



# **2020 PROVIDER MANUAL**

## **Molina Healthcare of Michigan, Inc.**

### **Molina Dual Options**

### **MI Health Link**

Thank you for your participation in the delivery of quality healthcare services to Molina Dual Options Plan (MI Health Link) Members. We look forward to working with you.

This Provider Manual shall serve as a supplement as referenced thereto and incorporated therein, to the Molina of Michigan Inc. Services Agreement. In the event of any conflict between this Manual and the Manual distributed with reference to Molina Medicaid or Molina Medicare Members, this Manual shall take precedence over matters concerning the management and care of Molina Dual Options Plan (MI Health Link) Members.

The information contained within this manual is proprietary. The information is not to be copied in whole or in part; nor is the information to be distributed without the express written consent of Molina Healthcare of Michigan, Inc.

The Provider Manual is a reference tool that contains eligibility, benefits, contact information and policies/procedures for services that the Molina Dual Options Plan (MI Health Link) specifically provides and administers on behalf of Molina Healthcare.

The provider manual is reviewed, evaluated and updated as needed and at a minimum annually.



Molina Healthcare of Michigan  
880 West Long Lake Rd, Suite 600  
Troy, MI 48098

Dear Provider:

I would like to extend a personal welcome to Molina Healthcare of Michigan. Enclosed is your Molina Dual Options Plan (MI Health Link) Provider Manual, written specifically to address the requirements of delivering healthcare services to Molina Dual Options Plan (MI Health Link) members.

This manual is designed to provide you with assistance in all areas of your practice.

From time to time, this manual will be revised as policies or regulatory requirements change. All changes and updates will be updated and posted to the Molina Dual Options Plan (MI Health Link) website as they occur. Molina Healthcare of Michigan will notify providers of major policy or regulatory changes in advance. The full manual is available at [www.MolinaHealthcare.com](http://www.MolinaHealthcare.com).

Thank you for your active participation in the delivery of quality healthcare services to Molina's Dual Options Plan (MI Health Link) members.

Sincerely,

Christine Surdock  
Plan President

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# 1. Introduction

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Molina Dual Options (MI Health Link) is the brand name of Molina Healthcare of Michigan, Inc.'s Medicare-Medicaid Program (MMP).

Molina Medicare is licensed and approved by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) to operate in the following states: California, Florida, Michigan, New Mexico, Ohio, South Carolina, Texas, Utah and Washington.

## **Molina Dual Options (MI Health Link) (MMP)**

**Dual Options (MI Health Link)** is the name of Molina's Medicare-Medicaid Program (MMP). The Dual Options Plan (MI Health Link) was designed for Members who are dual eligible: individuals who are eligible for both Medicare and full Medicaid in order to provide quality healthcare coverage and service with little out-of-pocket costs. Dual Options MI Health Link (MMP) embraces Molina's longstanding mission to serve those who are the most in need and traditionally have faced barriers to quality health care.

Please contact the Customer Support Department Monday through Friday from **8:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m. toll free at (855) 322-4077** with questions regarding this program.

## **Use of this Manual**

From time to time, this manual will be revised as policies or regulatory requirements change. All changes and updates will be updated and posted to the Molina Medicare-Medicaid website as they occur. All contracted providers will receive notice of the annual revision of the Provider Manual. Providers may review the Provider Manual at any time at [www.MolinaHealthcare.com](http://www.MolinaHealthcare.com).

This manual contains samples of the forms needed to fulfill your obligations under your Molina contract. If you are already using forms that accomplish the same goals, you may not need to modify them.

## **2. Core Elements of Molina**

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### **The Benefit of Experience**

By focusing exclusively on serving low-income families and individuals who receive health care benefits through government-sponsored programs, Molina has developed strong relationships with Members, Providers and government agencies within each regional market that it serves. Molina's ability to deliver quality care, establish and maintain provider networks, and administer services efficiently has enabled it to compete successfully for government contracts.

### **Quality**

Molina is committed to quality and has made accreditation a strategic goal for each health plan. Year after year, Molina health plans have received accreditation from the National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA). The NCQA accreditation process sets the industry standard for quality in health plan operations.

### **Flexible Care Delivery Systems**

Molina has constructed its systems for health care delivery to be readily adaptable to different markets and changing conditions. Health care services are arranged through contracts with Providers that include independent Providers, medical groups, hospitals and ancillary Providers. Our systems support multiple contracting models, such as fee-for-service, capitation, per diem, case rates and diagnostic-related groups (DRG).

### **Cultural and Linguistic Expertise**

National census data shows that the United States' population is becoming increasingly diverse. Molina has over thirty-five (35) years of history developing targeted health care programs for a culturally diverse membership, and is well-positioned to successfully serve these growing populations by:  
Contracting with a diverse network of community-oriented Providers who have the capabilities to address the linguistic and cultural needs of Members;  
Educating employees about the differing needs among Members; and, Developing Member education material in a variety of media and languages and ensure the literacy level is appropriate for our target audience.

### 3. Contact Information for Providers - Molina Dual Options Plan (MI Health Link)

**Molina Dual Options Plan (MI Health Link)**  
**880 West Long Lake Road, Suite 600**  
**Troy, MI 48098**

**PROVIDER GENERAL  
PHONE LINE:  
(855) 322-4077**

<b>24 HOUR NURSE ADVICE LINE FOR MOLINA DUAL OPTIONS PLAN (MI HEALTH LINK) MEMBERS</b>		
Services available in English and in Spanish.	Telephone	(844) 489-2541
	Hearing Impaired (TTY/TDD)	English: (866) 735-2929 Spanish: (866) 833-4703
<b>BEHAVIORAL HEALTH</b>		
Wayne County-Detroit Wayne Mental Health Authority ATTN: Claims Processing 640 Temple, 8th Floor Detroit, MI 48202	Telephone 24-Hour Crisis Line	(800) 241-4949
Macomb County – Macomb County Community Mental Health ATTN: Claims Processing 22550 Hall Road Clinton Township, MI 48036	Telephone 24-Hour Crisis Line	(855) 996-2264 (855) 927-4747 (586) 307-9100
<b>CASE MANAGEMENT/CARE COORDINATION/TRANSITION OF CARE</b>		
Molina Healthcare of Michigan	Case Management Transition of Care	(855) 322-4077
<b>CLAIMS AND CLAIMS APPEALS</b>		
Mailing Address: MI Health Link Claims P.O. Box 22811 Long Beach, CA 90801  Physical Address Provider Appeals: Molina Dual Options Plan (MI Health Link) PIRR Claims Appeal 880 W Long Lake Rd. Troy, MI 48098	Fax # for Claim Appeals	(888) 665-1328
	Electronic – 837 Claim Submission Emdeon – Payor ID# 38334  Through Molina Web Portal for Web Portal access, contact Molina Help Desk at (866) 449-6848 or contact your Provider Services Representative  For EDI claim submission issues, contact Molina Help Desk at (866) 409-2935 or submit email to <a href="mailto:EDI.Claims@MolinaHealthcare.com">EDI.Claims@MolinaHealthcare.com</a> . Please include detailed information related to the issue and a contact person's name and phone number.	

<b>COMPLIANCE/ANTI-FRAUD HOTLINE</b>		
Confidential Compliance Official Molina Healthcare, Inc. 200 Oceangate, Suite 100 Long Beach, CA 90802	Telephone	(888) 898-7969
	Fax	(877) 665-4620
	Email	<a href="mailto:corporatecompliance@MolinaHealthcare.com">corporatecompliance@MolinaHealthcare.com</a>
<b>CREDENTIALING</b>		
Molina Dual Options Plan (MI Health Link) Credentialing Department 200 Oceangate, Suite 100 Long Beach, CA 90802	Telephone	(855) 322-4077
	Fax	(888) 295-7665
<b>CRITICAL INCIDENT REPORTING</b>		
Incidents of patient neglect, abuse, abandonment	Telephone	(855) 322-4077
<b>DENTAL</b>		
Molina Dental Services	Telephone	(855) 609-5158
<b>INTERPRETER SERVICES</b>		
Request interpreter services	Telephone	(855) 322-4077
<b>MEMBER ELIGIBILITY</b>		
Provider Calls – 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.	Telephone Web portal	(855) 322-4077 <a href="http://www.MolinaHealthcare.com">www.MolinaHealthcare.com</a>
<b>MEMBER SERVICES/MEMBER APPEALS</b>		
Member Calls – 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.	Telephone	(855) 735-5604
<b>MDHHS MI Health Link</b>		
Program Information	Website	<a href="http://www.michigan.gov/mdch/0,4612,7-132-2945_64077---,00.html">http://www.michigan.gov/mdch/0,4612,7-132-2945_64077---,00.html</a>
<b>PROVIDER SERVICE</b>		
	Claims	(855) 322-4077
	Eligibility	(855) 322-4077
	Orientation	(248) 925-1790
	Participation	(855) 322-4077
<b>QUALITY</b>		
Molina Dual Options Plan (MI Health Link) Quality Department 880 West Long Lake Road Suite 600 Troy, MI 48098	Telephone	(855) 322-4077
	Fax	(248) 925-1732

<b>TRANSPORTATION</b>		
Access2Care	Telephone – Reservations Ride Assist:	(866) 462-4855
	TDD/TTY	
<b>UTILIZATION MANAGEMENT</b>		
Molina Dual Options Plan (MI Health Link) Health Care Services	Telephone	(888) 898-7969
	Fax	(248) 295-7665
<b>VISION</b>		
Vision Services Plan (VSP)	Telephone	(844) 853-6294

#### 4. Eligibility and Enrollment in Molina Dual Options Plan (MI HealthLink) a Medicare-Medicaid Program

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**Members who wish to enroll in Molina’s Dual Options Plan (MI Health Link), must meet the following eligibility criteria:**

- Age 21 and older at the time of enrollment;
- Entitled to benefits under Medicare Part A and enrolled under Medicare Parts B and D, and receiving full Medicaid benefits
- Enrolled in the Medicaid Aid to the Aged, Blind, and Disabled (AABD) category of assistance;
- Beneficiaries who meet all other Demonstration criteria and are in the following Medicaid 1915(C) waivers: Persons who are Elderly; Persons with Disabilities; Persons with HIV/AIDS; Persons with Brain Injury; and Persons residing in Supportive Living Facilities;
- Individuals with End Stage Renal Disease (ESRD) at the time of enrollment.

Further, the enrollment table below summarizes eligibility for the Demonstration, including populations that will be excluded from enrollment.

Population	Eligibility
Age 21 or older at the time of enrollment	Included
Eligible for full benefits under Medicare Part A, and enrolled under Parts B and D, and receiving full Medicaid benefits. (This includes individuals who are eligible for Medicaid through expanded financial eligibility limits under a 1915(c) waiver or who reside in a nursing facility and have a monthly PPA)	Included
Reside in Demonstration Region	Included
Individuals under the age of 21	Excluded
Individuals previously disenrolled due to special disenrollment 2.3.2.2.2. from Medicaid managed care as defined in 42 CFR 438.56	Excluded
Individuals not living in a Demonstration Region	Excluded
Individuals without full Medicaid benefits (spend down or deductibles)	Excluded
Individuals with Additional Low-Income Medicare Beneficiary/Qualified Individual (ALMD/QI) program coverage	Excluded
Individuals with Medicaid who reside in a State psychiatric facility	Excluded
Individuals with commercial HMO coverage	Excluded
Individuals with elected hospice services	Excluded

#### **Enrollment/Disenrollment Information**

All member of Molina’s Dual Options Plan (MI Health Link) are full benefit dual eligible (e.g., they receive both Medicare and Medicaid). CMS rules state that these members may enroll or disenroll from Participating Plans and transfers between Participating Plans on a month-to-month basis any time during the year; and will be effective on the first day of the month following the request to do so.

## **Prospective and Existing Member Toll-Free Telephone Numbers**

Existing Members may call our Member Services Department Monday-Friday 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. local time at (855) 701-4885. For TTY/TDD users call 711.

## **Effective Date of Coverage**

The effective date of coverage for members will be the first day of the month following the acceptance of enrollment received through the CMS TRR file. An enrollment cannot be effective prior to the date the member or their legal representative signed the enrollment form or completed the enrollment election. During the applicable enrollment periods, if Molina's Dual Options Plan (MI Health Link) receives a confirmed enrollment through the CMS TRR file process, Molina's Dual Options Plan (MI Health Link) ensures that the effective date is the first day of the following month.

## **Disenrollment**

Staff of Molina's Dual Options Plan (MI Health Link) may never, verbally, in writing, or by any other action or inaction, request or encourage a Medicare MMP member to disenroll except when the member has:

1. A change in residence (includes incarceration – see below) makes the individual ineligible to remain enrolled in the MMP;
2. The member loses entitlement to either Medicare Part A or Part B;
3. The member loses Medicaid eligibility;
4. The member dies;
5. The member materially misrepresents information to the MMP regarding reimbursement for third-party coverage.

When members permanently move out of Molina's service area or leave Molina's service area for over six (6) consecutive months, they must disenroll from Molina's Dual Options Plan (MI Health Link). There are a number of ways that the Molina's Enrollment Accounting department may be informed that the member has relocated:

- Out-of-area notification will be received from Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) and forwarded to CMS on the monthly membership report;
- Through the CMS DTRR file (confirms that the member has disenrolled);
- The member may call to advise Molina's Dual Options Plan (MI Health Link) that they have relocated; and Molina will direct them to MDHHS for formal notification; and/or
- Other means of notification may be made through the Claims Department, if out-of-area claims are received with a residential address other than the one on file; Molina will inform HCS, so they can reach out to the Member directly to begin the disenrollment process. (Molina's Dual Options Plan (MI Health Link) does not offer a visitor/traveler program to Members).



Molina's Dual Options Plan (MI Health Link) will refer the member to MDHHS (or its designated vendor, to process disenrollment of member from the health plan only as allowed by CMS regulations. Molina's Dual Options Plan (MI Health Link) may request that a member be disenrolled under the following circumstances:

- Member requests disenrollment;
- Member enrolls in another plan;
- Member has engaged in disruptive behavior, which is defined as behavior that substantially impairs the plan's ability to arrange for or provide services to the individual or other plan members. An individual cannot be considered disruptive if such behavior is related to the use of medical services or compliance (or noncompliance) with medical advice or treatment.

Other reasons for the disenrollment may be one of the following (where Molina will notify MDHHS to begin the disenrollment process):

- Member abuses the enrollment card by allowing others to use it to fraudulently obtain services;
- Member leaves the service area and directly notifies Molina's Dual Options Plan (MI Health Link) of the permanent change of residence;
- Member has not permanently moved but has been out of the service area for six (6) months or more;
- Member loses entitlement to Medicare Part A or Part B benefits;
- Member loses Medicaid eligibility;
- Molina's Dual Options Plan (MI Health Link) loses or terminates its contract with CMS. In the event of plan termination by CMS, Molina's Dual Options Plan (MI Health Link) will send CMS approved notices and a description of alternatives for obtaining benefits. The notice will be sent timely, before the termination of the plan; and/or
- Molina's Dual Options Plan (MI Health Link) discontinues offering services in specific service areas where the member resides.

In all circumstances except death, (where MDHHS delegates) Molina's Dual Options Plan (MI Health Link) will provide a written notice to the member with an explanation of the reason for the disenrollment; otherwise MDHHS (or its designated enrollment vendor) will provide a written notice. All notices will be in compliance with CMS regulations and will be approved by CMS. Each notice will include the process for filing a grievance.

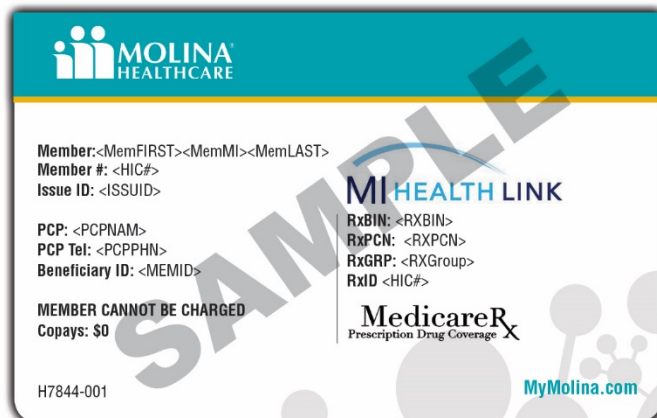
In the event of death, a verification of disenrollment will be sent to the deceased member's estate.

Provider and or members may contact our Member Services Department at (855) 735-5604 to discuss enrollment and disenrollment processes and options.

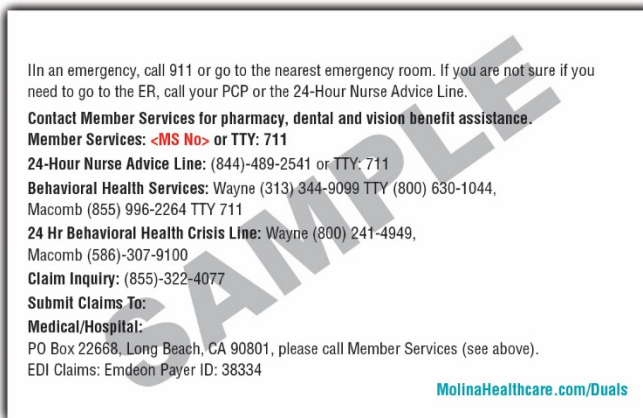
## Member Identification Card Example – Medical Services

### ID Card Sample

#### Front of Member ID Card



#### Back of Member ID Card



### Verifying Eligibility

Verification of membership and eligibility status is necessary to ensure payment for healthcare services being rendered by the provider to the member. Molina strongly encourages providers to verify eligibility at every visit and especially prior to providing services that require authorization. Possession of the ID card does not guarantee Member eligibility or coverage. It is the responsibility of the practitioner/provider to verify the eligibility of the cardholder.

To verify eligibility, providers may call (855) 322-4077 or visit [www.MolinaHealthcare.com](http://www.MolinaHealthcare.com).

## 5. Benefit Overview

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### **Questions about Molina Dual Options Plan (MI Health Link) Benefits**

If there are questions as to whether a service is covered or requires prior authorization, please contact **Molina Customer Support Department Monday through Friday 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. toll free at (855) 322-4077 or 711 for persons with hearing impairments (TTY/TDD).**

### **Links to Summaries of Benefits**

The following web link provides the **Summary of Benefits** for the 2020 Dual Options (MI Health Link) plan in Michigan:

Website <http://www.MolinaHealthcare.com/members/mi/en-us/mem/duals/coverd/Pages/coverd.aspx>

### **Links to Evidence of Coverage**

Detailed information about benefits and services can be found in the 2020 **Evidence of Coverage booklets** sent to each Molina Medicare Member.

