

PROVIDER BULLETIN

No. 11-70

Date: October 3, 2011

TO: Nebraska Medicaid Providers

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

BY: Heather Leschinsky, Program Coordinator

RE: Release for Proposal for 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 an expansion of the physical health managed care program statewide effective July 1, 2012. The Release for Proposal (RFP) has been issued and is available at the following website:

<http://www.das.state.ne.us/materiel/purchasing/3792.htm>

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. This is necessary because proposers will have to show they can provide an adequate network of providers to their enrollees should they receive an award to be an MCO in those counties not currently served by physical health managed care (Cass, Dodge, Douglas, Gage, Lancaster, Otoe, Sarpy, Saunders, Seward, and Washington).

Providers may be asked to sign a Letter of Intent (LOI) by potential bidders. The LOI is to be used to show a provider's intention to enter into a contract to provide Medicaid covered services within a proposer's network.

A decision regarding the contract award is expected in February 2012. The procurement process will be through a competitive bid process. The bidders will be required to submit proposals that demonstrate they are able to maintain a network of providers that will meet the needs of the Medicaid population and proposals will be scored accordingly.

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.

Dental, pharmacy, hospice, long-term care nursing facility services, mental health/substance abuse services, and HCBS waiver services are not included.

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