



COMMISSIONER  
Jon Weizenbaum

Date June 30, 2016

To: Medically Dependent Children Program (MDCP) Providers

Subject: Information Letter No. 16-27  
Transition of MDCP Long Term Services and Supports to Managed Care

Beginning November 1, 2016, children and young adults under the age of 21 who receive:

- Supplemental Security Income (SSI),
- disability-related Medicaid, or
- MDCP services

will transition from traditional fee-for-service Medicaid or STAR+PLUS to the new STAR Kids managed care program to receive their Medicaid State Plan and waiver services.

Participation in managed care does not impact an individual's ability to access or maintain a slot on the MDCP interest list or the interest lists of Community Living and Support Services (CLASS), Deaf Blind with Multiple Disabilities (DBMD), Home and Community-based Services (HCS), and Texas Home Living (TxHmL).

STAR Kids enrollment does not apply to:

- children in foster care who receive SSI or disability-related Medicaid;
- individuals receiving MDCP who are served through the STAR Health program; or
- individuals who turn 21 in November 2016, December 2016, or January 2017 (first 90 days of implementation) who will remain in fee-for-service Medicaid and be enrolled in STAR+PLUS if eligible.

Individuals eligible for Medicare and Medicaid will receive acute care services through their Medicare provider and receive MDCP and other long-term services and supports through a STAR Kids or STAR Health managed care organization (MCO). In addition, all assessments, reassessments, and ongoing case management for MDCP will be completed by the STAR Kids and STAR Health MCOs, rather than the Texas Department of Aging and Disability Services (DADS) case managers and nurses.

MCOs will be responsible for individual service plan (ISP) development and ensuring their members' continued eligibility for MDCP in accordance with the policies and procedures outlined in the STAR Kids Handbook and the STAR Health MDCP chapter of the Uniform Managed Care Manual (UMCM).

MCOs must honor existing MDCP individual plans of care (IPCs), including all existing service authorizations, until:

- completion of a new STAR Kids assessment and ISP, or
- six months post STAR Kids implementation.

To continue as an MDCP program provider through STAR Kids, a provider must be enrolled as a [State Medicaid provider](#). They must also contract and be credentialed with one or more STAR Kids MCOs in their [service delivery area](#). The map of MCO service delivery areas is located at: <https://www.hhsc.state.tx.us/medicaid/managed-care/mmc/Managed-Care-Service-Areas-Map.pdf>.

MDCP providers serving children in foster care will also need to enroll as State Medicaid providers and contract and be credentialed with the statewide STAR Health MCO. Providers are encouraged to begin the contracting and credentialing process as soon as possible. Provider contacts for the MCOs may be found in the table below:

MCOs	Provider Relations Contact Information
<b>Aetna Better Health Texas</b>	Gina Hightower Phone: (214) 288-4414 Kelly Dixon Phone: (214) 200-8298
<b>Amerigroup</b>	Aron Head Email: aron.head@amerigroup.com Phone: (817) 861-7700 ext. 57747
<b>Blue Cross Blue Shield of Texas</b>	Juanita Hill Email: juanita_hill@bcbstx.com Phone: (512) 349-4896
<b>Children's Medical Center Health Plan</b>	Rob Robidou Email: Robert.Robidou@childrens.com Phone: (214) 456-1959
<b>Community First Health Plans</b>	Martin M. Jimenez Email: mjimenez@cfhp.com Phone: (210) 358-6180
<b>Cook Children's Health Plan</b>	Teresa Hebert Email: Teresa.hebert@cookchildrens.org Phone: (682) 885-5885
<b>Driscoll Health Plan</b>	Donald A. Well Phone: (361) 694-4349 Cell: (361) 881-1349
<b>Superior Health Plan</b>	Marisa Moreno Email: mmoreno@centene.com Phone: 1-800-656-4817 ext. 22907

MCOs	Provider Relations Contact Information
<b>Texas Children's Health Plan</b>	Gail Bean Email: ggbean@texaschildrens.org Phone: (832) 828-1245
<b>UnitedHealthcare Community Plan</b>	Angela Otto Email: angela_d_otto@uhc.com Phone: (713) 418-6365

Individuals required to enroll in a STAR Kids MCO will receive introductory letters in July 2016, followed by enrollment letters with instructions on how to choose a health plan in August 2016.

The Texas Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) conducted information sessions regarding the STAR Kids managed care program earlier this year. Presentation materials from those events, dates and locations of future information sessions (including some which may be held in Spanish), and information on the STAR Kids managed care program may be found on the [STAR Kids website](#).

Questions on the transition of MDCP into STAR Kids or STAR Health can be directed to: [Managed\\_Care\\_Initiatives@hhsc.state.tx.us](mailto:Managed_Care_Initiatives@hhsc.state.tx.us).

Sincerely,

*[signature on file]*

S. Michelle Martin  
Director  
Center for Policy and Innovation

*[signature on file]*

Elisa J. Garza  
Assistant Commissioner  
Access and Intake