The following web link provides the **Evidence of Coverage** for the 2020 MMP plan in Michigan:

Website [www.MolinaHealthcare.com/Medicare/EOC](http://www.MolinaHealthcare.com/Medicare/EOC)

## 6. Quality Management

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Molina works with Members and Providers to maintain a comprehensive Quality Improvement Program (QIP). You can contact the Molina Healthcare Quality Department **toll free at (855) 322-4077 or fax (248) 925-1732**.

The address for mail requests is:

**Molina Healthcare of Michigan, Inc.  
Quality Department  
880 West Long Lake Road, Suite 600  
Troy, MI 48098**

This Provider Manual contains excerpts from the Molina QIP. For a complete copy of Molina's QIP you can contact your Provider Services Representative or call the telephone number above to receive a copy.

Molina has established a QIP that complies with regulatory and accreditation guidelines. The QIP provides structure and outlines specific activities designed to improve the care, service, and health of Members.

Molina does not delegate Quality Improvement activities to Medical Groups/Independent Practice Association (IPAs) or delegated entities. However, Molina requires contracted Medical Groups/IPAs and other delegated entities to comply with the following core elements and standards of care and to:

- Have a QIP in place;
- Comply with and participate in Molina Medicare-Medicaid's QIP including reporting of Access and Availability and provision of medical records as part of the quality of care, quality improvement and HEDIS® reporting activities; and
- Allow access to Molina Quality personnel for site and medical record review processes.

### **Patient Safety Program**

Molina Dual Options Plan (MI Health Link)'s Patient Safety Program identifies appropriate safety projects and error avoidance for Molina Dual Options Plan (MI Health Link) members in collaboration with their primary care practitioners. Molina continues to support safe personal health practices for our members through our safety program, pharmaceutical management and case management/disease management programs and education. Molina monitors nationally recognized quality index ratings for facilities including adverse events and hospital acquired conditions as part of a national strategy to improve health care quality mandated by the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (ACA). Health and Human Services (HHS) is to identify areas that have the potential for improving health care quality to reduce the incidence of events.

The Tax Relief and Health Care Act of 2006 mandates that the Office of Inspector General report to Congress regarding the incidence of "never events" among Medicare beneficiaries, the payment for services in connection with such events, and the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) processes to identify events and deny payment.

## **Quality of Care**

Molina has an established and systematic process to identify, investigate, review and report any Quality of Care, Adverse Event/Never Event, Critical Incident (as applicable), and/or service issues affecting Member care. Molina will research, resolve, track and trend issues. Confirmed Adverse Events/Never Events are reportable when related to an error in medical care that is clearly identifiable, preventable and/or found to have caused serious injury or death to a patient. Some examples of never events include:

- Surgery on the wrong body part.
- Surgery on the wrong patient.
- Wrong surgery on a patient.

Molina is not required to pay for inpatient care related to “never events.”

## **Medical Records**

Molina requires that medical records are maintained in a manner that is current, detailed and organized to ensure that care rendered to Members is consistently documented and that necessary information is readily available in the medical record. All entries will be indelibly added to the Member’s record. PCPs should maintain the following components:

- Medical record confidentiality and release of medical records are maintained including behavioral health care records;
- Medical record content and documentation standards are followed, including preventive health care;
- Storage maintenance and disposal processes are maintained; and
- Process for archiving medical records and implementing improvement activities is outlined.

## **Medical Record Keeping Practices**

- Below is a list of the minimum items that are necessary in the maintenance of the Member’s medical records:
- Each patient has a separate record.
- Medical records are stored away from patient areas and preferably locked.
- Medical records are available at each visit and archived records are available within twenty-four (24) hours.
- If hardcopy, pages are securely attached in the medical record and records are organized by dividers or color-coded when thickness of the record dictates.
- If electronic, all those with access have individual passwords.
- Record keeping is monitored for Quality Improvement and HIPPA compliance.
- Storage maintenance for the determined timeline and disposal per record management processes.
- Process for archiving medical records and implementing improvement activities.
- Medical records are kept confidential and there is a process for release of medical records including behavioral health care records.

## **Content**

Providers must remain consistent in their practices with Molina's medical record documentation guidelines. Medical records are maintained and should include the following information:

- Member name, date of birth, sex, marital status, address, employer, home and work telephone numbers, and emergency contact;
- Legible signatures and credentials of provider and other staff members within a paper chart;
- All providers who participate in the member's care;
- Information about services delivered by these providers;
- A problem list that describes the member's medical and behavioral health conditions;
- Presenting complaints, diagnoses, and treatment plans, including follow-up visits and referrals to other providers;
- Prescribed medications, including dosages and dates of initial or refill prescriptions;
- Allergies and adverse reactions (or notation that none are known);
- Documentation that Advanced Directives, Power of Attorney and Living Will have been discussed with member, and a copy of Advance Directives when in place;
- Past medical and surgical history, including physical examinations, treatments, preventive services and risk factors;
- Treatment plans that are consistent with diagnosis;
- A working diagnosis that is recorded with the clinical findings;
- Pertinent history for the presenting problem;
- Pertinent physical exam for the presenting problem;
- Lab and other diagnostic tests that are ordered as appropriate by the practitioner;
- Clear and thorough progress notes that state the intent for all ordered services and treatments;
- Notations regarding follow-up care, calls or visits. The specific time of return is noted in weeks, months or as needed, included in the next preventative care visit when appropriate;
- Notes from consultants if applicable;
- Up-to-date immunization records and documentation of appropriate history;
- All staff and provider notes are signed physically or electronically with either name or initials;
- All entries are dated;
- All abnormal lab/imaging results show explicit follow up plan(s);
- All ancillary services reports;
- Documentation of all emergency care provided in any setting;
- Documentation of all hospital admissions, inpatient and outpatient, including the hospital discharge summaries, hospital history and physicals and operative report;
- Labor and Delivery Record for any child seen since birth; and
- A signed document stating with whom protected health information may be shared.

## **Organization**

- The medical record is legible to someone other than the writer.
- Each patient has an individual record.
- Chart pages are bound, clipped, or attached to the file.
- Chart sections are easily recognized for retrieval of information.
- A release document for each Member authorizing Molina to release medial information for facilitation of medical care.

## **Retrieval**

- The medical record is available to Provider at each Encounter.
- The medical record is available to Molina for purposes of quality improvement.
- The medical record is available to Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) and the External Quality Review Organization upon request.
- The medical record is available to the Member upon their request.
- A storage system for inactive member medical records which allows retrieval within twenty four (24) hours, is consistent with State and Federal requirements, and the record is maintained for not less than ten (10) years from the last date of treatment or for a minor, one (1) year past their 20<sup>th</sup> birthday but, never less than 10 (ten) years.
- An established and functional data recovery procedure in the event of data loss.

## **Confidentiality**

Molina Providers shall develop and implement confidentiality procedures to guard Member protected health information, in accordance with HIPAA privacy standards and all other applicable Federal and State regulations. This should include, and is not limited to, the following:

- Ensure that medical information is released only in accordance with applicable Federal or State Law in pursuant to court orders or subpoenas.
- Maintain records and information in an accurate and timely manner.
- Ensure timely access by Members to the records and information that pertain to them.
- Abide by all Federal and State Laws regarding confidentiality and disclosure of medical records or other health an enrollment information.
- Medical Records are protected from unauthorized access.
- Access to computerized confidential information is restricted.
- Precautions are taken to prevent inadvertent or unnecessary disclosure of protected health information.
- Education and training for all staff on handling and maintaining protected health care information.

Additional information on medical records is available from your local Molina Quality Department at (855) 322-4077. See also the Compliance Section of this Provider Manual for additional information regarding HIPAA.

## **Access to Care**

Molina maintains access to care standards and processes for ongoing monitoring of access to health care (including behavioral health care) provided by contracted Primary Care Providers (PCP) (adult and pediatric) and participating specialists (to include OB/GYN, behavioral health practitioners, and high volume and high impact specialists). Providers are required to conform to the appointment standards listed below to ensure that health care services are provided in a timely manner. The standards are based on ninety-five percent (95%) availability for Emergency Services and ninety-five percent (95%) or greater for all other services (these goals may vary by plan). The PCP or his/her designee must be available twenty- four (24) hours a day, seven (7) days a week to Members.

## **Appointment Access**

All providers who oversee member's health care are responsible for providing the following appointments to Molina Dual Options Plan (MI Health Link) member in the timeframes noted:

<b>Primary Care Practitioner (PCP)</b>	
<b>Types of Care for Appointment</b>	<b>Standards</b>
Office Wait Time	Not to exceed forty-five minutes
Emergency Care	Immediate
Acute/Urgent Care	Within twenty-four (24) hours of the request
Preventive Care Appointment	Within thirty (30) business days of the request
Routine Primary Care	Within thirty (30) business days of the request
<b>After Hours Care</b>	
After-Hours Care	24 hours/day; 7days/week availability
<b>Specialty Care Provider (SCP)</b>	
<b>Types of Care for Appointment</b>	<b>Standards</b>
Acute/Urgent Care	Within twenty-four (24) hours of the request
Routine Care	Within forty-five (45) days of the request
<b>Mental/Behavioral Health</b>	
<b>Types of Care for Appointment</b>	<b>Standards</b>
Life Threatening	Immediately
Non-life-Threatening Emergency	Within six (6) hours of request
Urgent Care	Within twenty-four (24) hours of the request
Routine Care	Within ten (10) business days
Follow-up Routine Care	Within ten (10) business days

Additional information on appointment access standards is available from your local Molina Dual Options Plan (MI Health Link) Quality Department **toll free at (855) 322-4077**.

## **Office Wait Time**

For scheduled appointments, the wait time in offices should not exceed **Forty-Five (45)** minutes from appointment time until the time seen by the PCP. All PCPs are required to monitor waiting times and to adhere to this standard.

## **After Hours**

All providers must have back-up (on call) coverage after hours or during the provider's absence or unavailability. Molina Healthcare requires providers to maintain a twenty-four (24) hour telephone service, seven (7) days a week. This access may be through an answering service. Voicemail alone is not acceptable after hours. This access may be through an answering service or a recorded message after office hours. The service or recorded message should instruct members with an emergency to hang-up and call 911 or go immediately to the nearest emergency room.



## **Appointment Scheduling**

Each provider must implement an appointment scheduling system. The following are the minimum standards:

1. The provider must have an adequate telephone system to handle patient volume. Appointment intervals between patients should be based on the type of service provided and a policy defining required intervals for services. Flexibility in scheduling is needed to allow for urgent walk-in appointments;
2. A process for documenting missed appointments must be established. When a member does not keep a scheduled appointment, it is to be noted in the member's record and the provider is to assess if a visit is still medically indicated. All efforts to notify the member must be documented in the medical record. If a second appointment is missed, the Provider is to notify the Molina QI Department toll free at (855) 322-4077 or TTY/TDD 711;
3. When the provider must cancel a scheduled appointment, the member is given the option of seeing an associate or having the next available appointment time;
4. Special needs of Members must be accommodated when scheduling appointments. This includes, but is not limited to wheelchair-bound members and members requiring language translation;
5. A process for member notification of preventive care appointments must be established. This includes, but is not limited to, immunizations and mammograms; and
6. A process must be established for member recall in the case of missed appointments for a condition which requires treatment, abnormal diagnostic test results or the scheduling of procedures which must be performed prior to the next visit.

In applying the standards listed above, participating Providers have agreed that they will not discriminate against any Member on the basis of age, race, creed, color, religion, sex, national origin, sexual orientation, marital status, physical, mental or sensory handicap, gender identity, pregnancy, sex stereotyping, place of residence, socioeconomic status, or status as a recipient of Medicaid benefits. Additionally, a participating Provider or contracted Medical Group/IPA may not limit his/her practice because of a Member's medical (physical or mental) condition or the expectation for the need of frequent or high cost care. If a PCP chooses to close his/her panel to new Members, Molina must receive thirty (30) days advance written notice from the Provider.

## **Women's Health Access**

Molina allows Members the option to seek obstetrical and gynecological care from an in-network obstetrician or gynecologist or directly from a participating PCP designated by Molina as providing obstetrical and gynecological services. Member access to obstetrical and gynecological services is monitored to ensure Members have direct access to Participating Providers for obstetrical and gynecological services. Gynecological services must be provided when requested regardless of the gender status of the Member.

Additional information on access to care is available under the Resources tab available from your local Molina Dual Options Plan (MI Health Link) Quality Department toll free at (855) 322-4077.

## **Monitoring Access for Compliance with Standards**

Access to care standards are reviewed, revised as necessary, and approved by the Quality Improvement Committee on an annual basis.

Provider network adherence to access standards is monitored via the following mechanisms:

1. Provider access studies – Provider office assessment of appointment availability, and after-hours access.
2. Member complaint data – assessment of Member complaints related to access to care.
3. Member satisfaction survey – evaluation of Members' self-reported satisfaction with appointment and after-hours access.

Analysis of access data includes assessment of performance against established standards, review of trends over time, and identification of barriers. Results of analysis are reported to the Quality Improvement Committee at least annually for review and determination of opportunities for improvement. Corrective actions are initiated when performance goals are not met and for identified provider-specific or organizational trends. Performance goals are reviewed and approved annually by the Quality Improvement Committee.

## **Quality of Provider Office Sites**

Molina Providers are to maintain office-site and medical record keeping practices standards. Molina continually monitors Member complaints and appeals/grievances for all office sites to determine the need of an office site visit and will conduct office site visits as needed. Molina assesses the quality, safety and accessibility of office sites where care is delivered against standards and thresholds. A standard survey form is completed at the time of each visit. This form includes the Office Site Review Guidelines and the Medical Record Keeping Practice Guidelines (as outlined above under “Medical Record Keeping Practices”) and the thresholds for acceptable performance against the criteria. This includes an assessment of:

- Physical Accessibility
- Physical Appearance
- Adequacy of Waiting and Examining Room Space
- Adequacy of Medical/Treatment Record Keeping

### **Physical Accessibility**

Molina evaluates office sites to ensure that Members have safe and appropriate access to the office site. This includes, but is not limited to, ease of entry into the building, accessibility of space within the office site, and ease of access for physically disabled patients.

### **Physical Appearance**

The site visit includes, but is not limited to, an evaluation of office site cleanliness, appropriateness of lighting, and patient safety.

### **Adequacy of Waiting and Examining Room Space**

During the site visit, Molina assesses waiting and examining room spaces to ensure that the office offers appropriate accommodations to Members. The evaluation includes, but is not limited to, appropriate seating in the waiting room areas and availability of exam tables in exam rooms.

## **Adequacy of Medical Record-Keeping Practices**

During the site-visit, Molina discusses office documentation practices with the Provider's staff. This discussion includes a review of the forms and methods used to keep the information in a consistent manner and includes how the practice ensures confidentiality of records.

Molina assesses one (1) medical/treatment record for the areas described under "Medical Record Keeping Practices." To ensure Member confidentiality, Molina reviews a "blinded" medical/treatment record or a "model" record instead of an actual record.

## **Monitoring Office Site Review Guidelines and Compliance Standards**

Provider office sites must demonstrate an overall eighty percent (80%) compliance with the Office Site Review Guidelines listed above. If a serious deficiency is noted during the review but the office demonstrates overall compliance, a follow-up review may be required at the discretion of the Site Reviewer to ensure correction of the deficiency.

## **Administration & Confidentiality of Facilities**

Facilities contracted with Molina must demonstrate an overall compliance with the guidelines listed below:

- Office appearance demonstrates that housekeeping and maintenance are performed appropriately on a regular basis, the waiting room is well-lit, office hours are posted and parking area and walkways demonstrate appropriate maintenance.
- Handicapped parking is available, the building and exam rooms are accessible with an incline ramp or flat entryway, and the restroom is handicapped accessible with a bathroom grab bar.
- Adequate seating includes space for an average number of patients in an hour and there is a minimum of two office exam rooms per Provider.
- Basic emergency equipment is located in an easily accessible area. This includes a pocket mask and Epinephrine, plus any other medications appropriate to the practice.
- At least one CPR certified employee is available
- Yearly OSHA training (Fire, Safety, Blood borne Pathogens, etc.) is documented for offices with ten (10) or more employees.
- A container for sharps is located in each room where injections are given.
- Labeled containers, policies, and contracts evidence hazardous waste management.
- Patient check-in systems are confidential. Signatures on fee slips, separate forms, stickers or labels are possible alternative methods.
- Confidential information is discussed away from patients. When reception areas are unprotected by sound barriers, scheduling and triage phones are best placed at another location.
- Medical records are stored away from patient areas. Record rooms and/or file cabinets are preferably locked.
- A CLIA waiver is displayed when the appropriate lab work is run in the office.
- Prescription pads are not kept in exam rooms.
- Narcotics are locked, preferably double locked. Medication and sample access is restricted.
- System in place to ensure expired sample medications are not dispensed and injectables and emergency medication are checked monthly for outdates.
- Drug refrigerator temperatures are documented daily.

## **Improvement Plans/Corrective Action Plans**

If the medical group does not achieve the required compliance with the site review standards and/or the medical record keeping practices review standards, the Site Reviewer will complete the following:

- Send a letter to the Provider that identifies the compliance issues.
- Send sample forms and other information to assist the Provider to achieve a passing score on the next review.
- Request the Provider to submit a written corrective action plan (CAP) to Molina within thirty (30) calendar days.
- Send notification that another review will be conducted of the office in six (6) months.

When compliance is not achieved, the Provider will be required to submit a written CAP to Molina within thirty (30) calendar days of notification by Molina. The request for a CAP will be sent certified mail, return receipt requested. This improvement plan should be submitted by the office manager or Provider and must include the expected time frame for completion of activities.

Additional reviews are conducted at the office at six (6) month intervals until compliance is achieved. At each follow-up visit a full assessment is done to ensure the office meets performance standards.

The information and any response made by the Provider is included in the Provider's permanent credentials file and reported to the Professional Review Committee on the watch status report. If compliance is not attained at follow-up visits, an updated CAP will be required.

Providers who do not submit a CAP may be terminated from network participation. Any further action is conducted in accordance with the Molina.

## **Advance Directives (Patient Self-Determination Act)**

Molina complies with the advance directives requirement of the State in which the organization provides services. Responsibilities include ensuring members receive information regarding advance directives and that contracted Providers and facilities uphold executed documents.

Advance Directives are a written choice for health care. There are three (3) types of Advance Directives:

- **Durable Power of Attorney for Health Care:** allows an agent to be appointed to carry out health care decisions
- **Living Will** allows choices about withholding or withdrawing life support and accepting or refusing nutrition and/or hydration
- **Guardian Appointment:** allows one to nominate someone to be appointed as Guardian if a court determines that a guardian is necessary

**When There Is No Advance Directive:** The Member's family and Provider will work together to decide on the best care for the Member based on information they may know about the Member's end-of-life plans.

