



MI HEALTH LINK

Linking Medicare and Medicaid for you
Bulletin March 2022

Meet the MI Health Link Team: *Allison Repp*

Greetings! My name is Allison Repp and I am the Section Manager for the MI Health Link Program. I graduated from Michigan State University with a Bachelor's of Science Degree in health studies and a specialization in health promotion which is what sparked my interest in public health. Prior to joining the MI Health Link Team, I worked in the Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs (LARA) for the Long Term Care Background Check Program where I supported a team tasked with reviewing and monitoring background checks of individuals employed by long-term care facilities to assure compliance with State law. When I joined the MI Health Link Team as a Contract Manager, I was primarily responsible for overseeing Integrated Care Organization (ICO) contracts for compliance and serving as a liaison between



ICOs, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), and the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS). I was promoted to Section Manager for the program in 2018 and in this capacity I oversee MI Health Link program operations including contract management, quality assurance, enrollment, systems, payments, and waiver services.

In my spare time, my hobbies include cooking, painting, traveling, and spending time with family. I also love exploring the outdoors and in recent years, I've taken an interest in gardening. With Spring upon us, it is the perfect time to get some vegetable seeds started so they are ready to transfer outside when the weather breaks!

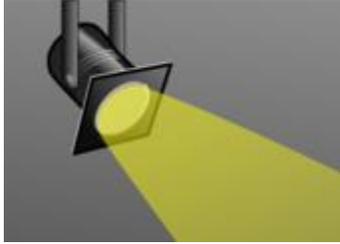
My team and I are very excited to share our first MI Health Link bulletin with you this month. Karen Everhart and Aimee Miller have taken the lead on this new endeavor, so I'd be remiss if I did not give them a shout out and some kudos for all of their hard work on it. Thank you, Karen and Aimee! I am looking forward to all of the great topics you have planned for the coming months!

This bulletin will provide subscribers with information about MI Health Link program benefits, policies, and upcoming training opportunities. We also plan to answer questions and address topics suggested by our readers, so we would love to hear from you! Please send questions, comments, and suggestions for future bulletins to IntegratedCare@Michigan.gov. We hope you find the content of this bulletin to be informational and actionable in your everyday work, and we thank you for all that you do to support the communities you serve!

Best regards,
Allison

Coverage of At Home COVID-19 Tests for MHL Beneficiaries

MI Health Link Beneficiaries are currently able to access select FDA-authorized or approved at home COVID-19 tests through their Medicaid Pharmacy Benefit. Coverage includes up to a maximum of one test per day. Additional details related to this benefit can be found in the MDHHS Policy Bulletin [here](#).



MI Health Link Service Spotlight:

Adaptive Medical Equipment and Supplies

Adaptive Medical Equipment and Supplies are available to MI Health Link beneficiaries as both a Home and Community Based waiver service and a supplemental service. This service/benefit includes devices, controls, or appliances specified in the Individual Integrated Care and Supports Plan (IICSP) that enable enrollees to increase their abilities to perform activities of daily living, or to perceive, control, or communicate with the environment in which they live. This service also includes items necessary for life support, or to address physical conditions along with ancillary supplies and equipment necessary to the proper functioning of such items, and durable and non-durable medical equipment and medical supplies not available under the Medicaid state plan and Medicare that are necessary to address enrollee functional limitations.

Some examples (not an exhaustive list) of these items would be lift chairs, reachers, jar openers, transfer seats, bath lifts/room lifts, swivel discs, bath aids such as long handle scrubbers, telephone aids, automated telephones or watches that assist with medication reminders, button hooks or zipper pulls, modified eating utensils, modified oral hygiene aids, modified grooming tools, heating pads, sharps containers, exercise items and other therapy items, voice output blood pressure monitor, nutritional supplements such as Ensure, specialized turner or pointer, mouth stick for TDD, foot massaging unit, talking timepiece, adaptive eating or drinking device, book holder, medical alert bracelet, adapted mirror, weighted blanket, back knobber, and grab bars. Additional information can be found in section 18.1 of the [MI Health Link Minimum Operating Standards](#).

Beneficiary Health and Welfare

In the MI Health Link Program, the ICO must report critical incidents to MDHHS and other required authorities according to state policies and processes and as approved

in the MI Health Link HCBS waiver application. There is no standardized, federally defined term for “critical incident” that outlines the scope of reportable incidents.

The types of critical incidents that MDHHS requires to be reported for review and follow-up action can be located in section 10 of the [MI Health Link Minimum Operating Standards](#).

