



May 15, 2017

Mr. Brian Neale  
Deputy Administrator and Director  
Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services  
Center for Medicaid and CHIP Services  
7500 Security Boulevard, Mail Stop: 32-26-12  
Baltimore, Maryland 21244-1850

Re: 11-W-00278/6- Texas Healthcare Transformation and Quality  
Improvement Program

Dear Mr. Neale:

Texas Health and Human Services (HHS) submitted Amendment 13 on April 18, 2016.

Amendment 13 proposed the following changes:

- 1) mandate enrollment in a STAR Kids Managed Care Organization for Medicaid recipients under the age of 21 who receive Supplemental Security Income, disability-related Medicaid, or who are served through one of the Medicaid 1915(c) waivers with an effective date of November 1, 2016;
- 2) amend the 1115 waiver to end the current NorthSTAR behavioral health Medicaid carveout program effective January 1, 2017; and
- 3) amend the 1115 Waiver to apply the spell of illness exemption only for members who are admitted specifically due to a diagnosis of serious and persistent mental illness effective September 1, 2016.

Items one and two were approved November 1, 2016, and December 22, 2016, respectively. Based on recent conversations with CMS, HHS requests the withdrawal of the remaining item of amendment 13, item three.

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Please let me know if you have any questions or need additional information. Dana Williamson, Director, Program Policy Support, may be reached at 512-462-6287 or by e-mail at [dana.williamson@hhsc.state.tx.us](mailto:dana.williamson@hhsc.state.tx.us).

Sincerely,



Jami Snyder  
State Medicaid Director