Providers must inform adult Molina Members (eighteen [18] years old and up) of their right to make health care decisions and execute Advance Directives. It is important that Members are informed about Advance Directives.

New adult Members or their identified personal representative will receive educational information and instructions on how to access advance directives forms in their Member Handbook, Evidence of Coverage (EOC) and other Member communications such as newsletters and the Molina website.

If a Member is incapacitated at the time of enrollment, Molina will provide advance directive information to the Member's family or representative and will follow up with information to the Member at the appropriate time. All current Members will receive annual notice explaining this information, in addition to newsletter information.

Members who would like more information are instructed to contact Member Services or are directed to the Caring Connections website at <http://www.caringinfo.org/stateaddownload> for forms available to download. Additionally, the Molina website offers information to both Providers and Members regarding advance directives, with a link to forms that can be downloaded and printed.

PCPs must discuss Advance Directives with a Member and provide appropriate medical advice if the Member desires guidance or assistance.

Molina network Providers and facilities are expected to communicate any objections they may have to a Member directive prior to service when possible. Members may select a new PCP if the assigned Provider has an objection to the Member's desired decision.

Molina Medicare will facilitate finding a new PCP or specialist as needed.

In no event may any Provider refuse to treat a Member or otherwise discriminate against a Member because the Member has completed an Advance Directive. CMS Law gives Members the right to file a complaint with Molina or the State survey and certification agency if the Member is dissatisfied with Molina's handling of Advance Directives and/or if a Provider fails to comply with Advance Directives instructions.

Molina will notify the Provider via fax of an individual Member's Advance Directives identified through care management, Care Coordination or Care Management. Providers are instructed to document the presence of an Advance Directive in a prominent location of the Medical Record. Auditors will also look for copies of the Advance Directive form. Advance Directives forms are state specific to meet State regulations.

Molina will look for documented evidence of the discussion between the Provider and the Member during routine Medical Record reviews.

### **EPSDT Services to Enrollees Under Twenty-One (21) Years**

Molina maintains systematic and robust monitoring mechanisms to ensure all required Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnosis and Treatment (EPSDT) Services to Enrollees under twenty-one (21) years are timely according to required preventive guidelines. All Enrollees under twenty-one (21) years of age should receive preventive, diagnostic and treatment services at intervals as set forth in Section 1905® of the Social Security Act. Molina's Improvement Department is also available to perform Provider training to ensure that best practice guidelines are followed in relation to well child services and care for acute and chronic health care needs.

## **Well Child/Adolescent Visits**

Visits consist of age appropriate components including but not limited to:

- Comprehensive health and developmental history.
- Nutritional assessment.
- Height and weight and growth charting.
- Comprehensive unclothed physical examination.
- Appropriate immunizations.
- Laboratory procedures, including lead blood level assessment appropriate for age and risk factors.
- Periodic developmental and behavioral screening.
- Vision and hearing tests.
- Dental assessment and services.
- Health education (anticipatory guidance including child development, healthy lifestyles, accident and disease prevention).

Diagnostic services, treatment, or services Medically Necessary to correct or ameliorate defects, physical or mental illnesses, and conditions discovered during a screening or testing must be provided or arranged for either directly or through referrals.

Any condition discovered during the screening examination or screening test requiring further diagnostic study or treatment must be provided if within the Member's Covered Benefit Services. Members should be referred to an appropriate source of care for any required services that are not Covered Services.

Molina shall have no obligation to pay for services that are not Covered Services.

## **Monitoring for Compliance with Standards**

Molina monitors compliance with the established performance standards as outlined above at least annually. Within thirty (30) calendar days of the review, a copy of the review report and a letter will be sent to the medical group notifying them of their results. Performance below Molina's standards may result in a CAP with a request the Provider submit a written corrective action plan to Molina within thirty (30) calendar days. Follow-up to ensure resolution is conducted at regular intervals until compliance is achieved. The information and any response made by the Provider are included in the Providers permanent credentials file. If compliance is not attained at follow-up, an updated CAP will be required. Providers who do not submit a CAP may be terminated from network participation or closed to new Members.

## **Quality Improvement Activities and Programs (QIP)**

Molina maintains an active QIP. The QIP provides structure and key processes to carry out our ongoing commitment to improvement of care and service. The goals identified are based on an evaluation of programs and services; regulatory, contractual and accreditation requirements; and strategic planning initiatives.

## **Health Management**

The Molina Disease Management Program provides for the identification, assessment, stratification and implementation of appropriate interventions for Members with chronic diseases. For additional information please see the Health Management section under Healthcare Services in this Provider Manual.

## **Care Management**

Molina's Care Management Programs involve collaborative processes aimed at meeting an individual's health needs, promoting quality of life, and obtaining best possible care outcomes to meet the Member's needs so they receive the right care, at the right time, and at the right setting. Molina Care Management includes Health Management (HM) and Case Management (CM) programs. Members may qualify for HM or CM based on confirmed diagnosis or specified criteria for the programs. These comprehensive programs are available for all Members that meet the criteria for services. For additional information please see the Care Management section under Healthcare Services in this Provider Manual.

## **Clinical Practice Guidelines**

Molina adopts and disseminates Clinical Practice Guidelines (CPGs) to reduce inter-provider variation in diagnosis and treatment. CPG adherence is measured at least annually. All guidelines are based on scientific evidence, review of medical literature and/or appropriate established authority. CPGs are reviewed annually and are updated as new recommendations are published.

Molina Clinical Practice Guidelines include, but are not limited to the following:

- Asthma
- Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD)
- Chronic Kidney Disease
- Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD)
- Depression
- Diabetes
- Heart Failure
- Hypertension
- Obesity
- Detoxification and Substance Abuse
- Opioid
- Sickle Cell Disease

Additionally, Molina participates in the Michigan Quality Improvement Consortium (MQIC group). MQIC began in 1999 with the goal of improving health care outcomes through the development of clinical practice guidelines that are common among Michigan State health plans.

A link to the MQIC guidelines is available at:

[http://www.MolinaHealthcare.com/providers/mi/medicaid/resource/Pages/guide\\_clinical.aspx](http://www.MolinaHealthcare.com/providers/mi/medicaid/resource/Pages/guide_clinical.aspx).

The adopted CPGs are distributed to the appropriate providers, provider groups, staff model facilities, delegates and members by the Quality Management, Provider Services, Health Education and Member Services departments.

The guidelines are disseminated through provider newsletters, Just the Fax electronic bulletins and other media and are available on the Molina Dual Options Plan (MI Health Link) website.

Individual providers or members may request copies from your local Molina Dual Options Plan (MI Health Link) Quality Department toll free at **(855) 322-4077**.

### **Preventive Health Guidelines**

Molina provides coverage of diagnostic preventive procedures based on recommendations published by the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force (USPSTF) and in accordance with Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) guidelines. Diagnostic preventive procedures include but are not limited to:

- Perinatal/Prenatal Care
- Care for children up to twenty-four (24) months old
- Care for children two to nineteen (2-19) years old
- Care for adults twenty to sixty-four (20-64) years old
- Care for adults sixty-five (65) years and older
- Immunization schedules for children and adolescents
- Immunization schedules for adults

All guidelines are updated with each release by USPSTF and are approved by the Quality Improvement Committee. On annual basis, Preventive Health Guidelines are distributed to Providers at [www.MolinaHealthcare.com](http://www.MolinaHealthcare.com) and the Provider Manual. Notification of the availability of the Preventive Health Guidelines is published in the Molina Provider Newsletter.

### **Cultural and Linguistic Services**

Molina works to ensure all Members receive culturally competent care across the service continuum to reduce health disparities and improve health outcomes. For additional information about Molina's program and services, please see the Cultural Competency and Linguistic Services section of this Provider Manual.

### **Measurement of Clinical and Service Quality**

Molina monitors and evaluates the quality of care and services provided to Members through the following mechanisms:

- Healthcare Effectiveness Data and Information Set® (HEDIS)
- Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and Systems® (CAHPS)
- Behavioral Health Survey
- Health Outcomes Survey (HOS)
- Provider Satisfaction Survey
- Effectiveness of Quality Improvement Initiatives

Molina evaluates continuous performance according to, or in comparison with objectives, measurable performance standards and benchmarks at the national, regional and/or at the local/health plan level.

Contracted Providers and Facilities must allow Molina to use its performance data collected in accordance with the Provider's or facility's contract. The use of performance data may include, but is not limited to, the following: (1) development of Quality Improvement activities; (2) public reporting to consumers; (3) preferred status designation in the network; (4) and/or reduced Member cost sharing.



Molina's most recent results can be obtained from your local Molina Quality staff toll free at (855) 322-4077 or fax (248) 925-1732 or by visiting our website at [www.MolinaHealthcare.com](http://www.MolinaHealthcare.com).

### **Healthcare Effectiveness Data and Information Set (HEDIS®)**

Molina utilizes the NCQA® HEDIS® as a measurement tool to provide a fair and accurate assessment of specific aspects of managed care organization performance. HEDIS® is an annual activity conducted in the spring. The data comes from on-site medical record review and available administrative data. All reported measures must follow rigorous specifications and are externally audited to assure continuity and comparability of results. The HEDIS® measurement set currently includes a variety of health care aspects including immunizations, women's health screening, diabetes care, well check-ups, medication use, and cardiovascular disease.

HEDIS® results are used in a variety of ways. They are the measurement standard for many of Molina Dual Options Plan (MI Health Link)'s clinical quality improvement activities and health improvement programs. The standards are based on established clinical guidelines and protocols, providing a firm foundation to measure the success of these programs.

Selected HEDIS® results are provided to regulatory and accreditation agencies as part of our contracts with these agencies. The data are also used to compare to established health plan performance benchmarks.

### **Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and Systems (CAHPS®)**

CAHPS® is the tool used by Molina to summarize Member Satisfaction with the health care and service they receive. CAHPS® examines specific measures, including Getting Needed Care, Getting Care Quickly, How Well Doctors Communicate, Coordination of Care, Customer Service, Rating of Health Care and Getting Needed Prescription Drugs.

The CAHPS® survey is administered annually in the spring to randomly selected Members by an approved Medicare Advantage and Prescription Drug Plan (MA & PDP) survey vendor.

CAHPS® results are used in much the same way as HEDIS® results, only the focus is on the service aspect of care rather than clinical activities. They form the basis for several of Molina's quality improvement activities and are used by external agencies to help ascertain the quality of services being delivered.

### **Behavioral Health Survey**

Molina obtains feedback from Members about their experience, needs, and perceptions of Members with behavioral health care. This feedback is collected at least annually to understand how our Members rate their experiences in getting treatment, communicating with their clinicians, receiving treatment and information from the plan, and perceived improvement, among other areas.

## **Medicare Health Outcomes Survey (HOS)**

The HOS measures Medicare Members' physical and mental health status over a two (2)-year period and categorizes the two (2)-year change scores as better, same, or worse than expected.

The goal of the HOS is to gather valid, reliable, clinically meaningful data that can be used to target quality improvement activities and resources, monitor health plan performance and reward top performing health plans.

Additionally, the HOS is used to inform beneficiaries of their healthcare choices, advance the science of functional health outcomes measurement, and for quality improvement interventions and strategies.

## **Provider Satisfaction Survey**

Recognizing that HEDIS® and CAHPS® both focus on member experience with healthcare providers and health plans, Molina conducts a Provider Satisfaction Survey annually. The results from this survey are very important to Molina, as this is one of the primary methods used to identify improvement areas pertaining to the Molina Provider Network. The survey results will help establish improvement activities relating to Molina Dual Options Plan (MI Health Link)'s specialty network, inter-provider communications, and pharmacy authorizations. This survey is fielded to a random sample of providers each year. If your office is selected to participate, please take a few minutes to complete and return the survey.

## **Effectiveness of Quality Improvement Initiatives**

Molina monitors the effectiveness of clinical and service activities through metrics selected to demonstrate clinical outcomes and service levels. The plan's performance is compared to that of available national benchmarks indicating "best practices." The evaluation includes an assessment of clinical and service improvements on an ongoing basis. Results of these measurements guide activities for the successive periods.

In addition to the methods described above, Molina also compiles complaint and appeals data as well as on requests for out-of-network services to determine opportunities for service improvements.

## ***What Can Providers Do?***

- Ensure patients are up-to-date with their annual physical exam and preventive health screenings, including related lab orders and referrals to specialists, such as ophthalmology;
- Review the HEDIS® preventive care listing of measures for each patient to determine if anything applicable to your patients' age and/or condition has been missed;
- Check that staff is properly coding all services provided; and,
- Be sure patients understand what *they* need to do.

Molina has additional resources to assist Providers and their patients. For access to tools that can assist, please visit Molina's website and click on Providers. There is a variety of resources, including:

- HEDIS® CPT/CMS-approved diagnostic and procedural code sheets
- A current list of HEDIS® and CAHPS® Star Ratings measures.

HEDIS® and CAHPS® are registered trademarks of the National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA).

## **7. Compliance**

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### **Fraud, Waste and Abuse**

#### **Introduction**

Molina is dedicated to the detection, prevention, investigation, and reporting of potential health care fraud, waste, and abuse. As such, Molina's Compliance department maintains a comprehensive plan, which addresses how Molina will uphold and follow State and Federal statutes and regulations pertaining to fraud, waste, and abuse. Molina also addresses fraud, waste and abuse prevention and detection along with the education of appropriate employees, vendors, Providers and associates doing business with Molina.

Molina's Special Investigation Unit (SIU) supports Compliance in its efforts to deter and prevent fraud, waste, and abuse by conducting investigations aimed at identifying suspect activity and reporting these findings to the appropriate regulatory and/or law enforcement agencies.

#### **Mission Statement**

Molina regards health care fraud, waste, and abuse as unacceptable, unlawful, and harmful to the provision of quality health care in an efficient and affordable manner. Molina has therefore implemented a plan to detect, prevent, investigate, and report suspected health care fraud, waste, and abuse in order to reduce health care cost and to promote quality health care.

#### **Regulatory Requirements**

##### **Federal False Claims Act**

The False Claims Act is a Federal statute that covers fraud involving any Federally funded contract or program, including the Medicare and Medicaid programs. The act establishes liability for any person who knowingly presents or causes to be presented a false or fraudulent claim to the U.S. government for payment.

The term "knowing" is defined to mean that a person with respect to information:

- Has actual knowledge of falsity of information in the claim;
- Acts in deliberate ignorance of the truth or falsity of the information in a claim; or Acts in reckless disregard of the truth or falsity of the information in a claim.

The act does not require proof of a specific intent to defraud the U.S. government. Instead, health care Providers can be prosecuted for a wide variety of conduct that leads to the submission of fraudulent claims to the government, such as knowingly making false statements, falsifying records, double-billing for items or services, submitting bills for services never performed or items never furnished or otherwise causing a false claim to be submitted.

## **Deficit Reduction Act**

The Deficit Reduction Act (“DRA”) aims to cut fraud, waste and abuse from the Medicare and Medicaid programs.

Health care entities like Molina who receive or pay out at least five (5) million dollars in Medicaid funds per year must comply with the DRA. As a contractor doing business with Molina, Providers and their staff have the same obligation to report any actual or suspected violation of Medicare/Medicaid funds either by fraud, waste or abuse. Entities must have written policies that inform employees, contractors, and agents of the following:

- The Federal False Claims Act and state laws pertaining to submitting false claims;
- How providers will detect and prevent fraud, waste, and abuse; and,
- Employee protection rights as whistleblowers.

The Federal False Claims Act and State Medicaid False Claims Acts have Qui Tam language commonly referred to as “whistleblower” provisions. These provisions encourage employees (current or former) and others to report instances of fraud, waste or abuse to the government. The government may then proceed to file a lawsuit against the organization/individual accused of violating the False Claims acts. The whistleblower may also file a lawsuit independently. Cases found in favor of the government will result in the whistleblower receiving a portion of the amount awarded to the government.

Whistleblower protections state that employees who have been discharged, demoted, suspended, threatened, harassed or otherwise discriminated against due to their role in disclosing or reporting a false claim are entitled to all relief necessary to make the employee whole including:

- Employment reinstatement at the same level of seniority;
- Two (2) times the amount of back pay plus interest; and,
- Compensation for special damages incurred by the employee as a result of the employer’s inappropriate actions.

Affected entities who fail to comply with the law will be at risk of forfeiting all payments until compliance is met. Molina will take steps to monitor Molina contracted Providers to ensure compliance with the Law.

**Anti-Kickback Statute** – Provides criminal penalties for individuals or entities that knowingly and willfully offer, pay, solicit, or receive remuneration in order to induce or reward business payable or reimbursable under the Medicare or other Federal health care programs.

**Stark Statute** – Similar to the Anti-Kickback Statute, but more narrowly defined and applied. It applies specifically to Medicare and Medicaid services provided only by physicians, rather than by all health care Practitioners.

**Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002** – Requires certification of financial statements by both the Chief Executive Officer and the Chief Financial Officer. The Act states that a corporation must assess the effectiveness of its internal controls and report this assessment annually to the Securities and Exchange Commission.

## **Definitions**

**Fraud:** Means an intentional deception or misrepresentation made by a person with the knowledge that the deception could result in some unauthorized benefit to himself or some other person. It includes any act that constitutes fraud under applicable Federal or State Law. (42 CFR § 455.2)

**Waste:** Health care spending that can be eliminated without reducing the quality of care. Quality waste includes overuse, underuse, and ineffective use. Inefficiency waste includes redundancy, delays, and unnecessary process complexity. An example would be the attempt to obtain reimbursement for items or services where there was no intent to deceive or misrepresent, however the outcome resulted in poor or inefficient billing methods (e.g., coding) causing unnecessary costs to the Medicaid program.

