

# PROVIDER BULLETIN

No. 11-44

Date: July 29, 2011

TO: Nebraska Medicaid Providers

FROM: Vivianne M. Chaumont, Director   
Division of Medicaid & Long-Term Care

BY: Heather Leschinsky, Program Coordinator

RE: Statewide Expansion of Physical Health Managed Care

**Please share this information with administrative, clinical and billing staff.**

The Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Medicaid and Long-Term Care (MLTC) is planning effective July 1, 2012 an expansion of the physical health managed care program statewide. This will affect **all** counties not already served by physical health managed care. Counties currently involved in physical health managed care are Cass, Dodge, Douglas, Gage, Lancaster, Otoe, Sarpy, Saunders, Seward, and Washington. The expansion to statewide physical health managed care was mandated by the Budget Bill passed by the 2011 Session of the Nebraska Legislature. The tentative release date for the Request for Proposals is September 15, 2011.

A number of Managed Care Organizations (MCOs) have expressed interest in providing services in the expanded area. Providers may already be hearing from these health plans as they have begun to build their provider networks. A decision as to which health plan(s) MLTC will contract with is expected in early 2012.

Physical health managed care is a health care delivery system where MCOs are contracted to operate a health plan that authorizes, arranges, provides, and pays for the delivery of services in the Basic Benefits package to enrolled clients. The care of clients enrolled in the health plan is managed by the MCO through its network of Primary Care Providers (PCPs), Specialists, Hospitals, and other providers of care who contract directly with the MCO. Managed care offers an opportunity to assure access to a PCP, emphasizes preventive care, and encourages the appropriate utilization of services in the most cost-effective settings.

The Basic Benefits package does not include dental, pharmacy, hospice, long-term care nursing facility, mental health/substance abuse, and HCBS waiver services.

If you have questions regarding this bulletin, please contact Heather Leschinsky at 402-471-9337 or [heather.leschinsky@nebraska.gov](mailto:heather.leschinsky@nebraska.gov)