

Healthy Moms, Healthy Babies MIHP Pilot Project

April 2021

Overview

Governor Whitmer's [Healthy Moms, Healthy Babies](#) initiative is making investments in several state programs to help improve health outcomes for pregnant parents and their children. As part of this initiative, the Governor has asked the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) to pilot an enhancement of MIHP services to explore how MIHP provider agencies can help address social determinants of health for the families they serve.

MDHHS has partnered with the University of Michigan Youth Policy Lab (YPL) to conduct an evaluation of these enhancements to MIHP services. The goal of this project is to understand whether expanding the services for which MIHP providers can bill can better help meet families' needs. Approximately 50 MIHP provider agencies are being recruited to participate in this project.

Half (~25) of the participating providers—the treatment group—will be randomly selected to be able to bill for additional visit time, a new “discharge visit”, and care coordination services for families deemed “high risk” on the Risk Identifier domains. The other half of the agencies—the control group—will be allowed to bill for a discharge visit for families deemed “high risk”.

Benefits of Participating

- If you are selected to participate in the treatment group, you will have the opportunity to bill for additional services (see below for details) and a discharge visit.
- If you are selected to participate in the control group, you will have the opportunity to bill for a discharge visit.
- You will help the MDHHS learn about new ways to help meet the needs of families in Michigan.

Responsibilities of Participating

- If you agree to participate in the study, you agree to only bill for additional services for those families deemed “high risk” on the MRI or IRI.
- Your home visiting staff will administer a brief survey to participating families during discharge visits. The survey features questions for the family to answer about their background, experiences, and interactions with their home visitor. The survey also has questions for home visitors to answer about their experiences with the family.
- Your home visiting staff will be asked to send out the discharge survey to “high risk” families who are lost to care.
- The study team at YPL may reach out to you or your home visitors to gather additional information about your experiences with this pilot program.

Provider Eligibility

Provider agencies will be eligible for inclusion in this project if they meet the following criteria:

- 1) Provider maintains current MIHP certification status
- 2) Provider does not currently participate in the Youth Policy Lab impact evaluation of MIHP

These criteria help ensure that as many different MIHP sites as possible have the opportunity to participate in new opportunities.

Medicaid Reimbursement for Enhanced MIHP Services

Eligible MIHP agencies assigned to the treatment group will be able to bill Medicaid for additional services for these “high risk” beneficiaries. Enhanced services will be reimbursed on a fee-for-service basis through new codes representing:

- 1) *Additional visit time*: Providers can bill for an additional 30 minutes per visit, each visit, for all beneficiaries deemed “high risk.”
- 2) *Additional home visit*: Providers can bill for one additional home visit per “high risk” maternal or infant beneficiary, which can take place at any time during MIHP services.
- 3) *Care coordination*: Billed at a monthly flat rate per “high risk” beneficiary, care coordination includes phone calls or other activities to coordinate services and resources.
- 4) *Discharge visit*: The discharge visit will include completion of a brief survey and development of a follow-up plan of care to transition the beneficiary out of MIHP services.

Eligible MIHP agencies assigned to the control group will be able to bill for the discharge visit, during which a brief survey will be administered.

MIHP staff will periodically review billing information for these enhanced services to ensure billing is being conducted appropriately and only for “high risk” beneficiaries. **Provider agencies will bill Medicaid directly for these services, not Medicaid Health Plans.** Participating agencies will receive detailed billing instructions and technical assistance as needed.

Discharge Visit Surveys

To evaluate whether or not these MIHP enhancements have an impact on families’ social determinants of health, the Youth Policy Lab has developed a brief survey of families and home visitors at the time of discharge from MIHP. To capture information about “high risk” families’ social determinants of health, participating agencies’ home visitors will administer the survey to these families during new discharge visits. The survey features questions for the family to answer about their background, experiences, and interactions with their home visitor. The survey also has questions for home visitors to answer about their experiences with the family.

The Youth Policy Lab will provide instructions to help participating agencies administer the survey.

Project Timeline

MIHP provider agencies will be recruited to participate in this project in April 2021. Enhancements to MIHP services will be activated in May 2021. The project is guaranteed to run through the end of September 2021, but anticipated to continue through September 2022, pending finalization of the FY2022 state budget.