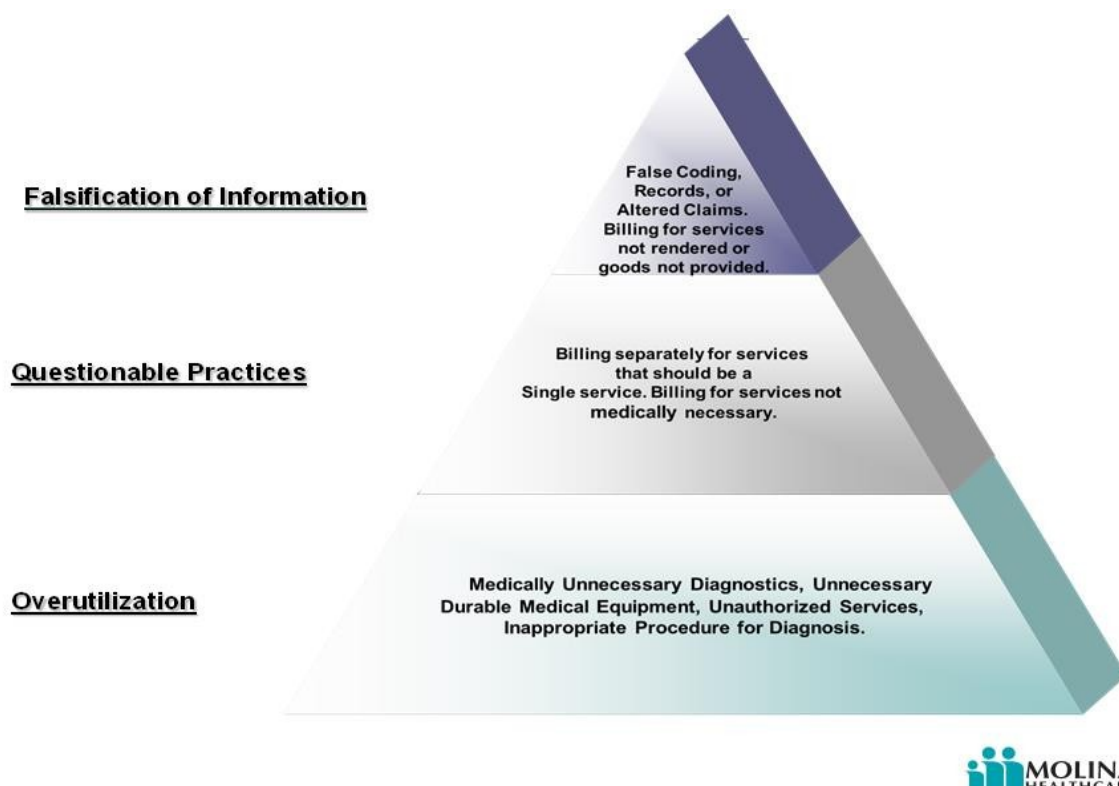
**Abuse:** Means Provider practices that are inconsistent with sound fiscal, business, or medical practices, and result in unnecessary costs to the Medicaid program, or in reimbursement for services that are not medically necessary or that fail to meet professionally recognized standards for health care. It also includes recipient practices that result in unnecessary cost to the Medicaid programs. (42 CFR § 455.2)

## **Examples of Fraud, Waste and Abuse by a Provider**

The types of questionable Provider schemes investigated by Molina include, but are not limited to the following:

- A Provider knowingly and willfully referring a Member to health care facilities in which or with which the Provider has a financial relationship. (Stark Law)
- Altering Claims and/or medical record documentation in order to get a higher level of reimbursement.
- Balance billing a Molina Member for Covered Services. This includes asking the Member to pay the difference between the discounted and negotiated fees, and the Provider's usual and customary fees.
- Billing and providing for services to Members that are not Medically Necessary.
- Billing for services, procedures and/or supplies that have not been rendered.
- Billing under an invalid place of service in order to receive or maximize reimbursement.
- Completing certificates of Medical Necessity for Members not personally and professionally known by the Provider.
- Concealing a Member's misuse of a Molina identification card.
- Failing to report a Member's forgery or alteration of a prescription or other medical document.
- False coding in order to receive or maximize reimbursement.
- Inappropriate billing of modifiers in order to receive or maximize reimbursement.
- Inappropriately billing of a procedure that does not match the diagnosis in order to receive or maximize reimbursement.
- Knowingly and willfully soliciting or receiving payment of kickbacks or bribes in exchange for referring patients.
- Not following incident to billing guidelines in order to receive or maximize reimbursement.
- Overutilization
- Participating in schemes that involve collusion between a Provider and a Member that result in higher costs or charges.

- Questionable prescribing practices.
- Unbundling services in order to get more reimbursement, which involves separating a procedure into parts and charging for each part rather than using a single global code.
- Underutilization, which means failing to provide services that are Medically Necessary.
- Upcoding, which is when a Provider does not bill the correct code for the service rendered, and instead uses a code for a like services that costs more.
- Using the adjustment payment process to generate fraudulent payments.



### **Examples of Fraud, Waste, and Abuse by a Member**

The types of questionable Member schemes investigated by Molina include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Benefit sharing with persons not entitled to the Member's benefits.
- Conspiracy to defraud Medicaid.
- Doctor shopping, which occurs when a Member consults a number of Providers for the purpose of inappropriately obtaining services.
- Falsifying documentation in order to get services approved.
- Forgery related to health care.
- Prescription diversion, which occurs when a Member obtains a prescription from a Provider for a condition that he/she does not suffer from and the Member sells the medication to someone else.

### **Review of Provider Claims and Claims System**

Molina Claims Examiners are trained to recognize unusual billing practices and to detect fraud, waste and abuse. If the Claims Examiner suspects fraudulent, abusive or wasteful billing practices, the billing practice is documented and reported to the Compliance Department.

The claims payment system utilizes system edits and flags to validate those elements of Claims are billed in accordance with standardized billing practices; ensure that claims are processed accurately and ensure that payments reflect the service performed as authorized.

Molina performs auditing to ensure the accuracy of data input into the Claims system. The Claims department conducts regular audits to identify system issues or errors. If errors are identified, they are corrected, and a thorough review of system edits is conducted to detect and locate the source of the errors.

### **Prepayment Fraud, Waste and Abuse Detection Activities**

Through implementation of claims edits, Molina's claims payment system is designed to audit claims concurrently, in order to detect and prevent paying claims that are inappropriate.

### **Post-payment Recovery Activities**

The terms expressed in this section of this Provider Manual are incorporated into the Provider Agreement, and are intended to supplement, rather than diminish, any and all other rights and remedies that may be available to Molina under the Provider Agreement or at law or equity. In the event of any inconsistency between the terms expressed here and any terms expressed in the Provider Agreement, the parties agree that Molina shall in its sole discretion exercise the terms that are expressed in the Provider Agreement, the terms that are expressed here, its rights under Law and equity, or some combination thereof.

Provider will provide Molina, governmental agencies and their representatives or agents, access to examine, audit, and copy any and all records deemed by Molina, in Molina's sole discretion, necessary to determine compliance with the terms of the Provider Agreement, including for the purpose of investigating potential fraud, waste and abuse. Documents and records must be readily accessible at the location where Provider provides services to any Molina Members. Auditable documents and records include, but are not limited to, medical charts; patient charts; billing records; and, coordination of benefits information. Production of auditable documents and records must be provided in a timely manner, as requested by Molina and without charge to Molina. In the event Molina identifies fraud, waste or abuse, Provider agrees to repay funds or Molina may seek recoupment.

If a Molina auditor is denied access to Provider's records, all of the claims for which Provider received payment from Molina is immediately due and owing. If Provider fails to provide all requested documentation for any claim, the entire amount of the paid claim is immediately due and owing. Molina may offset such amounts against any amounts owed by Molina to Provider. Provider must comply with all requests for documentation and records timely (as reasonably requested by Molina) and without charge to Molina.

Claims for which Provider fails to furnish supporting documentation during the audit process are not reimbursable and are subject to chargeback.

Provider acknowledges that HIPAA specifically permits a covered entity, such as Provider, to disclose protected health information for its own payment purposes (see 45 CFR 164.502 and 45 CFR 154.501). Provider further acknowledges that in order to receive payment from Molina, Provider is required to allow Molina to conduct audits of its pertinent records to verify the services performed and the payment claimed, and that such audits are permitted as a payment activity of Provider under HIPAA and other applicable privacy laws.

## **Provider Education**

When Molina identifies through an audit or other means a situation with a Provider (e.g., coding, billing) that is either inappropriate or deficient, Molina Healthcare of Michigan, Inc., may determine that a Provider education visit is appropriate.

Molina will notify the Provider of the deficiency and will take steps to educate the Provider, which may include the Provider submitting a corrective action plan to Molina addressing the issues identified and how it will cure these issues moving forward.

## **Reporting Fraud, Waste and Abuse**

If you suspect cases of fraud, waste, or abuse, you must report it by contacting the Molina AlertLine. AlertLine is an external telephone and web-based reporting system hosted by NAVEX Global, a leading Provider of compliance and ethics hotline services. AlertLine telephone and web-based reporting is available twenty-four (24) hours a day, seven (7) days a week, three-hundred-sixty-five (365) days a year. When you make a report, you can choose to remain confidential or anonymous. If you choose to call AlertLine, a trained professional at NAVEX Global will note your concerns and provide them to the Molina Compliance Department for follow-up. If you elect to use the web-based reporting process, you will be asked a series of questions concluding with the submission of your report. Reports to AlertLine can be made from anywhere within the United States with telephone or internet access.

Molina AlertLine can be reached toll free at 1-866-606-3889 or you may use the service's website to make a report at any time at <https://MolinaHealthcare.alertline.com>.

You may also report cases of fraud, waste or abuse to Molina Healthcare of Michigan, Inc.'s Compliance Department. You have the right to have your concerns reported anonymously without fear of retaliation.

Molina Healthcare of  
Michigan, Inc.  
Attn: Compliance  
200 Oceangate, Suite 100  
Long Beach, CA 90802

Remember to include the following information when reporting:

- Nature of complaint.
- The names of individuals and/or entity involved in suspected fraud and/or abuse including address, phone number, Molina Member ID number and any other identifying information.

Suspected fraud and abuse may also be reported directly to the State at:

Michigan Department of Health and Human Services  
Office of Inspector General  
P.O. Box 30062  
Toll Free Phone: (855) MI-FRAUD



## **HIPAA Requirements and Information**

### **HIPAA (The Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act)**

#### **Molina's Commitment to Patient Privacy**

Protecting the privacy of Members' personal health information is a core responsibility that Molina takes very seriously. Molina is committed to complying with all Federal and State Laws regarding the privacy and security of Members' protected health information (PHI).

#### **Provider Responsibilities**

Molina expects that its contracted Providers will respect the privacy of Molina Members (including Molina Members who are not patients of the Provider) and comply with all applicable Laws and regulations regarding the privacy of patient and Member PHI. Molina provides its Members with a privacy notice upon their enrollment in our health plan. The privacy notice explains how Molina uses and discloses their PHI and includes a summary of how Molina safeguards their PHI. A sample of Molina's privacy notice is enclosed at the end of this section.

#### **Applicable Laws**

Providers must understand all State and Federal health care privacy laws applicable to their practice and organization. Currently, there is no comprehensive regulatory framework that protects all health information in the United States; instead there is a patchwork of laws that Providers must comply with. In general, most health care Providers are subject to various laws and regulations pertaining to privacy of health information including, without limitation, the following:

##### **1. Federal Laws and Regulations**

- HIPAA
- The Health Information Technology for Economic and Clinical Health Act (HITECH)
- 42 C.F.R. Part 2
- Medicare and Medicaid Laws
- The Affordable Care Act

##### **2. State Medical Privacy Laws and Regulations** – Providers should be aware that HIPAA provides a floor for patient privacy but that state laws should be followed in certain situations, especially if the event state law is more stringent than HIPAA. Providers should consult with their own legal counsel to address their specific situation.

#### **Uses and Disclosures of PHI**

Member and patient PHI should only be used or disclosed as permitted or required by applicable Law. Under HIPAA, a Provider may use and disclose PHI for their own treatment, payment, and health care operations activities (TPO) without the consent or authorization of the patient who is the subject of the PHI. Uses and disclosures for TPO apply not only to the Provider's own TPO activities, but also for the TPO of another covered entity<sup>1</sup>. Disclosure of PHI by one covered entity to another covered entity, or health care Provider, for the recipient's TPO is specifically permitted under HIPAA in the following situations:

1. A covered entity may disclose PHI to another covered entity or a health care Provider for the payment activities of the recipient. Please note that "payment" is a defined term under the

HIPAA Privacy Rule that includes, without limitation, utilization review activities, such as preauthorization of services, concurrent review, and retrospective review of “services<sup>2</sup>.”

2. A covered entity may disclose PHI to another covered entity for the health care operations activities of the covered entity that receives the PHI, if each covered entity either has or had a relationship with the individual who is the subject of the PHI being requested, the PHI pertains to such relationship, and the disclosure is for the following health care operations activities:
  - Quality improvement;
  - Disease management;
  - Case management and care coordination;
  - Training Programs;
  - Accreditation, licensing, and credentialing

Importantly, this allows Providers to share PHI with Molina for our health care operations activities, such as HEDIS® and quality improvement.

### **Confidentiality of Substance Use Disorder Patient Records**

Federal Confidentiality of Substance Use Disorder Patients Records regulations apply to any entity or individual providing federally-assisted alcohol or drug abuse prevention treatment. Records of the identity, diagnosis, prognosis, or treatment of any patient which are maintained in connection with substance use disorder treatment or programs are confidential and may be disclosed only as permitted by 42 CFR Part 2. Although HIPAA protects substance use disorder information, the Federal Confidentiality of Substance Use Disorder Patients Records regulations are more restrictive than HIPAA and they do not allow disclosure without the Member’s written consent except as set forth in 42 CFR Part 2.

<sup>1</sup> See, Sections 164.506(c) (2) & (3) of the HIPAA Privacy Rule.

<sup>2</sup> See the definition of Payment, Section 164.501 of the HIPAA Privacy Rule

### **Inadvertent Disclosures of PHI**

Molina may, on occasion, inadvertently misdirect or disclose PHI pertaining to Molina Member(s) who are not the patients of the Provider.

In such cases, the Provider shall return or securely destroy the PHI of the affected Molina Members in order to protect their privacy. The Provider agrees to not further use or disclose such PHI and further agrees to provide an attestation of return, destruction and non-disclosure of any such misdirected PHI upon the reasonable request of Molina.

### **Written Authorizations**

Uses and disclosures of PHI that are not permitted or required under applicable law require the valid written authorization of the patient. Authorizations should meet the requirements of HIPAA and applicable State Law. A sample Authorization for the Use and Disclosure of Protected Health Information is included at the end of this section.

## **Patient Rights**

Patients are afforded various rights under HIPAA. Molina Providers must allow patients to exercise any of the below-listed rights that apply to the Provider's practice:

### **1. Notice of Privacy Practices**

Providers that are covered under HIPAA and that have a direct treatment relationship with the patient should provide patients with a notice of privacy practices that explains the patient's privacy rights and the process the patient should follow to exercise those rights. The Provider should obtain a written acknowledgment that the patient received the notice of privacy practices.

### **2. Requests for Restrictions on Uses and Disclosures of PHI**

Patients may request that a health care Provider restrict its uses and disclosures of PHI. The Provider is not required to agree to any such request for restrictions.

### **3. Requests for Confidential Communications**

Patients may request that a health care Provider communicate PHI by alternative means or at alternative locations. Providers must accommodate reasonable requests by the patient.

### **4. Requests for Patient Access to PHI**

Patients have a right to access their own PHI within a Provider's designated record set. Personal representatives of patients have the right to access the PHI of the subject patient. The designated record set of a Provider includes the patient's medical record, as well as billing and other records used to make decisions about the Member's care or payment for care.

### **5. Request to Amend PHI**

Patients have a right to request that the Provider amend information in their designated record set.

### **6. Request Accounting of PHI Disclosures**

Patients may request an accounting of disclosures of PHI made by the Provider during the preceding six (6) year period. The list of disclosures does not need to include disclosures made for treatment, payment, or health care operations or made prior to April 14, 2003.

## **HIPAA Security**

Providers must implement and maintain reasonable and appropriate safeguards to protect the confidentiality, availability, and integrity of Molina Member and patient PHI. As more Providers implement electronic health records, Providers need to ensure that they have implemented and maintain appropriate cyber security measures. Providers should recognize that identity theft – both financial and medical – is a rapidly growing problem and that their patients trust their health care Providers to keep their most sensitive information private and confidential.

Medical identity theft is an emerging threat in the health care industry. Medical identity theft occurs when someone uses a person's name and sometimes other parts of their identity – such as health insurance information – without the person's knowledge or consent to obtain health care services or goods. Medical identity theft frequently results in erroneous entries being put into existing medical records. Providers should be aware of this growing problem and report any suspected fraud to Molina.

## **HIPAA Transactions and Code Sets**

Molina requires the use of electronic transactions to streamline health care administrative activities. Molina Providers must submit claims and other transactions to Molina using electronic formats. Certain electronic transactions in health care are subject to HIPAA's Transactions and Code Sets Rule including, but not limited to, the following:

- Claims and Encounters
- Member eligibility status inquiries and responses
- Claims status inquiries and responses
- Authorization requests and responses
- Remittance advices

Molina is committed to complying with all HIPAA Transaction and Code Sets standard requirements. Providers who wish to conduct HIPAA standard transactions with Molina should refer to: Molina's website at [www.MolinaHealthcare.com](http://www.MolinaHealthcare.com) for additional information.

1. Click on the area titled "I'm a Health Care Professional"
2. Click the tab titled "HIPAA"
3. Click on the tab titled "HIPAA Transactions" or "HIPAA Code Sets"

## **Code Sets**

HIPAA regulations require that only approved code sets may be used in standard electronic transactions. For claims with dates of service prior to October 1, 2015, ICD-9 coding must be used. For claims with dates of service on or after October 1, 2015, providers must use the ICD-10 code sets.

## **National Provider Identifier**

Providers must comply with the National Provider Identifier (NPI) Rule promulgated under HIPAA.

The Provider must obtain an NPI from the National Plan and Provider Enumeration System (NPPES) for itself or for any subparts of the Provider. The Provider must report its NPI and any subparts to Molina and to any other entity that requires it.

Any changes in its NPI or subparts information must be reported to NPPES within thirty (30) days and should also be reported to Molina within thirty (30) days of the change. Providers must use their NPI to identify it on all electronic transactions required under HIPAA and on all claims and encounters submitted to Molina.

## **Additional Requirements for Delegated Providers**

Providers that are delegated for claims and utilization management activities are the "business associates" of Molina. Under HIPAA, Molina must obtain contractual assurances from all business associates that they will safeguard Member PHI. Delegated Providers must agree to various contractual provisions required under HIPAA's Privacy and Security Rules.

## **Reimbursement for Copies of PHI**

Molina does not reimburse Providers for copies of PHI related to our Members. These requests may include, although are not limited to, the following purposes:

- Utilization Management;
- Care Coordination and/or Complex Medical Care Management Services;
- Claims Review;
- Resolution of an Appeal and/Grievance;
- Anti-Fraud Program Review;
- Quality of Care Issues;
- Regulatory Audits;
- Risk Adjustment;
- Treatment, Payment and/or Operation Purposes; and
- Collection of HEDIS® medical records.