One type of reportable critical incident is neglect. The definition of neglect in the MI Health Link 1915(c) waiver states that it is an act of commission or omission by an employee, volunteer, or agent of a provider. Signs an individual may be a victim of neglect include:

Bedsore or other preventable conditions

Depressed mood or seems withdrawn

Unexplained weight loss

Poor hygiene

Unsafe or hazardous living conditions (lack of heat, water)

Withholding medical care

Over or under medicating

Neglect can also be withholding assistive devices such as walkers, wheelchairs, hearing aids, dentures, or glasses. If an individual is dependent upon these items to function throughout the day and they are not provided, that is neglect and must be reported!

Self-neglect is not a reportable incident. However, when an individual neglects to care for their own personal hygiene, health or surroundings education and follow up should take place during care coordination/assessments. This is important to ensure the enrollee has all their needs met and to make certain that what appears to be self-neglect is not neglect by a caregiver.

**Resource Link: State Emergency Relief
(SER)**



Emergency support is designed to maintain low-income households that are normally able to make ends meet but occasionally need help when unexpected emergency situations arise. Assistance may be available for such things as burial, utilities, and home repairs when an individual is facing conditions of extreme hardship or emergencies threatening their health and safety. For details related to eligibility and applying for assistance see the SER website at [MDHHS State Emergency Relief](#).

Deaf Culture and Professionalism

February 22, 2022 Dylan Secord and Charlyss Ray of DEAF Community Advocacy Network (DEAF C.A.N) of Sylvan Lake, MI presented Deaf Culture 101 and Professionalism for MHL's Integrated Care Organizations. This training introduced Deaf culture, provided resources for individuals who are deaf, deaf-blind, or hard of hearing, and key tips when interacting with individuals in the Deaf Community, personally and professionally. The presentation slides can be found [here](#).

Education Opportunity

Long Term Care Community Services

Hosted by MDHHS

April 12, 2022 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m

This educational opportunity is targeted at institutional providers, but any provider is welcome to attend. The presentation will provide an overview of available long term supports and services including a review of eligibility requirements and service offerings. The following programs and services will be highlighted:

- MI Choice Waiver
- Program of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE)
- Home Health
- Community Transition Services (CTS)
- MI Health Link

Click [here to register](#)

All registered users will receive a recording of the webinar as well as the presentation materials once the webinar has concluded.

Push Pause.

Presented by the Commission for Case Manager Certification (CCMC) and Andrew Shatté

Simple words...not so simple to do. Even in the best of times, taking a moment for yourself is crucial. The Commission invited some of the nation's top inspirational speakers to record moments of wisdom to inspire hope and resilience just for case managers. They are designed to help you reframe the grind into grace notes, to rejuvenate your daily life, and to help you reflect on the tangible support you bring clients every day. Watch here: [Push Pause](#)



Q & A: Your Questions About MI Health Link

*If you have a question about the MHL program we want to hear from you. We will work to get you the information you need.**

Please send your questions to Integratedcare@michigan.gov

Q: With the platform transition for HCBS waiver enrollments from the Waiver Support Application (WSA) to CHAMPS, when can we expect the migration of HCBS waiver cases to be complete?

A: We expect to have all HCBS waiver case with 2021 and 2022 enrollment dates in CHAMPS by the end of March 2022. As a reminder, access to historical data and information in the WSA will remain available. Please reach out to MDHHS-MHL-Waiver@michigan.gov if you have any further questions related to this topic.

*IMPORTANT: Beneficiaries with questions concerning their own enrollment or eligibility should call Michigan ENROLLS Monday through Friday, 8AM-7PM for assistance at 1-800-975-7630 or TTY 1-888-263-5897. Providers may work directly with the ICO health plan for beneficiary related inquires. In order to protect beneficiary personal identifiable information (PII) and protected health information (PHI) please refrain from sending MI Health Link this information.

Topic Submission

If you have suggestions for topics to be addressed in future additions of the MI Health Link Bulletin, please send them to Integratedcare@michigan.gov



Quick Links

[MI Health Link Website](#)

[CMS Financial Alignment Website](#)

[MI Health Link Minimum Operating Standards](#)

[MDHHS Medicaid Provider Manual](#)

Previously Released MHL Bulletins

Previously released MI Health Link Bulletins can be found by visiting the [MI Health Link Website](#).

Become a foster parent through Michigan Department of Health & Human Services foster care program.



Questions? [Contact Us](#)

SUBSCRIBER SERVICES:

[Manage Subscriptions](#) | [Unsubscribe All](#) | [Subscriber Help](#)

STAY CONNECTED:

