Medi-Cal’s Young Adult Expansion Begins (SB104)

On January 1, 2020, California passed a new law that gives full scope Medi-Cal to young adults under the age of 26, regardless of immigration status (Medi-Cal eligibility rules, including income limits, will still apply). This initiative, Young Adult Expansion, is modeled after Senate Bill 75, which provides full scope Medi-Cal to all eligible children under the age of 19.

Individuals who turn age 26 between January 2, 2020 - January 31, 2020 are considered 25 for the entire month of January, and will be eligible for full scope Medi-Cal under the Young Adult Expansion. Those that turn age 26 on January 1, 2020 will not be eligible for full scope Medi-Cal under the Young Adult Expansion.

The Young Adult Expansion does not implement new aid codes, so individuals who qualify for Medi-Cal benefits will be assigned existing full scope Medi-Cal aid codes. The new beneficiaries that reside in either Santa Barbara or San Luis Obispo County will receive full scope Fee-For-Service Medi-Cal for January 2020 before transitioning to CenCal Health.

We look forward to collaborating with our Primary Care Providers and evaluating capacities so that we can offer their excellent services to all newly eligible young adults.

Contact your Provider Services Representative at (805) 562-1676 if you would like to increase your capacity, or if you have additional questions.

DHCS References:
www.dhcs.ca.gov/services/medi-cal/eligibility/Pages/YoungAdultExp.aspx
LGBTQ patients are more likely to have certain health issues than non-LGBTQ patients, often due to stigma and discrimination, including higher rates of suicide, alcohol and substance abuse, depression, and anxiety. They also experience higher rates of diabetes, obesity, and hypertension, and are less likely to seek preventive services like cancer and STI screenings.

Many LGBTQ patients have trouble finding a health setting where they feel accepted. Well-meaning clinic staff can make simple oversights or mistakes, due to a lack of understanding about how to interact with LGBTQ patients. Even small mistakes can bring up past negative experiences, which can discourage them from seeking health care again and perpetuate health disparities.

To learn about LGBTQ-specific clinical guidelines, screening recommendations, and inclusive patient care, visit cencalhealth.org/providers/provider-training-resources/ where you will find Physician Toolkits and learning modules about LGBTQ Patient Care.

HEALTH PROMOTION UPDATE

How to Provide Inclusive Services to LGBTQ Patients

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New Year, New Look: Provider Bulletin Becomes Self-Mailer

In honor of the New Year, CenCal Health is giving the Provider Bulletin a new look! We’re excited to announce that, moving forward, the Provider Bulletin will be a self-mailer, and will no longer require an envelope. The change supports CenCal Health’s Go Green initiative to reduce paper usage for 2020.
Print or Digitally Search CenCal Health’s Formulary

The CenCal Health formulary is available on the Pharmacy Services web page as a printable PDF and as an enhanced web searchable version. The web searchable version includes additional features that allow users to search by brand or generic drug names, and for all DHCS carve-out medications. There are interactive icons with detailed information on Step Therapy Restrictions, Age Limits, Code 1 Restrictions, Quantity Limits, Specialty Drugs, and Prior Authorizations.

Please visit cencalhealth.org/providers/pharmacy to access the printable and web searchable versions of the CenCal Health formulary.

CLINICAL CORNER

Reminder: PAD Encounters Require Both HCPCS Codes and a Valid NDC

As a reminder, CenCal Health validates that a National Drug Code (NDC) accompanies Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System (HCPCS) associated with Physician-Administered Drugs (PADs) services/encounters. Encounters reporting PADs are required to include both HCPCS codes and a valid NDC. PAD encounters that do not include both the HCPCS code and a valid NDC will be denied. Additionally, NDCs must coincide with the FDA NDC list for the respective administered drug (PAD) and be eleven numeric digits.

If you have any questions, please contact our Claims department at (805) 562-1083.

CLINICAL CORNER

Importance of Well Child Visits

The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) states that regular checkups are an important way to keep track of a child’s health and physical, emotional, and social development. As a result, Well Child Visits are an important time for parents and caregivers to express concerns about the child’s development and challenges in daily routines, as well as to learn the best ways to help the child grow.

In order to establish a strong relationship between patient and provider, stay up to date with vaccinations and promote early detection of any development issues. It is important for the Well Child Visits to happen according to the schedule recommended by AAP.

For more information regarding this important aspect of care, visit AAP’s website.

CenCal Health conducts a variety of educational Provider Training courses for all provider types. In-person seminars are held throughout both Santa Barbara and San Luis Obispo Counties, and webinars are available online. These educational events focus on supporting provider staff on various topics designed to enhance the quality of care and services our members receive.

Check out our online 2020 Training Calendar! [cencalhealth.org/providers/provider-training-resources/](http://cencalhealth.org/providers/provider-training-resources/)