**AUTHORIZATION FOR THE USE AND DISCLOSURE OF  
PROTECTED HEALTH INFORMATION**

Member Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Member ID #: \_\_\_\_\_

Member Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone #: \_\_\_\_\_

**I hereby authorize the use or disclosure of my protected health information as described below.**

1. Name of persons/organizations authorized to make the requested use or disclosure of protected health information:

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2. Name of persons/organizations authorized to receive the protected health information:

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3. Specific description of protected health information that may be used/disclosed:

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4. The protected health information will be used/disclosed for the following purpose(s):

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5. The person/organization authorized to use/disclose the protected health information will receive compensation for doing so. Yes/No

6. I understand that this authorization is voluntary and that I may refuse to sign this authorization. My refusal to sign will not affect my eligibility for benefits or enrollment, payment for or coverage of services, or ability to obtain treatment, except as provided under numbers 7 and 8 on this form.
7. Molina Healthcare may condition the provision of research related treatment on my provision of an authorization for the use or disclosure of PHI for such research.
8. If the purpose of this authorization is to disclose health information to another party based on health care that is provided solely to obtain such information, and I refuse to sign this authorization, Molina Healthcare reserves the right to deny that health care.
9. I understand that I have a right to receive a copy of this authorization, if requested by me.
10. I understand that I may revoke this authorization at any time by notifying Molina Healthcare in writing, except to the extent that:
  - a) action has been taken in reliance on this authorization; or
  - b) if this authorization is obtained as a condition of obtaining health care coverage, other law provides the health plan with the right to contest a claim under the benefits or coverage under the plan.
11. I understand that the information I authorize a person or entity to receive may be no longer protected by federal law and regulations.
1. This authorization expires on the following date or event\*

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
*\*If no expiration date or event is specified above, this authorization will expire 12 months from the date signed below.*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Member or Member's Personal Representative

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed Name of Member or Member's Personal Representative, if applicable

\_\_\_\_\_  
Relationship to Member or Personal Representative's Authority to act for the Member, if applicable

A copy of this signed form will be provided to the Member, if the authorization was sought by Molina Healthcare

## 8. Healthcare Services (HCS)

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### Introduction

Healthcare Services is comprised of Utilization Management (UM) and Care Management (CM) departments that work together to achieve an integrated model based upon empirically validated best practices that have demonstrated positive results. Research and experience show that a higher-touch, Member-centric care environment for at-risk Members supports better health outcomes. Molina provides care management services to Members using processes designed to address a broad spectrum of needs, including chronic conditions that require the coordination and provision of health care services. Elements of the Molina utilization management program include pre-service authorization request/organization determination and inpatient authorization management that includes pre-admission, admission and concurrent review, medical necessity review, and restrictions on the use of out of network Providers. You can contact the Molina UM Department for toll free at (888) 898-7969. The UM Department fax number is (888) 295-7665. You can always find more information about Molina's UM including information about obtaining a copy of clinical criteria used for authorizations and how to contact a UM reviewer by accessing [www.MolinaHealthcare.com](http://www.MolinaHealthcare.com) or calling the UM Department at the number listed above.

### Key Functions of the UM Program

All prior authorizations are based on a specific standardized list of services.

- Eligibility and Oversight
  - Eligibility verification.
  - Benefit administration and interpretation.
  - Ensure authorized care correlates to Member's medical necessity need(s) and benefit plan.
  - Verifying current Physician/hospital contract status.
  - Delegation oversight.
- Resource Management
  - Prior Authorization and referral management.
  - Pre-admission, Admission and Inpatient Review.
  - Post service/post claim audits.
  - Referrals for Discharge Planning and Care Transitions.
  - Staff education on consistent application of UM functions.
- Quality Management
  - Satisfaction evaluation of the UM program using Member and Provider input.
  - Utilization data analysis.
  - Monitor for possible over- or under-utilization of clinical resources.
  - Quality oversight.
  - Monitor for adherence to CMS, NCQA®, State and health plan UM Standards.

This Molina Provider Manual contains excerpts from Molina's HCS Program Description. For a complete copy of your State's Healthcare Services Program Description contact the UM Department to receive a written copy. You can always find more information about Molina's UM program, including information about obtaining a copy of clinical criteria used for authorizations and how to contact a UM reviewer on Molina's website or by calling the UM department.



Medical Groups/IPAs and delegated entities who assume responsibility for UM must adhere to Molina's UM Policies. Their programs, policies and supporting documentation are reviewed by Molina at least annually.

### **Utilization Management**

Molina's UM program ensures appropriate and effective utilization of services. The UM team works closely with the CM team to ensure Members receive the support they need when moving from one care setting to another or when complexity of care and services is identified. To reflect the vital role this process plays in Molina's innovative HCS program, the UM program ensures the service delivered is Medically Necessary and demonstrates an appropriate use of resources based on the levels of care needed for a Member. This program promotes the provision of quality, cost-effective and medically appropriate services that are offered across a continuum of care, integrating a range of services appropriate to meet individual needs. It maintains flexibility to adapt to changes as necessary and is designed to influence Member's care by:

- Identify medical necessity and appropriateness while managing benefits effectively and efficiently to ensure efficiency of the health care services across the continuum of care
- Defining the review criteria, information sources, and processes that are used to review and approve the provision of items and services, including prescription drugs;
- Coordinating, directing, and monitoring the quality and cost effectiveness of health care resource utilization while monitoring utilization practice patterns of Providers, hospitals and ancillary Providers to identify over and under service utilization;
- Implementing comprehensive processes to monitor and control the utilization of health care resources;
- Ensuring that services are available in a timely manner, in appropriate settings, and are planned, individualized, and measured for effectiveness;
- Reviewing processes to ensure care is safe and accessible;
- Ensuring that qualified health care professionals perform all components of the UM/CM processes while ensuring timely responses to Member appeals and grievances;
- Ensuring that UM decision tools are appropriately applied in determining Medical Necessity decision.
- Identify and assess the need for Case Management/Health Management through early identification of high or low service utilization and high cost, chronic or long term diseases;
- Promote health care in accordance with local, state and national standards;
- Identify events and patterns of care in which outcomes may be improved through efficiencies in UM, and to implement actions that improve performance by ensuring care is safe and accessible;
- Continually seek to improve Member and Provider satisfaction with health care and with Molina utilization processes while ensuring that UM decision tools are appropriately applied in determining medical necessity decision; and,
- Process authorization requests timely and with adherence to all regulatory and accreditation timeliness standards.

The table below outlines the key functions of the UM program. All prior authorizations are based on a specific standardized list of services.

Eligibility and Oversight	Resource Management	Quality Management
Eligibility verification	Prior Authorization and Referral Management	Satisfaction evaluation of the UM program using Member and practitioner input
Benefit administration and interpretation	Pre-admission, Admission and Inpatient Review	Utilization data analysis
Ensuring authorized care correlates to Member's Medical Necessity need(s) & benefit plan	Post service/post claim audits	Monitor for possible over- or under-utilization of clinical resources
Verifying current Physician/hospital contract status	Referrals for Discharge Planning and Care Transitions	Quality oversight
Delegation oversight	Staff education on consistent application of UM functions	Monitor for adherence to CMS, NCQA®, State and health plan UM standards

Molina maintains a Utilization Management (UM) Department to work with Members and Providers in administering the Molina Utilization Management Program.

The address for mail requests is:

**Molina Dual Options (MI Health Link)**  
**Molina Healthcare of Michigan, Inc.**  
**880 W. Long Lake Road, Ste. 600**  
**Troy, MI 48098**

### **Care Access and Monitoring**

Molina has identified a new title for its Utilization Management program – Care Access and Monitoring – to reflect the important role this process plays in Molina's new HCS program. Molina's Care Access and Monitoring program ensures that care is medically necessary and demonstrates an appropriate use of resources based on the levels of care needed for a Member. This program promotes the provision of quality, cost-effective and medically appropriate services that are offered across a continuum of care, integrating a range of services appropriate to meet individual needs. It maintains flexibility to adapt to changes as necessary and is designed to influence Member's care by:

- Identify medical necessity and appropriateness to ensure efficiency of the health care services provided.
- Continually monitor, evaluate and optimize the use of health care resources while evaluating the necessity and efficiency of health care services.
- Coordinating, directing, and monitoring the quality and cost effectiveness of health care resource utilization while monitoring utilization practice patterns of providers, hospitals and ancillary Providers to identify over and under service utilization.
- Identify and assess the need for Care Management/Health Management through early identification of high or low service utilization and high cost, chronic or long term diseases;
- Promote health care in accordance with local, state and national standards.

- Identify events and patterns of care in which outcomes may be improved through efficiencies in UM, and to implement actions that improve performance by ensuring care is safe and accessible.
- Ensuring that qualified health care professionals perform all components of the UM/CM processes while ensuring timely responses to Member appeals and grievances.
- Continually seek to improve Member and Provider satisfaction with health care and with Molina utilization processes while ensuring that UM decision tools are appropriately applied in determining medical necessity decision.
- Coordinate services between the Members Medicare and Medicaid benefits when applicable.
- Process authorization requests timely and with adherence to all regulatory and accreditation timeliness standards.

### **Medical Necessity Review**

Molina only reimburses for services that are medically necessary. Medical necessity review may take place prospectively, as part of the inpatient admission notification/concurrent review, or retrospectively. To determine medical necessity, in conjunction with independent professional medical judgment, Molina uses nationally recognized evidence based guidelines, third party guidelines, CMS guidelines, state guidelines, guidelines from recognized professional societies, and advice from authoritative review articles and textbooks.

### **Clinical Information**

Molina requires copies of clinical information be submitted for documentation in all medical necessity determination processes. Clinical information includes but is not limited to; physician emergency department notes, inpatient history/physical exams, discharge summaries, physician progress notes, physician office notes, physician orders, nursing notes, results of laboratory or imaging studies, therapy evaluations and therapist notes. Molina does not accept clinical summaries; telephone summaries or inpatient care coordinator criteria reviews as meeting the clinical information requirements unless required by State or Federal regulation or the Molina Hospital or Provider Services Agreement.

### **Prior Authorization**

Molina requires prior authorization for specified services as long as the requirement complies with Federal or State regulations and the Molina Hospital or Provider Services Agreement. The list of services that require prior authorization is available in narrative form, along with a more detailed list by CPT and HCPCS codes. Molina prior authorization documents are customarily updated quarterly, but may be updated more frequently as appropriate, and are posted on the Molina website at [www.MolinaHealthcare.com](http://www.MolinaHealthcare.com).

Requests for prior authorizations to the UM Department may be sent by telephone, fax, mail based on the urgency of the requested service, or via the Provider Web Portal.

**Inpatient Phone:** (888) 898-7969 Fax: (888) 295-7665

**Outpatient Phone:** (855) 322-4077 Fax: (844) 251-1450

Providers are encouraged to use the Molina Prior Authorization Form provided on the Molina web site. If using a different form, the provider is required to supply the following information, as applicable, for the requested service:

- Member demographic information (Name, DOB, ID #, etc.).
- Clinical information sufficient to document the Medical Necessity of the requested services.
- Provider demographic information (Referring provider and referred to Provider/facility).
- Requested service/procedure (including specific CPT/HCPCS and ICD-10 Codes).
- Location where the service will be performed.
- Member diagnosis (CMS-approved diagnostic and procedure code and descriptions).
- Pertinent medical history (include treatment, diagnostic tests, examination data).
- Requested length of stay (for inpatient requests).
- Indicate if request is for expedited or standard processing.

Services performed without authorization may not be eligible for payment. Services provided emergently (as defined by Federal and State Law) are excluded from the prior authorization requirements. Prior Authorization is not a guarantee of payment. Payment is contingent upon Member eligibility at the time of service.

Molina makes UM decisions in a timely manner to accommodate the urgency of the situation as determined by the member's clinical situation. For expedited request for authorization, we make a determination as promptly as the member's health requires and no later than seventy-two (72) hours after we receive the initial request for service in the event a provider indicates, or if we determine that a standard authorization decision timeframe could jeopardize a member's life or health. For a standard authorization request, Molina makes the determination and provide within fourteen (14) calendar days.

Providers who request prior authorization approval for patient services and/or procedures may request to review the criteria used to make the final decision. Molina has a full-time Medical Director available to discuss Medical Necessity decisions with the requesting Provider at (888) 898-7969.

Upon approval, the requestor will receive an authorization number. The number may be provided by telephone or fax. If a request is denied, the requestor and the Member will receive a letter explaining the reason for the denial and additional information regarding the grievance and appeals process. Denials also are communicated to the Provider by telephone if possible or by fax with confirmation of receipt if telephonic communication fails.

Molina abides by CMS rules and regulations for all pre-service requests and will allow a Peer-to-Peer conversation in limited circumstances.

- While the request for an Organization Determination (service) is being reviewed but prior to a final determination being rendered.
- While an appeal of an Organizational Determination (service) is being reviewed.
- Before a determination has been made, if the Molina Medical Director believes that a discussion with the requesting physician would assist Molina in reaching a favorable determination (within the obligatory timeframes stated above for a standard or expedited request).

Medicare says that if Molina, being a Medicare Advantage plan, decides to not provide or pay for a requested service, in whole or in part, then an Adverse Organization Determination (denial) has occurred and we must issue a written denial notice. Once the notice has been mailed or faxed to you or the Member, or Molina has phoned the Member and/or you advising that there has been an Adverse Organization Determination (denial), the appeals process then becomes available to you.

If you wish to dispute Molina's Adverse Organization Determination (denial) we may only process the request by following the Standard or Expedited appeal process.

This means that if you contact Molina to request a Peer-to-Peer review, we will advise that you must follow the rules for requesting a Medicare appeal. Refer to the Complaints, Grievance and Appeals of this Provider Manual.

### **Requesting Prior Authorization**

The most current Prior Authorization Guidelines and Prior Authorization Request Form can be found on the Molina website, [www.MolinaHealthcare.com](http://www.MolinaHealthcare.com).

**Provider Portal:** Providers are encouraged to use the Molina Web Portal for prior authorization submission. Instructions for how to submit a Prior Authorization Request are available on the Portal. The benefits of submitting your prior authorization request through the Provider Portal are:

- Create and submit Prior Authorization Requests.
- Check status of Authorization Requests.
- Receive notification of change in status of Authorization Requests.
- Attach medical documentation required for timely medical review and decision making.

**Fax:** The Prior Authorization Request Form can be faxed to Molina at: (844) 251-1450. If the request is not on the form provided by Molina, be sure to send to the attention of the Healthcare Services Department. Please indicate on the fax if the request is urgent or non-urgent. **The Definition of expedited/urgent is when the situation where the standard time frame or decision-making process could seriously jeopardize the life or health of the enrollee or could jeopardize the enrollee's ability to regain maximum function.** Please include the supporting documentation needed for Molina to make a determination along with the request to facilitate your request being made as expeditiously as possible

**Phone:** Prior authorizations can be initiated by contacting Molina's Healthcare Services Department at (855) 735-5604. It may be necessary to submit additional documentation before the authorization can be processed.

**Mail:** Prior Authorization requests and supporting documentation can be submitted to:  
**Molina Healthcare of Michigan**  
**Attn: Healthcare Services Dept.**  
**880 West Long Lake Road, Suite 600**  
**Troy, MI 48098**

Molina has contracted with eviCore Healthcare (eviCore) to manage preauthorization requests for the following specialized clinical services:

- Imaging and Special Test
  - Advanced Imaging (MRI, CT, PET, Selected Ultrasounds)
  - Cardiac Imaging
- Radiation Therapy
- Sleep Covered Services and Related Equipment
- Molecular and Genomic Testing

Please refer to the Molina Prior Authorization Code Matrix located on the [www.MolinaHealthcare.com](http://www.MolinaHealthcare.com) website and contact eviCore visit website: <https://www.evicore.com/> and/or call phone number: (888) 333-8144

### **Affirmative Statement about Incentives**

All medical decisions are coordinated and rendered by qualified physicians and licensed staff unhindered by fiscal or administrative concerns, and ensures through communications to Providers, Members, and staff. Molina and its delegated contractors do not use incentive arrangements to reward the restriction of medical care to Members.

Molina affirms that all UM decision making is based only on appropriateness of care and service and existence of coverage for its Members, and not on the cost of the service to either Molina or the delegated group. Molina does not specifically reward Providers or other individuals for issuing denials of coverage or care.

It is important to remember that:

- UM decision-making is based only on appropriateness of care and service and existence of coverage.
- Molina does not specifically reward Providers or other individuals for issuing denials of coverage or care.
- UM decision makers do not receive incentives to encourage decisions that result in underutilization.

### **Open Communication about Treatment**

Molina prohibits contracted Providers from limiting Provider or Member communication regarding a Member's health care. Providers may freely communicate with, and act as an advocate for their patients. Molina requires provisions within Provider contracts that prohibit solicitation of Members for alternative coverage arrangements for the primary purpose of securing financial gain. No communication regarding treatment options may be represented or construed to expand or revise the scope of benefits under a health plan or insurance contract.

Molina and its contracted Providers may not enter into contracts that interfere with any ethical responsibility or legal right of Providers to discuss information with a Member about the Member's health care. This includes, but is not limited to, treatment options, alternative plans or other coverage arrangements.

## **Utilization Management Functions Performed Exclusively by Molina**

The following UM functions are conducted by Molina (or by an entity acting on behalf of Molina) and are **never delegated**:

1. **Transplant Case Management** - Molina does not delegate management of transplant cases to the medical group. Providers are required to notify Molina's UM Department when the need for a transplant evaluation has been identified. Contracted Providers must obtain prior authorization from Molina Medicare for transplant evaluations and surgery. Upon notification, Molina conducts medical necessity review. Molina selects the facility to be accessed for the evaluation and possible transplant.
2. **Clinical Trials** - Molina does not delegate to Providers the authority to determine and authorize clinical trials. Providers are required to comply with protocols, policies, and procedures for clinical trials as set forth in Molina's contracts. For information on clinical trials, go to [www.cms.hhs.gov](http://www.cms.hhs.gov) or call (800) MEDICARE.  
Information Only: On September 19, 2000, the Health Care Financing Administration (HCFA) approved a National Coverage Policy that permits all Medicare Beneficiaries to participate in qualified clinical trials. For the initial implementation, Medicare will pay Providers and hospitals directly on a fee for service basis for covered clinical trial services for Members of Molina's Medicare plans and other Medicare HMO plans. The Provider and/or hospital conducting the clinical trial will submit all claims for clinical trial services directly to Medicare, not to the Medicare plan. This means the Member will be responsible for all Medicare fee for service deductibles and copayments for any services received as a participant in a clinical trial.
3. **Experimental and Investigational Reviews** - Molina does not delegate to Providers the authority to determine and authorize experimental and investigational (E & I) reviews.

