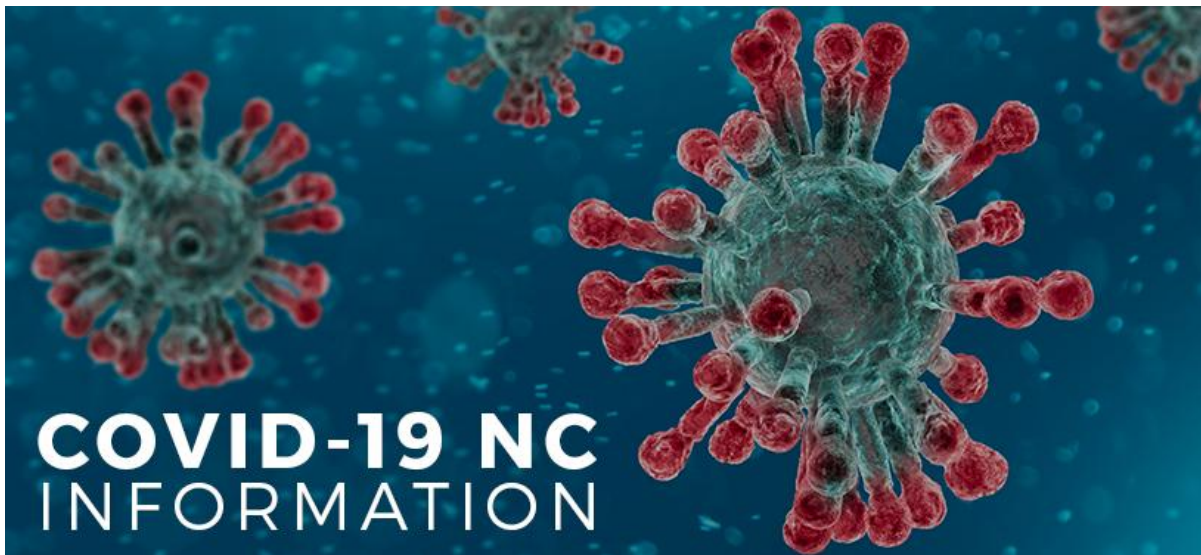


MARCH 25, 2020



COVID-19 Q&A WEBINAR FOR VAYA HEALTH PROVIDERS Friday, March 27, 2020, 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Please join us for our second COVID-19 Q&A Webinar. Registration is not required. There is no limit to the number of attendees who can join.

JOIN VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS

#VAYASTRONG: SHARE FACTS, NOT GERMS

Bookmark Vaya's COVID-19 pages for important updates and helpful information:

- [For members, caregivers and the general public](#)
- [For Vaya network providers](#)

N.C. DHHS COVID-19 GUIDANCE FOR ALL BUSINESS TYPES

N.C. DHHS has compiled state COVID-19 guidance for multiple topics and sectors on a single resource webpage. Categories include businesses, schools, healthcare, human services, travel and more.

For more information, visit the [DHHS COVID-19 Guidance page](#).

STATE OPIOID RESPONSE (SOR) FUNDING EXTENSION FOR UNINSURED/UNDERINSURED MEMBERS

We are excited to announce that Vaya has identified funding to support ongoing medication-assisted treatment services for uninsured/underinsured members through July 31, 2020.

COVID-19 CLAIMS CHANGES FOR MEDICAID AND NON-MEDICAID-FUNDED OPIOID USE TREATMENT

Per guidance from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), Vaya is making a temporary change regarding Opioid Treatment Program take-home dosing.

Read more: [Memo to Opioid Treatment Providers \(March 25, 2020\)](#)

N.C. COVID-19 RAPID RECOVERY LOANS

Mountain BizWorks is providing N.C. COVID-19 Rapid Recovery Loans as resource to help small businesses in western North Carolina be resilient and adaptive in the face of the coronavirus crisis. These are primarily designed to be a timely source of bridge loan financing until businesses can access SBA Disaster or other federal disaster funding.

