Table of Contents

State/Territory Name: MO

State Plan Amendment (SPA) #: 16-0004

This file contains the following documents in the order listed:

1) Approval Letter
2) Summary Form (with 179-like data)
3) Approved SPA Pages
Brian Kinkade, Director
Department of Social Services
Broadway State Office Building
P.O. Box 1527
Jefferson City, MO 65102-1527

Dear Mr. Kinkade:

On February 24, 2016 the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) received Missouri’s State Plan Amendment (SPA) transmittal #16-0004, which adds asthma education and assessments to the state plan. On May 24, 2016, the Regional Office (RO) sent a request for additional information (RAI). The state responded to the RAI on July 12, 2016.

This SPA was approved on October 5, 2016, with an effective date of July 1, 2016, as requested by the state. Enclosed is a copy of the CMS 179 form, as well as, the approved pages for incorporation into the Missouri State plan.

I appreciate the significant amount of work that your staff dedicated to getting this SPA approved and the cooperative way in which we achieved this much-desired outcome. If you have any questions concerning this SPA, please contact me at (816) 426-5925 or have your staff contact Kevin Slaven at (816) 426-5925.

Sincerely,

James G. Scott
Associate Regional Administrator
for Medicaid and Children’s Health Operations

Enclosure

c: Joe Parks, M.D., Director
   Debbie Meller
Asthma Education and In-Home Environmental Assessments: This State Plan Amendment proposes to provide asthma education and in-home environmental assessments to individuals with uncontrolled asthma under the age of 21 or Independent Foster Care Adolescents who are in foster care at age 18, or any time during the 30-day period preceding their 18th birthday through age 25. These services will be provided following a physician’s prescription by state or nationally certified asthma educators and in-home environmental assessors. This proposed amendment establishes requirements for either a national certification or a state certification for both asthma educators and in-home environmental assessors.
Asthma Preventive Education and Counseling for the Participant and In-Home Assessments for Asthma Triggers:

Asthma Preventive Education and Counseling for the Participant is provided pursuant to the preventive benefit 42 CFR 440.130(c) and In-Home Assessments for Asthma Triggers are provided pursuant to the diagnostic benefit 42 CFR 440.130(a).

Evidence has shown that the combined approach of asthma preventive education and counseling and in-home assessments for asthma triggers leads to better health outcomes in the pediatric population. To improve the health of MO HealthNet participants with asthma and to reduce costs associated with participants with uncontrolled asthma, MO HealthNet will implement a statewide asthma preventive education and counseling and in-home assessment program for asthma triggers focusing on youth participants who have evidence of uncontrolled asthma. Youth participants are defined as any individual younger than the age of 21, and all services are furnished without limitation in accordance with 1905(r) of the Social Security Act.

Definition and Description of Medical Services:

A. Asthma Preventive Education and Counseling
   1. Asthma education non-physician (Thirty (30) minute sessions, two (2) per year);
   2. Preventive medicine counseling, individual (Fifteen (15) minute sessions four (4) times per year);
   3. Preventive medicine counseling, individual (Thirty (30) minute sessions two (2) times per year); OR
   4. Self-management education using standardized effective curriculum, individually, either incident to a clinical encounter or as preventative service (Ninety (90) minute session one (1) per year).
   5. These services are provided by certified Educators only.

   Description of Services: Asthma education, preventive medicine counseling, and self-management education may include informing the participant about the need for increasing adherence to the inhaled corticosteroid (ICS) regimen, optimizing inhalation technique, supporting trigger reduction in indoor environment (home, school and work), identifying and reducing impairment and reducing and managing the risks of asthma exacerbation, increasing compliance with asthma action plans prescribed by the participant’s provider, documentation (not performance of) of measures of pulmonary function testing, counseling on the findings of the environmental assessment, education on the management of co-morbid health conditions, increasing health-promoting behaviors (examples include eating healthy foods, tobacco cessation, engaging in physical activity regularly, maintaining a normal weight, being compliant with physician appointments, and following the recommended immunization schedule per participant’s age) promotion of non-pharmacologic behaviors, and education on nasal hygiene.

B. In-Home Assessments for Asthma Triggers
   1. Asthma environmental assessment non-physician (Two (2) per year).
   2. These services are provided by certified Assessors only.

   Description of Services: In-home assessments for asthma triggers are limited to a provider’s time and activities during an assessment of the child’s home or primary residence, in order to determine the source of the child’s asthma. In-home assessments for asthma triggers include activities that help to identify and support the reduction of disease causing agents in the home leading to medical complications of asthma. In-home assessments for asthma triggers do not include remediation of issues identified in the home.

State Plan TN# 16-04
Supersedes TN# New Material
Effective Date 07-01-16
Approval Date 10-05-16
Asthma preventive education and counseling and in-home assessments for asthma triggers require a referral and/or a prescribed service in the participant’s plan of care by a physician and may be provided by practitioners other than physicians or other licensed practitioners. All asthma preventive education and counseling and in-home assessment for asthma triggers services will require a prior authorization.

All asthma preventive education and counseling and in-home assessment for asthma triggers services are home based services, provided by certified Educators and certified Assessors. Additional asthma preventive education and counseling and in-home assessments for asthma triggers requests beyond the initial allocation will go through the prior authorization process and must be deemed medically necessary.

Credentials:

1. Educators
   a. National Asthma Educator Certification (AEC)
   b. State Certification – Accredited training programs, such as a University, within the state will provide an accredited asthma educator training program and certificate incorporating similar guidelines to the national asthma educator certification; upon successful completion a certificate must be provided. A certificate means that the student has successfully completed the training program and is competent to provide asthma education services.
   c. Asthma Preventive Education and Counseling Providers – shall be certified by a national program or a state program. Eligibility criteria for admission into the certification programs are determined by the administrator of the program.

2. Assessors
   a. National Certification – National Environmental Health Association (NEHA) Healthy Home Specialist or a NEHA Healthy Home Evaluator Micro-Credential
   b. State Certification – Accredited training programs, such as a University, within the state will provide an accredited in-home assessor for asthma triggers training program and certificate incorporating similar guidelines to the national certifications including the Healthy Home Specialist and the Healthy Home Evaluator Micro-Credential; upon successful completion a certificate must be provided. A certificate means that the student has successfully completed the training program and is competent to provide in-home assessment for asthma trigger services.
   c. Asthma In-Home Assessors – shall be certified by a national program or a state program. Eligibility criteria for admission into the certification programs are determined by the administrator of the program.
Asthma Preventive Education and Counseling for the Participant and In-Home Assessments for Asthma Triggers

The state agency shall provide reimbursement for asthma preventive education and counseling and in-home assessments for asthma triggers to enrolled educators and assessors who are currently certified and in good standing with the state as defined in 4b EPSDT Asthma Preventive Education and Counseling for the Participant and In-Home Assessments for Asthma Triggers. Reimbursement for services is made on a fee-for-service basis. The maximum allowable fee for a unit of service has been determined by MO HealthNet to be a reasonable fee, consistent with efficiency, economy, and quality of care. The state payment for each service will be lower of:

1. The provider’s actual charge for the services; or
2. The Medicaid maximum allowable amount per unit of service.

Reimbursement shall only be made for services authorized by the state agency or its designee. Except as otherwise noted in the plan, state developed fee schedule rates are the same for both public and private providers of asthma preventive education and counseling and in-home assessments for asthma triggers. The agency’s fee schedule is published at [http://www.dss.mo.gov/mhd/providers/index.htm](http://www.dss.mo.gov/mhd/providers/index.htm) and is effective for services provided on or after the effective date of the state plan amendment noted below.