## **Delegated Utilization Management Functions**

Molina may delegate UM functions to qualifying Medical Groups/IPAs and delegated entities. They must have the ability to meet, perform the delegated activities and maintain specific delegation criteria in compliance with all current Molina policies and regulatory and certification requirements. For more information about delegated UM functions and the oversight of such delegation, please refer to the Delegation section of this Provider Manual.

## **Communication and Availability to Members and Practitioners**

Molina HCS staff is accessible at (855) 735-5604 during normal business hours, Monday through Friday (except for Holidays) from 8:30 AM to 5:30 PM for information and authorization of care. When initiating, receiving or returning calls, the HCS staff will identify the organization, their name and title.

Molina offers TTY/TDD services for Members who are deaf, hard of hearing, or speech impaired. Language assistance is also always available for Members.

After business hours, Providers can also utilize fax and the Provider Portal for UM access.

Molina's Nurse Advice Line is available to Members and Providers twenty-four (24) hours a day, seven (7) days a week at (888) 275-8750. Molina's Nurse Advice Line handles urgent and emergent after-hours UM calls. PCPs are notified via fax of all Nurse Advice Line encounters.

### **Levels of Administrative and Clinical Review**

The Molina review process begins with administrative review followed by clinical review if appropriate.

- Administrative review includes verifying eligibility, appropriate vendor or Participating Provider, and benefit coverage.
- The Clinical review includes medical necessity and level of care.

All UM requests that may lead to a denial are reviewed by a healthcare professional at Molina (medical director, pharmacy director, or appropriately licensed health professional).

The overall review process begins with administrative review followed by initial clinical review if appropriate. Specialist review may be needed as well. All UM requests that may lead to denial are reviewed by a health professional at Molina (medical director, pharmacy director, or appropriately licensed health professional).

All staff involved in the review process has an updated list of services and procedures that require Pre-Service Organization Decision/Authorization.

Molina's Provider training includes information on the UM processes and Authorization requirements.

The timelines and procedures are published in the Provider Manual and are available on the [www.MolinaHealthcare.com](http://www.MolinaHealthcare.com)

### **Emergency Services**

Emergency Services means covered inpatient and outpatient services furnished by a Provider who is qualified to furnish these services and such services are needed to evaluate or stabilize an emergency medical condition.

A medical screening exam performed by licensed medical personnel in the emergency department and subsequent Emergency Services rendered to the Member do not require prior authorization from Molina.

Members over-utilizing the emergency department will be contacted by Molina Case Managers to provide assistance whenever possible and determine the reason for using Emergency Services.

Case Managers will also contact the PCP to ensure that Members are not accessing the emergency department because of an inability to be seen by the PCP.

## **Inpatient Management**

### **Elective Inpatient Admissions**

Molina requires prior authorization for all elective/scheduled inpatient admissions and procedures to any facility. Facilities are required to also notify Molina within twenty-four (24) hours or by the



following business day once the admission has occurred for concurrent review. Elective inpatient admission services performed without prior authorization may not be eligible for payment.

### **Emergent Inpatient Admissions**

Molina requires notification of all emergent inpatient admissions within twenty-four (24) hours of admission or by the close of the next business day when emergent admissions occur on weekends or holidays. For emergency admissions, notification of the admission shall occur once the patient has been stabilized in the emergency department.

Notification of admission is required to verify eligibility, authorize care, including level of care (LOC), and initiate concurrent review and discharge planning. Molina requires that notification includes member demographic information, facility information, date of admission and clinical information sufficient to document the medical necessity of the admission. Emergent inpatient admission services performed without meeting notification, medical necessity requirements, or failure to include all of the needed clinical documentation to support the inpatient admission will result in a denial of authorization for the inpatient stay.

Post service medical necessity review is performed when:

- Information is received indicating the Provider did not know, or reasonably could not have known that the patient was a Molina Member.
- There was a Molina clerical error.

### **Inpatient at time of Termination of Coverage**

If a Member's coverage with Molina terminates during a hospital stay, all services received after their termination of eligibility are not covered services.

### **Prospective/Pre-Service Review**

Pre-service review defines the process, qualified personnel and timeframes for accepting, evaluating and replying to prior authorization requests. Pre-service review is required for all non-emergent inpatient admissions, outpatient surgery and identified procedures, Home Health, some durable medical equipment (DME) and Out-of-Area/Out-of-Network Professional Services. The pre-service review process assures the following:

- Member eligibility;
- Member covered benefits;
- The service is not experimental or investigation in nature;
- The service meets Medical Necessity criteria (according to accepted, nationally-recognized resources);
- All Covered Services, (e.g., test, procedure) are within the Provider's scope of practice;
- The requested Provider can provide the service in a timely manner;
- The receiving specialist(s) and/or hospital is/are provided the required medical information to evaluate a Member's condition;
- The requested Covered Service is directed to the most appropriate contracted specialist, facility or vendor;
- The service is provided at the appropriate level of care in the appropriate facility; e.g., outpatient versus inpatient or at appropriate level of inpatient care;

- Continuity and coordination of care is maintained; and,
- The PCP is kept apprised of service requests and of the service provided to the Member by other Providers.

### **Inpatient/Concurrent Review**

Molina performs concurrent inpatient review in order to ensure patient safety, medical necessity of ongoing inpatient services, adequate progress of treatment and development of appropriate discharge plans.

Performing these functions requires timely clinical information updates from inpatient facilities. Molina will request updated original clinical records from inpatient facilities at regular intervals during a Member's inpatient admission. Molina requires that requested clinical information updates be received by Molina from the inpatient facility within twenty-four (24) hours of the request. Failure to provide timely clinical information updates may result in denial of authorization for the remainder of the inpatient admission dependent on the Provider contract terms and agreements.

Molina performs inpatient review to determine medical necessity and appropriateness of an inpatient stay.

The goal of inpatient review is to authorize care, identify appropriate discharge planning needs and facilitate discharge to an appropriate setting. The criteria used to determine medical necessity will be as described in "Medical Necessity Review".

The inpatient review process assures the following:

- Members are correctly assigned to observation or inpatient status;
- Services are timely and efficient;
- Comprehensive treatment plan is established;
- Member is not being discharged prematurely;
- Member is transferred to appropriate in-network hospital or alternate levels of care when clinically indicated;
- Effective discharge planning is implemented; and,
- Member appropriate for outpatient case management is identified and referred.

Molina follows payment guidelines for inpatient status determinations consistent with CMS guidelines, including the two (2) midnight and observation rules as outlined in the Medicare Benefit Policy Manual.

### **NOTICE Act**

Under the NOTICE Act, hospitals and CAHs must deliver the Medicare Outpatient Observation Notice (MOON) to any beneficiary (including an MA enrollee) who receives observation services as an outpatient for more than twenty-four (24) hours. See the final rule that went on display August 2, 2016 (published August 22, 2016) at:

<https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2016/08/22/2016-18476>

## **Inpatient Status Determinations**

Molina's UM staff determine if the collected medical records and clinical information for requested services are "reasonable and necessary for the diagnosis or treatment of an illness or injury or to improve the functioning of malformed body member" by meeting all coverage, coding and Medical Necessity requirements. To determine Medical Necessity, the criteria outlined under Medical Necessity Review will be used.

## **Inpatient Facility Admission**

Notification of admission is required to verify eligibility, authorize care, including level of care (LOC), and initiate concurrent review and discharge planning. For emergency admissions, notification of the admission shall occur once the patient has been stabilized in the emergency department. Proper notification is required by Molina on the day of admission to ensure timely and accurate payment of hospital claims. Delegated Medical Groups/IPAs must have a clearly defined process that requires the hospital to notify Molina on a daily basis of all hospital admissions.

Notifications may be submitted by fax. Contact telephone numbers and fax numbers are noted in the introduction to the Healthcare Services section of this Provider Manual.

## **Discharge Planning**

The goal of discharge planning is to initiate cost-effective, quality-driven treatment interventions for post-hospital care at the earliest point in the admission. UM staff work closely with the hospital discharge planners to determine the most appropriate discharge setting for our members. The clinical staff review medical necessity and appropriateness for home health, infusion therapy, durable medical equipment (DME), skilled nursing facility and rehabilitative services.

## **Readmissions**

Hospital readmissions less than thirty-one (31) calendar days from the date of discharge have been found by CMS to potentially constitute a quality of care problem. Readmission review is an important part of Molina's Quality Improvement Program to ensure that Molina Members are receiving hospital care that is compliant with nationally recognized guidelines, as well as Federal and State regulations.

Readmission reviews will be conducted in accordance with CMS guidelines.

## **Exceptions**

1. The readmission is determined to be due to an unrelated condition from the first inpatient admission AND there is no evidence that premature discharge or inadequate discharge planning in the first admission necessitated the second admission.
2. The readmission is part of a Medically Necessary, prior authorized or staged treatment plan.
3. There is clear medical record documentation that the patient left the hospital Against Medical Advice (AMA) during the first hospitalization prior to completion of treatment and discharge planning.

Molina will conduct readmission reviews for participating hospitals when both admissions occur at the same acute inpatient facility within the state regulatory requirement dates. If it is determined that the subsequent admission is related to the first admission (readmission) and determined to be

preventable, then a single payment may be considered as payment in full for both the first and second hospital admissions.

When a subsequent admission to the same facility with the same or similar diagnosis occurs within twenty-four (24) hours of discharge, the hospital will be informed that the readmission will be combined with the initial admission and will be processed as a continued stay.

### **Post-Service Review**

Post-Service Review applies when a Provider fails to seek authorization from Molina for services that require authorization. Failure to obtain authorization for an elective service that requires authorization will result in an administrative denial. Emergent services do not require authorization. Coverage of emergent services up to stabilization of the patient will be approved for payment. If the patient is subsequently admitted following emergent care services, authorization is required within one (1) business day or post stabilization stay will be denied.

Failure to obtain authorization when required will result in denial of payment for those services. The only possible exception for payment as a result of post-service review is if information is received indicating the Provider did not know nor reasonably could have known that patient was a Molina Member or there was a Molina error, a medical necessity review will be performed. Decisions, in this circumstance, will be based on medical need, appropriateness of care guidelines defined by UM policies and criteria, CMS Medical Coverage Guidelines, Local and National Coverage Determinations, CMS Policy Manuals, regulation and guidance and evidence based criteria sets.

Specific Federal requirements or Provider contracts that prohibit administrative denials supersede this policy.

### **Out of Network Providers and Services**

Molina maintains a contracted network of qualified health care professionals who have undergone a comprehensive credentialing process in order to provide medical care for Molina Members.

Molina requires Members to receive medical care within the participating, contracted network of Providers unless it is for Emergency Services as defined by Federal Law.

If there is a need to go to a non-contracted Provider, all care provided by non-contracted, non-network Providers must be prior authorized by Molina. Non-network Providers may provide Emergency Services for a Member who is temporarily outside the service area, without prior authorization or as otherwise required by Federal or State Laws or regulations.

“Emergency Services” means covered inpatient and outpatient services furnished by a Provider who is qualified to furnish these services and such services are needed to evaluate or stabilize an emergency medical condition.

### **Avoiding Conflict of Interest**

The HCS Department affirms its decision-making is based on appropriateness of care and service and the existence of benefit coverage.

Molina does not reward Providers or other individuals for issuing denials of coverage or care. Furthermore, Molina never provides financial incentives to encourage authorization decision makers to make determinations that result in under-utilization. Molina also requires our delegated medical groups/IPAs to avoid this kind of conflict of interest.

### **Coordination of Care and Services**

Molina Staff work with Providers to assist with coordinating referrals, services and benefits for Members who have been identified for Molina's Integrated Care Management (ICM) program via assessment, self-referral, Provider referral, etc. It is the responsibility of contracted Providers to assess Members and with the participation of the Member and/or their authorized representative(s), create an individualized care plan (ICP). The ICP is documented in the medical record and is updated as conditions, needs and/or health status change. In addition, the coordination of care process assists Molina Members, as necessary, in transitioning to other care when benefits end. The process includes mechanisms for identifying Molina Members whose benefits are ending and are in need of continued care.

Molina staff assists Providers by identifying needs and issues that may not be verbalized by Providers, assisting to identify resources such as community programs, national support groups, appropriate specialists and facilities, identifying best practice or new and innovative approaches to care. Care coordination by Molina staff is done in partnership with Providers and Members to ensure efforts are efficient and non-duplicative. There are two (2) main coordination of care processes for Molina Members. The first occurs when a new Member enrolls in Molina and needs to transition medical care to Molina contracted Providers. Mechanisms within the enrollment process to identify those Members and reach out to them from the Member & Provider Contact Center to assist in obtaining authorizations, transferring to contracted DME vendors, receiving approval for prescription medications, etc. The second coordination of care process occurs when a Molina Member's benefits will be ending, and they need assistance in transitioning to other care. The process includes mechanisms for identifying Molina Members whose benefits are ending and need continued care.

Providers must offer the opportunity to provide assistance to identified Members through:

- Notification of community resources, local or State funded agencies;
- Education about alternative care; and,
- How to obtain care as appropriate.

### **Continuity of Care and Transition of Members**

It is Molina's policy to provide Members with advance notice when a Provider they are seeing will no longer be in network. Members and Providers are encouraged to use this time to transition care to an in-network Provider. The Provider leaving the network shall provide all appropriate information related to course of treatment, medical treatment, etc., to the Provider(s) assuming care. Under certain circumstances, Members may be able to continue treatment with the out of network Provider for a given period of time and provide continued services to Members undergoing a course of treatment by a Provider that has terminated their contractual agreement if the following conditions exist at the time of termination.

- Acute condition or serious chronic condition – Following termination, the terminated Provider will continue to provide covered services to the Member up to ninety (90) days or longer if necessary for a safe transfer to another Provider as determined by Molina or its delegated Medical Group/IPA.
- High risk of second or third trimester pregnancy – The terminated Provider will continue to provide services following termination until postpartum services related to delivery are completed or longer if necessary for a safe transfer.

For additional information regarding continuity of care and transition of Members, please contact Molina at (800) 665-3072.

### **UM Decisions**

A decision is any determination (e.g., an approval or denial) made by Molina or the delegated Medical Group/IPA or other delegated entity with respect to the following:

- Determination to authorize, provide or pay for services (favorable determination);
- Determination to deny requests (adverse determination);
- Discontinuation of a service;
- Payment for temporarily, out-of-the-area renal dialysis services;
- Payment for emergency services, post-stabilization care or urgently needed services;
- Payment for any other health service furnished by a Provider that the Member believes is covered under Medicare or if not covered under Medicare, should have been furnished, arranged for or reimbursed by Molina Medicare or the delegated Medical Group/IPA or other delegated entity.

Molina follows a hierarchy of medical necessity decision making with Federal and State regulations taking precedence. Molina covers all services and items required by State and Federal regulations.

Board certified licensed Providers from appropriate specialty areas are utilized to assist in making determinations of medical necessity, as appropriate. All utilization decisions must be made in a timely manner to accommodate the clinical urgency of the situation, in accordance with Federal regulatory requirements and NCQA® standards.

Requests for authorization not meeting criteria are reviewed by a designated Molina Medical Director or other appropriate clinical professional.

Only a licensed physician or pharmacist, doctoral level clinical psychologist or certified addiction medicine specialist as appropriate may determine to delay, modify or deny services to a Member for reasons of medical necessity.

Providers can contact Molina's Healthcare Services department at (855) 322-4077 to obtain Molina's UM Criteria.

Clinical criteria does not replace Medicare Coverage Determinations when making decisions regarding appropriate medical treatment for Molina Members. As a Medicare Plan, Molina and its delegated Medical Groups/IPAs, or other delegated entity at a minimum, cover all services and items required by Medicare.

1. **Standard Initial Organization Determinations (Pre-service)** – Standard initial organization determinations must be made as soon as medically indicated, within a maximum of fourteen (14) calendar days after receipt of the request. The table under number four (4) below describes the CMS required decision timeframes and notification requirements followed by Molina.
2. **Expedited Initial Organization Determinations** – A request for expedited determinations may be made. An organization determination is expedited if applying the standard determination timeframes could seriously jeopardize the life or health of the Member or the Member's ability to re-gain maximum function. Molina and any delegated Medical Group/IPA or other delegated entity is responsible to appropriately log and respond to requests for expedited initial organization determinations.
  - Expedited Initial Determinations must be made as soon as medically necessary, within seventy-two (72) hours (including weekends and holidays) following receipt of the validated request; and,
  - Delegated Medical Groups/IPAs or other delegated entities are responsible for submitting a monthly log of all Expedited Initial Determinations to Molina's Delegation Oversight Department that lists pertinent information about the expedited determination including Member demographics, data and time of receipt and resolution of the issue, nature of the problem and other information deemed necessary by Molina or the Medical Group/IPA or other delegated entities. The table under number four (4) below describes the CMS required decision timeframes and notification requirements followed by Molina.
3. **Written Notification of Denial** – The Member must be provided with written notice of the determination, if the decision is to deny, in whole or in part, the requested service or payment. If the Member has an authorized representative, the representative must be sent a copy of the denial notice. The appropriate written notice, that has CMS approval, must be issued within established regulatory and certification timelines. The adverse organization determination templates shall be written in a manner that is understandable to the Member and shall provide the following:
  - The specific reason for the denial, including the precise criteria used to make the decision that considers the Member's presenting medical condition, disabilities and language requirements, if any;
  - Information regarding the Member's right to a standard or expedited reconsideration and the right to appoint a representative to file an appeal on the Member's behalf;
  - Include a description of both the standard and expedited reconsideration process, timeframes and conditions for obtaining an expedited reconsideration, and the other elements of the appeals process;
  - Payment denials shall include a description of the standard reconsideration process, timeframes and other elements of the appeal process;
  - A statement disclosing the Member's right to submit additional evidence in writing or in person.
  - Failure to provide the Member with timely notice of an organization determination constitutes an adverse organization determination which may be appealed.

4. **Termination of Provider Services (SNF, HH, CORF)/Issuance of Notice of Medicare Non-Coverage (NOMNC) and Detailed Explanation of Non-Coverage (DENC)** – When a termination of authorized coverage of a Member’s admission to a skilled nursing facility (SNF) or coverage of home health agencies (HHA) or comprehensive outpatient rehabilitation facility (CORF) services occurs, the Member must receive a written notice two (2) calendar days or two (2) visits prior to the proposed termination of services.

Molina or the delegated Medical Group/IPA must coordinate with the SNF, HHA or CORF Provider to ensure timely delivery of the written notice, using the approved NOMNC. Delivery of the notice is not valid unless all elements are present and Member or authorized representative signs and dates the notice to document receipt.

