

MHP Information Sheet – Sickle Cell Disease Expansion



Effective 10/1/2021, Children's Special Health Care Services (CSHCS) is pleased to announce an eligibility expansion for adults ages 21 and older with sickle cell disease. The information contained in this document is an effort to help Medicaid Health Plans understand how to enroll adult clients with sickle cell disease.

Initial Adult Enrollment: A medical report will be accepted from subspecialty, primary care, and emergency care providers for initial enrollment. *The medical report must be signed by the provider and include a treatment plan related to a sickle cell disease diagnosis.* Signatures and medical reports from nurse practitioners and physician assistants are also acceptable for the initial enrollment. Medical reports from within the past two years are acceptable for initial enrollment. If there is supporting documentation, such as a hemoglobin electrophoresis or other lab reports, please include with the medical report.

The initial medical eligibility period is up to two years if the initial medical is not from a hematologist. Enrollees who are not currently being seen by a hematologist will need to be seen by a hematologist within the first two years of enrollment to continue being eligible for CSHCS. Medicaid Health Plans are expected to coordinate and facilitate an appointment with a hematologist for those patients.

If initial medical is received from a hematologist, the medical eligibility period is up to five years.

Using a limited diagnoses code set allows more flexibility and streamlines the eligibility process. CSHCS has more than 2,600 eligible diagnoses. Not all diagnoses can be included on this. The Office of Medical affairs reviews medical documentation related to diagnoses not included on this list. If the condition meets chronicity and severity criteria, they will deem the individual eligible and assign an eligible diagnosis code to the enrollee. Although there are only four eligible diagnoses for sickle cell disease, providers should submit clients with any sickle cell diagnosis for determination of eligibility.

Renewal: The initial two-year medical eligibility period is to allow the patient to establish care with a hematologist for their sickle cell disease. A medical report from a hematologist will be required for renewal.

For more information regarding CSHCS or the enrollment process, please contact Craig Boyce at BoyceC@michigan.gov.