Read more on the [Mountain BizWorks website](#).

N.C. DHHS SPECIAL BULLETIN COVID-19 #15: MEDICAID AND NC HEALTH CHOICE TEMPORARY FLEXIBILITIES - 1135 WAIVER PROVISIONS (MARCH 24, 2020)

Special Bulletin COVID-19 #15 is available [here](#). Highlights from this bulletin are available below.

REIMBURSEMENT FOR MEDICALLY NECESSARY SERVICES WITHOUT PRIOR AUTHORIZATION

Effective retroactive to March 1, 2020, North Carolina Medicaid and NC Health Choice will reimburse providers for medically necessary drugs, services, equipment and supplies provided during COVID-19 federal state of emergency declaration without prior authorization (PA). Note that PA remains for surgical and some medical procedures, and for out-of-state transportation. Medical documentation must support medical necessity. In addition, beneficiaries who are out-of-state (OOS), voluntarily or involuntarily, can receive medical care if needed and Medicaid and NC Health Choice will reimburse the OOS provider without prior authorization. OOS providers must be enrolled as North Carolina Medicaid providers in a temporary abbreviated, expedited process during the emergency. See "[Special Bulletin COVID-19 #7: Public Health Emergency Enrollment Applications for Health Care Professionals Not Currently Enrolled as an NC Medicaid Provider](#)" for instructions. Providers are encouraged to obtain a prior approval if it is possible to do so (and normally required for the service). All claims are subject to audit.

SERVICES PROVIDED IN ALTERNATIVE SETTINGS

Effective retroactive to March 1, 2020, NC Medicaid will reimburse facilities for services rendered in an unlicensed facility (where an evacuating facility continues to render services) due to the COVID-19 public health emergency. Facilities include nursing facilities, intermediate care facilities for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities (ICF/IDDs), psychiatric residential treatment facilities (PRTFs) and hospital nursing facilities. The evacuating facility will be responsible for determining how to

reimburse the unlicensed facility. After the initial 30 days, the unlicensed facility will be required to either seek licensure or the evacuating facility will need to seek new placement for the individuals.

TEMPORARY PREADMISSION SCREENING AND RESIDENT REVIEW (PASRR) PROCEDURES

Effective retroactive to March 1, 2020, NC Medicaid will not require Level I and II Preadmission Screening and Resident Reviews (PASRRs) for new admissions for 30 days during the COVID-19 public health emergency. If the individual is expected to remain in the nursing facility for more than 30 days, a notice of the need for a PASRR review should be submitted through NCMUST. In addition, individuals transferred from one nursing facility to another nursing facility as a result of COVID-19 will not be considered a new admission and will not need a PASRR. The transferring nursing facility must ensure that all copies of the resident's PASRR paperwork (including any Level II information) is transferred with the individual.

For individuals receiving specialized services, the nursing facility should focus on promoting the basic health and safety of individuals who had been receiving specialized services in the nursing facility before the COVID-19 public health emergency or who were receiving specialized services in another nursing facility before the transfer.

The admitting nursing facility is responsible for submitting a claim for payment. The health and safety of facility staff and the Medicaid beneficiaries served by a facility are of prime importance. In the event the facility is affected by COVID-19, please implement the facility's emergency plan.

HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONALS NOT CURRENTLY ENROLLED AS A NC MEDICAID PROVIDER

Expedited application and enrollment processes are available for health care professionals who want to deliver services to Medicaid beneficiaries. This applies to providers enrolled in another state's Medicaid program and to those not enrolled in Medicaid in any state. See "[Special Bulletin COVID-19 #7: Public Health Emergency Enrollment Applications for Health Care Professionals Not Currently Enrolled as an NC Medicaid Provider.](#)"

OTHER NC MEDICAID FLEXIBILITIES

For a full list of published Medicaid-related COVID-19 bulletins, visit the [Medicaid Bulletin webpage](#) under the Provider tab of the NC Medicaid website and select "COVID-19" from the Category drop-down menu.

STAY CONNECTED