- The NOMNC must include the Member’s name, delivery date, date that coverage of services ends and QIO information;
- The NOMNC may be delivered earlier than two (2) days before coverage ends;
- If coverage is expected to be fewer than two (2) days in duration, the NOMNC must be provided at the time of admission;
- If home health services are provided for a period of time exceeding two (2) days, the NOMNC must be provided on or before the second to last service date.

Molina (or the delegated entity) remains liable for continued services until two (2) days after the Member receives valid notice.

If the Member does not agree that covered services should end, the Member may request a Fast Track Appeal by the Quality Improvement Organization (QIO) by noon of the day following receipt of the NOMNC, or by noon of the day before coverage ends.

Upon notification of the Member’s request for the Fast Track Appeal, Molina (or the delegated entity) must provide a detailed notice to the Member and to the QIO no later than the close of business, using the approved DENC explaining why services are no longer necessary or covered. The DENC must include the following:

- A specific and detailed explanation why services are either no longer reasonable and necessary or otherwise no longer covered;
- A description of any applicable coverage rule, instruction or other policy, citations, or information about how the Member may obtain a copy of the policy from Molina or the delegated entity;
- Any applicable policy, contract provision or rationale upon which the termination decision was based;
- Facts specific to the Member and relevant to the coverage determination that is sufficient to advise the Member of the applicability of the coverage rule or policy to the Member’s case.

## **Reporting of Suspected Abuse and/or Neglect**

A vulnerable adult is a person who is or may be in need of community care services by reason of mental or other disability, age or illness; and who is or may be unable to take care of him or herself, or unable to protect him or herself against significant harm or exploitation. When working with children one may encounter situations suggesting abuse, neglect and/or unsafe living environments.



Every person who knows or has reasonable suspicion that a child or adult is being abused or neglected in State must report the matter immediately. Specific professionals mentioned under the law as mandated reporters are:

- Physicians, dentists, interns, residents, or nurses
- Public or private school employees or childcare givers
- Psychologists, social workers, family protection workers, or family protection specialists
- Attorneys, ministers, or law enforcement officers.

Suspected abuse and/or neglect should be reported as follows:

**Child Abuse:**

Michigan Department of Health and Human Services Children Protective Services Phone:  
(855) 444-3911

**Adult Abuse:** Michigan Department of Health and Human Services Adult and Children Services  
Phone: (855) 444-3911

Molina's HCS teams will work with PCPs and Medical Groups/IPA and other delegated entities who are obligated to communicate with each other when there is a concern that a Member is being abused. Final actions are taken by the PCP/Medical Group/IPA, other delegated entities or other clinical personnel.

Under State and Federal Law, a person participating in good faith in making a report or testifying about alleged abuse, neglect, abandonment, financial exploitation or self-neglect of a vulnerable adult in a judicial or administrative proceeding may be immune from liability resulting from the report or testimony.

Molina will follow up with Members that are reported to have been abused, exploited or neglected to ensure appropriate measures were taken, and follow up on safety issues.

Molina will track, analyze, and report aggregate information regarding abuse reporting to the Utilization Management Committee and the proper State agency.

**Emergency and Post-Stabilization Services**

Emergency Services means covered inpatient and outpatient services furnished by a Provider who is qualified to furnish these services and such services are needed to evaluate or stabilize an emergency medical condition.

Emergency Services are covered on a twenty-four (24) hour basis without the need for prior authorization for all Members experiencing an Emergency Medical Condition.

Molina accomplishes this service by providing a twenty-four (24) hour Nurse Triage option on the main telephone line for post business hours. In addition, the 911 information is given to all Members at the onset of any call to the plan.

For Members within our service area: Molina contracts with vendors that provide twenty-four (24) hour Emergency Services for ambulance and hospitals.

Molina and its contracted Providers must provide emergency services and post-emergency stabilization and maintenance services to treat any Member with an Emergency Medical Condition in compliance with Federal Law. An Emergency Medical Condition is defined as a medical condition manifesting itself by acute symptoms of sufficient severity (including severe pain) such that a prudent layperson, who possesses an average knowledge of health and medicine, could reasonably expect the absence of immediate medical attention to result in:

- Placing the health of the Member including the health of a pregnant woman and/or her unborn child in serious jeopardy;
- Serious impairment to bodily functions;
- Serious dysfunction of any body part; and/or,
- Serious disfigurement.

Molina covers maintenance care and post-stabilization services which are medically necessary, non-emergency services. Molina or its delegated entity arranges for post-stabilization services to ensure that the patient remains stabilized from the time the treating hospital requests authorization until the time the patient is discharged or a contracting medical provider agrees to other arrangements.

Pre-approval of emergency services is not required. Molina requires the hospital emergency room to contact the Member's primary care Provider upon the Member's arrival at the emergency room. After stabilization of the Member, Molina requires pre-approval of further post-stabilization services by a participating Provider or other Molina representative. Failure to review and render a decision on the post-stabilization pre-approval request within one (1) hour of receipt of the call shall be deemed an authorization of the request.

Molina or its delegated entity is financially responsible for these services until Molina or its delegated entity becomes involved with managing or directing the Member's care.

Molina and its delegated entity provides urgently needed services for Members temporarily outside of the service area but within the United States or who have moved to another service area but are still enrolled with.

Urgent Services are covered services that are medically necessary and are needed urgently, typically the same day or within two (2) days of onset of symptoms, as judged by a prudent layperson.

### **Primary Care Providers**

Molina provides a panel of PCPs to care for its Members. Providers in the specialties of Family Medicine, Internal Medicine and Obstetrics and Gynecology are eligible to serve as PCPs. Members may choose a PCP or have one selected for them by Molina. Molina's Medicare Members are required to see a PCP who is part of the Molina Medicare Network. Molina's Medicare Members may select or change their PCP by contacting Molina's Member & Provider Contact Center.

## **Specialty Providers**

Molina maintains a network of specialty Providers to care for its Members. Referrals from a Molina PCP are required for a Member to receive specialty services; however, no prior authorization is required. Members are allowed to directly access women health specialists for routine and preventive health services without a referral.

Molina will help to arrange specialty care outside the network when Providers are unavailable, or the network is inadequate to meet a Member's medical needs. To obtain such assistance contact the Molina UM Department. Referrals to specialty care outside the network require prior authorization from Molina.

## **Continuity and Coordination of Provider Communication**

Molina stresses the importance of timely communication between Providers involved in a Member's care. This is especially critical between specialists, including behavioral health Providers, and the Member's PCP. Information should be shared in such a manner as to facilitate communication of urgent needs or significant findings.

## **Care Management**

The Care Management Program provides care coordination and health education for disease management, as well as identifies and addresses psychosocial barriers to accessing care with the goal of promoting high quality care that aligns with a Member's individual health care goals. Care Management focuses on the delivery of quality, cost-effective, and appropriate health care services for Members with complex and chronic care needs. Members may receive health risk assessments that help identify medical, mental health and medication management problems to target highest-needs members who would benefit from assistance and education from a case manager.

Additionally, functional, social support and health literacy deficits are assessed, as well as safety concerns and caregiver needs. To initiate the case management process, the Member is screened for appropriateness for case management program enrollment using specified criteria. Criteria are used for opening and closing cases appropriately with notification to Member and Provider.

### **1. The role of the Case Manager includes:**

- Coordination of quality and cost-effective services;
- Appropriate application of benefits;
- Promotion of early, intensive interventions in the least restrictive setting;
- Assistance with transitions between care settings;
- Provision of accurate and up-to-date information to Providers regarding completed health assessments and care plans;
- Creation of individualized care plans updated as the Member's health care needs change;
- Facilitation of Interdisciplinary Care Team (ICT) meetings;
- Utilization of multidisciplinary clinical, behavioral and rehabilitative services;
- Referral to and coordination of appropriate resources and support service, including Long Term Services & Supports (LTSS);
- Attention to Member satisfaction;

- Attention to the handling of Protected Health Information (PHI) and maintaining confidentiality;
  - Provision of ongoing analysis and evaluation;
  - Protection of Member rights; and,
  - Promotion of Member responsibility and self-management.
2. **Referral to Care Management may be made by any of the following entities:**
- Member or Member's designated representative;
  - Member's primary care Provider;
  - Specialists;
  - Hospital Staff;
  - Home Health Staff; and,
  - Molina staff.

### **Molina Special Needs Plan Model of Care**

Note: Model of Care Enhancements do not apply to standard MAPD programs.

1. **Targeted Population** – Molina operates Medicare Dual Eligible Special Needs Plans (MI HEALTH LINK) for Members who are fully eligible for both Medicare and Medicaid. In *accordance* with CMS regulations, Molina has a MI HEALTH LINK Model of Care that outlines.

Molina's efforts to meet the needs of the dual eligible MI HEALTH LINK members. This population has a higher burden of multiple chronic illnesses and sub-populations of frail/disabled Members than other Medicare Managed Care Plan types. The Molina Dual Eligible Special Needs Plan Model of Care addresses the needs of all sub-populations found in the Molina MI Health Link.

2. **Care Management Goals** – Utilization of the Molina MI HEALTH LINK extensive network of primary Providers, specialty Providers and facilities, in addition to services from the Molina MI Health Link Interdisciplinary Care Team (ICT), will improve access of Molina Members to essential services such as medical, mental health and social services. Molina demonstrates its compliance with this goal using the following data and comparing against available internal and external benchmarks and expects to see annual improvement compared to benchmarks:
- a. Molina Geo Access reports showing availability of services by geographic area;
  - b. Number of Molina MI HEALTH LINK Members utilizing the following services:
    - Primary care Provider (PCP) Services
    - Specialty (including Mental/Behavioral Health) Services
    - Inpatient Hospital Services
    - Skilled Nursing Facility Services
    - Home Health Services
    - Mental/Behavioral Health Facility Services
    - Durable Medical Equipment Services
    - Emergency Department Services
    - Supplemental transportation benefits

- Long Term Services and Supports
  - c. HEDIS® use of services reports;
  - d. Member Access Complaint Report;
  - e. Medicare CAHPS® Survey; and,
  - f. Molina Provider Access Survey.
3. **Members of the Molina MI HEALTH LINK will have access to quality affordable health care.** - Since Members of the Molina MI HEALTH LINK are full dual eligible for Medicare and Medicaid, they are not subject to out of pocket costs or cost sharing for covered services. Molina focuses on delivering high quality care. Molina has an extensive process for credentialing network Providers, ongoing monitoring of network Providers and peer review for quality of care complaints. Molina maintains recommended clinical practice guidelines that are evidence based and nationally recognized.
- Molina regularly measures Provider adherence to key provisions of its clinical practice guidelines. Molina demonstrates its compliance with this goal using the following data and comparing against available internal and external benchmarks and expects to see annual improvement compared to benchmarks:
- a. HEDIS® report of percent Providers maintaining board certification;
  - b. Serious reportable adverse events report;
  - c. Annual report on quality of care complaints and peer reviews;
  - d. Annual PCP medical record review;
  - e. Clinical Practice Guideline Measurement Report;
  - f. Licensure sanction report review; and,
  - g. Medicare/Medicaid sanctions report review.
4. By having access to Molina’s network of primary care and specialty Providers as well as Molina’s programs that include Care Management Service Coordination, Nurse Advice Line, Utilization Management and Quality Improvement, MI HEALTH LINK Members have an opportunity to realize improved health outcomes.
- Molina demonstrates its compliance with this goal using the following data and comparing against available internal and external benchmarks and expects to see annual improvement compared to benchmarks:
- a. Medicare Health Outcomes Survey (HOS)
  - b. Chronic Care Improvement Program Reports
5. **Molina Members will have an assigned point of contact for their coordination of care.** According to Member’s need, this coordination of care contact point might be their Molina Network PCP or Molina Case Manager. Care will be coordinated through a single point of contact who interact with the ICT to coordinate services as needed.
6. **Members of the Molina MI Health Link will have improved transitions of care across health care settings, Providers and health services.** The Molina MI Health Link has programs designed to improve transitions of care. Authorization processes enable Molina staff to become aware of transitions of care due to changes in health care status as they occur. Molina care coordinators work with Members, their caregivers and their Providers

to assist in care transitions. In addition, Molina has a program to provide follow-up telephone calls or face to face visits to Members while the Member is in the hospital and after hospital discharge to make sure that they received and are following an adequate discharge plan. The purpose is to establish a safe discharge plan and to evaluate if the Members are following the prescribed discharge plan once they are home, have scheduled a follow up physician appointment, have filled all prescriptions, understand how to administer their medications and have received the necessary discharge services such as home care or physical therapy. All Members experiencing transition receive a post discharge educational letter advising them of benefits and services offered by Molina. Molina demonstrates its compliance with this goal using the following data and comparing against available internal and external benchmarks and expects to see annual improvement compared to benchmarks:

- a. Transition of Care Data;
- b. Re-admission within thirty (30) Days Report;
- c. Provider adherence to notification requirements; and,
- d. Provider adherence to provision of the discharge plan.

7. **Members of the Molina MI Health Link will have improved access to preventive health services.** The Molina MI Health Link expands the Medicare preventive health benefit by providing annual preventive care visits at no cost to all Members. This allows PCPs to coordinate preventive care on a regular basis. Molina uses and publicizes nationally recognized preventive health schedules to its Providers. Molina also makes outreach calls to Members to remind them of overdue preventive services and to offer assistance with arranging appointments and providing transportation to preventive care appointments.

Molina demonstrates its compliance with this goal using the following data and comparing against available internal and external benchmarks and expects to see annual improvement compared to benchmarks: HEDIS® Preventive Services Reports.

8. **Members of the Molina MI Health Link will have appropriate utilization of health care services.** Molina utilizes its Utilization Management team to review appropriateness of requests for health care services using appropriate Medicare criteria and to assist in Members receiving appropriate health care services in a timely fashion from the proper Provider.

Molina demonstrates its compliance with this goal using the following data and comparing against available internal and external benchmarks and expects to see annual improvement compared to benchmarks: Molina Over and Under Utilization Reports.

9. **Staff Structure and Roles -** The Molina MI Health Link has developed its staff structure and roles to meet the needs of dual eligible Special Needs Plan Members. Molina's background as a provider of Medicaid Managed Care services in the states that it serves allows the plan to have expertise in both the Medicare and Medicaid benefits that Members have access to in the Molina Medicare Dual Eligible MI HEALTH LINK. Molina has many years of experience managing this population of patients within Medicaid to go with its experience of managing the Medicare part of their benefit. Molina's Member advocacy and service philosophy is designed and administered to assure Members receive value- added coordination of health care and services that ensures

continuity and efficiency and that produces optimal outcomes. Molina employed staff are organized in a manner to meet this objective and include:

- a. **Care Management Team** that forms a main component of the interdisciplinary care team (ICT) comprised of the following positions and roles:
  - i. Care Review Processors – Gather clinical information about transitions in care and authorizations for services, authorize services within their scope of training and job parameters based upon predetermined criteria, serve as a resource for nursing staff in collecting existing clinical information to assist nursing assessments and care team coordination.
  - ii. Care Review Clinicians (LPN/RN) – Assess, authorize, coordinate and evaluate services, including those provided by specialists and therapists, in conjunction with the Member, Providers and other team members based on Member’s needs, medical necessity and predetermined criteria.
  - iii. Case Managers (CM) (comprised of disciplines such as Registered Nurses, Licensed Vocational/practical Nurses, Social Workers, Gerontologists and other allied health professionals with appropriate background and experience serving vulnerable populations)– Work with the Transition Coaches to support members after the thirty (30) day transition period by assessing, authorizing, coordinating, triaging and evaluating services in conjunction with the Member, Providers and other team members based on Member’s needs and preferences. The CM supports Members, caregivers and Providers in Member transitions between care settings including facilitation of information retrieval from ancillary Providers, consultants, and diagnostic studies for development, implementation and /or revision of the Integrated Care Plan (ICP).
  - iv. The CM continues to work with the Member to identify and address issues regarding Member’s medical, behavioral health, LTSS and social needs and maintains and updates the ICP and assists in the coordination of needed services. Updates to the ICP are communicated by the CM to the Member and participants of the ICT based on member preference.
  - v. Health Manager – Develop materials for Health Management programs.
    - a. Serve as resource for Members and Molina staff members regarding Health Management Program information, educates Members on how to manage their condition.
  - vi. Transitions of Care Coach – (Comprised of disciplines such as Registered Nurses, Licensed Vocational/practical Nurses (LVN)/ Licensed Practical Nurses (LPN), Social Workers, Gerontologists and other allied health professionals with appropriate background and experience serving vulnerable populations. ) – The Transitions Coach is notified by and works closely with the CM and functions as a facilitator of interdisciplinary collaboration across the transition, engaging the Member, authorized representative(s) and family caregivers, facility and Providers to participate in the formation and implementation of an ICP including interventions to mitigate the risk of re-hospitalization. The primary role of the Transitions staff is to follow the Member closely for thirty (30) days post discharge to ensure a safe transition to the least restrictive most inclusive setting of the Member’s choice and to encourage self-management and direct communication between the Member and Provider(s).

- vii. Community Connectors/Health Workers – the Community Connectors are community health workers who act as *Case Manager Extenders* who assist the member in navigating their healthcare needs and connect them to community-based resources, education, advocacy and social support.
    - a. Community Connectors are members of the community in which they serve and therefore understand the community’s culture, language and norms. They may assist members with housing, food, clothing, heating, transportation, scheduling appointments, medication refills, obtaining DME and identifying community advocates for eligibility/financial needs.
  - viii. Behavioral Health Team includes Molina employed clinical behavioral health specialists to assist in behavioral health care issues. A board-certified Psychiatrist functions as a Behavioral Health Medical Director and as a resource for the ICM and UM Teams and providers regarding Member’s behavioral health care needs and care plans.
- b. **Member & Provider Contact Center** – Serves as a Member’s initial point of contact with Molina and main source of information about utilizing the Molina MI Health Link benefits and is comprised of the following positions:
    - i. Member Services Representative – Initial point of contact to answer Member questions, assist with benefit information and interpretation, provide information on rights and responsibilities, assist with PCP selection, advocate on Members’ behalf, assist Members with interpretive/translation services, inform and educate Members on available services and benefits, act as liaison in directing calls to other departments when necessary to assist Members.
    - ii. Member Services Managers/Directors – Provide oversight for member services programs, provide and interpret reporting on member services functions, evaluate member services department functions, identify and address opportunities for improvement.
  - c. **Appeals and Grievances Team** that assists Members with information about and processing of appeals and grievances:
    - i. Appeals and Grievances Coordinator – Provide Member with information about appeal and grievance processes, assist Members in processing appeals and grievances, notifies Members of appeals and grievance outcomes in compliance with CMS regulations.
    - ii. Appeals and Grievances Manager – Provide oversight of appeals and grievance processes assuring that CMS regulations are followed, provide and interpret reporting on A&G functions, evaluate A&G department functions, identify and address opportunities for improvement.
  - d. **Quality Improvement Team** that develops, monitors, evaluates and improves the Molina MI Health Link Quality Improvement Program. QI Team is comprised of the following positions:
    - i. QI Specialist – Coordinate implementation of QI Program, gather information for QI Program reporting and evaluations, provide analysis of QI Program components.



- ii. QI Managers/Directors – Development and oversight of QI Program which includes program reporting and evaluation to identify and address opportunities for improvement.
  - iii. HEDIS® Specialist – Gather and validate data for HEDIS® reporting.
  - iv. HEDIS® Manager – Oversight and coordination of data gathering and validation for HEDIS® reporting, provide and interpret HEDIS® reports, provide preventive services missing services report.
- e. **Medical Director Team** has employed board-certified physicians. Medical Directors and Healthcare Services Program Manager - Responsible for oversight of the development, training and integrity of Molina's MI Health Link Healthcare Services and Quality Improvement programs. Resource for Integrated Care Management and Care Access and Monitoring Teams and providers regarding Member's health care needs and care plans. Selects and monitors usage of nationally recognized medical necessity criteria, preventive health guidelines and clinical practice guidelines.
- f. **Behavioral Health Team** has Molina employed health specialists to assist in behavioral health care issues:
  - i. Psychiatrist Medical Director – Responsible for oversight of the development and integrity of behavioral health aspects of Molina's MI Health Link Healthcare Services and QI programs.
  - ii. Resource for ICM and UM Teams and Providers regarding Member's behavioral health care needs and care plans. Develops and monitors usage of behavioral health related medical necessity criteria and clinical practice guidelines.
- g. **Pharmacy Team** has employed pharmacy professionals that administer the Part D benefit and assist in administration of Part B pharmacy benefits.
  - i. Pharmacy Technician – Serves as point of contact for Members with questions about medications, pharmacy processes, and pharmacy appeals and grievances.
  - ii. Pharmacist – Provide authorizations for Part D medications.
  - iii. Provide oversight of pharmacy technician performance, resource for Care Management Teams, other Molina staff and Providers, provide review of post discharge medication changes, review Member medication lists and report data to assure adherence and safety, interact with Members and Providers to discuss medication lists and adherence.
- h. **Healthcare Analytics Team**
  - i. Healthcare Analysts – Assist in gathering information, developing reports, providing analysis for health plan to meet CMS reporting requirements, evaluate the model of care and review operations.
  - ii. Director Healthcare Analytics – Develop predictive modeling programs used to assist in identifying Members at risk for future utilization, oversight of health care reporting and analysis program, oversight of clinical aspects of Part C Quality Reporting, oversight of health care analysts.

- i. **Health Management Team** is a Molina care team that provides multiple services to Molina's MI Health Link Members. This team provides population-based Health Management Programs for low risk Members identified with asthma and depression. The Health Management team also provides a twenty-four/seven (24/7) Nurse Advice Line for Members, outbound post hospital discharge calls and outbound preventive services reminder calls. The Health Management team is comprised of the following positions:
  - i. Medicare Member Outreach Assistant – Make outbound calls related to gathering and giving information regarding Health Management programs, make outbound calls to review whether Member received hospital discharge plan, make referrals to Care/Care Coordinators when Members have questions about their hospital discharge plan, make outbound preventive service reminder calls.
  - ii. Nurse Advice Line Nurse – Receive inbound calls from Members and Providers with questions about medical care and after-hours issues that need to be addressed, give protocol based medical advice to Members, direct after-hours transitions in care.

j. **Interdisciplinary Care Team**

- i. Composition of the Interdisciplinary Care Team

ICT members are determined by Member preferences and inclusion decisions are made collaboratively and with respect to the Member's right to self-direct care.

Family Members and caregiver participation is encouraged and promoted, with the Member's permission. Members are educated during the assessment process on how to access the ICT and the Care Coordinator provides invitations either verbally or in writing to scheduled ICT meetings. The Member can opt out of the care team and/or choose to limit the role of their caregivers, or any other Provider or members of the care team.

The ICT is typically composed of:

- Member
- Care Giver
- PCP, Nurse Practitioner (NP), Physician Assistant (PA)
- Primary specialty physician
- Care Coordinator
- Molina Medical Director
- Molina Social worker
- Molina Behavioral health staff
- Molina Pharmacist

Additional members of the ICT may be added on a case-by-case basis depending on a Member's conditions/health status, health risk assessment results and ICP and Member preference:

- Molina Transitions staff
- Hospitalist
- Molina Community Connectors
- Network Medical Specialty Providers

- Network Home Health Providers
  - Network or County Behavioral Health Providers
  - Care Coordinators from County Agencies
  - LTSS facility or HCBS staff
  - Acute Care Hospital Staff
  - Skilled Nursing Facility Staff
  - Long Term Acute Care Facility Staff
  - Certified Outpatient Rehabilitation Staff
  - Behavioral Health Facility Staff
  - Renal Dialysis Center Staff
  - Out of Network Providers or Facility Staff (until a member's condition or the state of the Molina Network allows safe transfer to network care)
- ii. Adding Members to the ICT will be considered when:
- The Member makes such a request.
  - Member is undergoing a transition in healthcare setting.
  - Member sees multiple medical specialists for care on a regular and ongoing basis.
  - Member has significant complex or unresolved medical diagnoses identified in the member's health risk assessments.
  - Member has significant complex or unresolved mental health or chemical dependency diagnoses.
  - Member has significant complex or unresolved pharmacy needs.
  - Is indicated by health risk assessment or ICP.
- iii. Molina's MI Health Link Members and their caregivers participate in the Molina ICT through many mechanisms including:
- Formal, scheduled, meetings with Molina care coordinators, physicians, pharmacists, social workers and Behavioral Health staff including the PCP and other external Providers of the Member's choosing.
  - Participation in external vendor case review such as home health or nursing home case rounds.
  - Molina staff accompanying the Member to their physician or treatment appointments.
  - Three (3) way discussions with the Member, Molina staff, and any external Provider of home services.
  - Discussions about their health care with their PCP.
  - Discussions about their health care with medical specialists or ancillary Providers who are participating in the Member's care as directed by the Member's PCP.
  - Discussions about their health care with facility staff who are participating in the Member's care as directed by the Member's PCP.
  - During the assessment process by Molina Staff.
  - Discussions about their health care with their assigned Molina Integrated Care Management Team members.

- Discussions with Molina Staff in the course of Health Management programs, preventive health care outreach, Care Transitions program and other post hospital discharge outreach.
- Discussion with Molina Pharmacists about complex medication issues.
- Through the appeals and grievance processes.
- By invitation during case conferences or regular ICT meetings.
- By request of the Member or caregiver to participate in regular ICT meetings.

iv. ICT Operations and Communication

The Molina MI Health Link Member's assigned PCP and the Molina Integrated Care Management Team will provide the majority of the Integrated Care Management in the ICT.

The Member's assigned PCP will be a primary source of assessment information, care plan development and Member interaction within the ICT. The PCP will regularly (frequency depends on the Member's medical conditions and status) assess the Member's medical conditions, develop appropriate care plans, request consultations, evaluations and care from other Providers both within and, when necessary, outside the Molina Network. The Molina Integrated Care Management Team will also provide assessments, care plan development and individualized care goals.

- v. The Integrated Care Management Team will be primarily involved during assessment periods, individualized care plan follow-up, transitions of care settings, routine case management follow-up, and significant changes in the Member's health status. In addition, the Care management team will be involved after referral from other Molina Staff (i.e., Utilization Management staff, Pharmacists), requests for assistance from PCPs, requests for assistance from Members/caregivers.

Transitions in care and significant changes in health status that need follow-up will be detected when services requiring prior authorization are requested by the Member's PCP or other Providers (signaling a transition in care or complex medical need). The PCP and Integrated Care Management Team will decide when additional ICT meetings are necessary and will schedule them on "as needed" basis.

- vi. The ICT will hold regular case conferences for Members with complex health care needs and/or complex transition issues. Members will be chosen for case conferences based on need as identified by the Molina Integrated Care Management Team, when referred by their Provider or at the request of the Member/caregiver. All members of the ICT will be invited to participate in the case conference. Members and/or their caregivers will be invited to participate when feasible. The Molina CM will provide a case conference summary for each Member case discussed. The summary is then reviewed with the Member to ensure that he/she is comfortable with the plan of care. The Care Plan is updated with the Member agreement based on the case conference recommendations to align with Providers' treatment plans. Case

conference summaries will be provided to all applicable ICT members as determined by the Member or their representative upon request.

- vii. Communication between ICT members will be compliant with all applicable HIPAA regulations and will occur in multiple ways including:
- The Molina CM may facilitate sharing of Member's health and LTSS records from ICT Providers before, during, and after transitions in care and during significant changes in the health status of Members, for those health services that require prior authorization, or during the course of regular case management activities.
  - Through consultations among those involved in the Member's care, which include as warranted county BH Care Coordinators, social workers, psychiatrists, home health workers, PCPs, Molina medical directors, pharmacists, dieticians, medical specialists, LTSS Providers and agencies, family members, and other caregivers.
  - Case conference summaries available to all Members and active members of the ICT based on Member preference.
  - Updated ICPs are reviewed and shared with members of the ICT as often as determined by regulatory requirements, with significant changes in health status, or at minimum annually by clinical Molina staff in conjunction with annual Health Risk Assessments.
  - Additional opportunities for review and revision of care plans may exist when ICT members become aware of member transitions in health care settings or significant changes in Member health care status.

- 10. Provider Network** - The Molina MI Health Link maintains a network of Providers and facilities that has a special expertise in the care of Dual Eligible Special Needs Plans Members. The population served in Dual Eligible Special Needs Plans has a disproportionate share of physical and mental/behavioral health disabilities.

Molina's network is designed to provide access to medical care for the Molina MI Health Link population.

The Molina MI Health Link Network has facilities with special expertise to care for its MI HEALTH LINK Members including:

- Acute Care Hospitals
- Long Term Acute Care Facilities
- Skilled Nursing Facilities
- Rehabilitation Facilities (Outpatient and Inpatient)
- Mental/Behavioral Health/Substance Abuse Inpatient Facilities
- Mental/Behavioral Health/Substance Abuse Outpatient Facilities
- Outpatient Surgery Centers (Hospital-based and Freestanding)
- Laboratory Facilities (Hospital-based and Freestanding)
- Radiology Imaging Centers (Hospital-based and Freestanding)
- Renal Dialysis Centers
- Emergency Departments (Hospital-based)
- Urgent Care Centers (Hospital-based and Freestanding)

- Diabetes Education Centers (Hospital-based)

The Molina MI Health Link has a large community-based network of medical and ancillary Providers with many having special expertise to care for the unique needs of its MI HEALTH LINK Members including:

- Primary Care Providers – Internal Medicine, Family Medicine, Geriatric
- Medical Specialists (all medical specialties) including specifically Orthopedics, Neurology, Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, Cardiology, Gastroenterology, Pulmonology, Nephrology, Rheumatology, Radiology and General Surgery.
- Mental/Behavioral Health Providers – Psychiatry, clinical psychology, Masters or above level licensed clinical social work, certified substance abuse specialist.
- Ancillary Providers – Physical therapists, occupational therapists, speech/ language pathology, chiropractic, podiatry.
- Nursing professionals – Registered nurses, nurse providers, nurse educators.

Molina determines Provider and facility licensure and competence through the credentialing process. Molina has a rigorous credentialing process for all Providers and facilities that must be passed in order to join the Molina MI Health Link Network. The Molina Credentialing Team gathers information and performs primary source verification (when appropriate) of training, active licensure, board certification, appropriate facility accreditation (JCAHO or state), malpractice coverage, malpractice history (National Practitioner Provider Data Bank reports), Medicare opt out status, Medicare/Medicaid sanctions, state licensure sanctions.

After credentialing information file is complete and primary source verification obtained the Provider or facility is presented to the Molina Professional Review Committee (PRC). The PRC consists of Molina Network physicians who are in active practice as well as Molina Medical Directors.

The PRC decides on granting network participation status to Providers who have gone through the credentialing process based on criteria including active licensure, board certification (may be waived to assure Member access when there is geographic need or access problems), freedom from sanctions and freedom from an excessive malpractice case history. Providers and facilities that have passed initial credentialing must go through a re-credentialing process every three (3) years utilizing the same criteria as the initial credentialing process. In addition, the PRC performs ongoing monitoring for licensure status, sanctions, Medicare opt out status, Member complaint reports and peer review actions on a monthly basis (or quarterly for some reporting).

The Member's PCP is primarily responsible for determining what medical services a Member needs. For Members receiving treatment primarily through specialist physician, the specialist may be primarily responsible for determining needed medical services. The PCP is assisted by the Molina Care Management Team, medical specialty consultants, ancillary Providers, mental/behavioral health Providers and Members or their caregivers in making these determinations. For Members undergoing transitions in health care settings, facility staff (hospital, SNF, home health, etc.) may also be involved in making recommendations or assisting with access to needed services. For those services that require prior authorization the Molina Care Management Team will assist Providers and Members in determining medical necessity, available network resources (and out of network resources where

necessary). The Molina Care Management portion of the ICT will assist in finding access when difficulties arise for certain services.

A primary way that the Molina Provider Network coordinates with the ICT is via the Molina MI Health Link Prior Authorization process. Molina's MI Health Link Prior Authorization requirements have been designed to identify Members who are experiencing transitions in health care settings or have complex or unresolved health care needs. Molina Members undergoing transitions in health care settings or experiencing complex or unresolved health care issues usually require services that are prior authorized.

This allows Members of the ICT to be made aware of the need for services and any changes in the Member's health status. Part of the process includes obtaining medical records and documenting in QNXT so that the ICT can track those changes. The Provider network will also communicate with the ICT when invited to attend ICT meetings, on an as needed basis by contacting the PCP or the Molina Care Management Team.

Molina's electronic fax system allows for the transition of information from one Provider to another during transitions. Hospital inpatient information is provided to the PCP and/or treating Provider.

The Molina MI Health Link will assure that specialized services are delivered in a timely and quality way by the following:

- Assuring that services requiring prior authorization are processed and that notification is sent as soon as required by the Member's health but no later than timelines outlined in CMS regulations.
- Directing care to credentialed network Providers when appropriate.
- Monitoring access to care reports and grievance reports regarding timely or quality care.

Reports on services delivered will be maintained by the ICT primarily in the PCP medical record. The Molina MI Health Link regularly audits the completeness of PCP medical records utilizing the annual PCP Medical Record Review process.

The Molina Care Management Team will document relevant clinical notes on services and outcomes in QNXT and Clinical Care Advance platforms as appropriate to document significant changes in the Member's health care status or health care setting and to update care plans. A copy of the care plan will be provided to the PCP.

The Molina MI Health Link ICT will be responsible for coordinating service delivery across care settings and Providers. The Member's assigned PCP will be responsible for initiating most transitions of care settings (e.g., hospital or SNF admissions) and referrals to specialty or ancillary Providers. The Molina Care Management Team will assist specifically with Prior Authorization, access issues and coordinating movement from one care setting to the next when Members experience a change in their health care status (e.g., hospital discharge planning).

The Molina MI Health Link will use nationally recognized, evidence based clinical practice guidelines. Molina Medical Directors will select clinical practice guidelines that are relevant to the MI HEALTH LINK population. These clinical practice guidelines will be communicated to Providers utilizing Provider newsletter and the Molina website. Molina will annually measure Provider compliance with important aspects of the clinical practice guidelines and report results to Providers.

- a. **Model of Care Training** - The Molina MI Health Link will provide initial and annual MI HEALTH LINK Model of Care training to all employed and contracted personnel.
- Web based or in person Model of Care training will be offered initially to all Molina employees who have not completed such training and to all new employees. Verification of employee training will be through attendance logs for in person training or certificate of completion of web-based training program.
- All Molina Providers have access to MI HEALTH LINK Model of Care training via the Molina website. Providers may also participate in webinar or in person training sessions on the MI HEALTH LINK Model of Care. Molina will issue a written request to Providers to participate in Model of Care training.
- Due to the very large community-based network of Providers and their participation in multiple MI Health Link s it is anticipated that many Providers will not accept the invitation to complete training. The Molina Provider Services Department will identify key groups that have large numbers of Molina's MI Health Link Members and will conduct specific in person trainings with those groups. The development of model of care training materials will be the responsibility of a designated Molina Services Program Director or Medical Director. Implementation and oversight of completion of training will be the responsibility of a designated Molina Compliance staff (employees) and a designated Molina Provider Services staff (Providers). Employees will be required to complete training or undergo disciplinary action in accordance with Molina policies on completion of required training.
- b. **Communication** - Molina will monitor and coordinate care for Members using an integrated communication system between Members/caregivers, the Molina ICT, other Molina staff, Providers and CMS. Communications structure includes the following elements:
- i. Molina utilizes state of the art telephonic communications systems for telephonic interaction between Molina staff and all other stakeholders with capabilities for call center queues, call center reporting, computer screen sharing (available only to Molina staff) and audio conferencing. Molina maintains Member and Provider services call centers during CMS mandated business hours and a Nurse Advice Line (after hours) that Members and Providers may use for communication and inquiries. Interactive voice response systems may be used for Member assessment data gathering as well as general health care reminders. Electronic fax capability and Molina's ePortal allow for the electronic transmission of data for authorization purposes and transitions between settings. Faxed and electronic information is maintained in the Member's Molina record.
  - ii. For communication of a general nature Molina uses newsletters (Provider and Member), the Molina website and blast fax communications (Providers only). Molina may also use secure web-based interfaces for Member assessment, staff training, Provider inquiries and Provider training.
  - iii. For communication between Members of the ICT, Molina has available audio conferencing and audio video conferencing (Molina staff only).



Most regular and ad-hoc ICT care management meetings will be held on a face-to-face basis with PCPs, other Providers and Member/caregivers joining via audio conferencing as needed.

- iv. Written and fax documentation from Members and Providers (clinical records, appeals, grievances) when received will be routed through secure mail room procedures to appropriate parties for tracking and resolution.
- v. Email communication may be exchanged with Providers and CMS.
- vi. Direct person-to-person communication may also occur between various stakeholders and Molina.
- vii. Molina Quality Improvement Committees and Sub-Committees will meet regularly on a face-to-face basis with Committee Members not able to attend in person attending via audio conferencing.

Tracking and documentation of communications occurs utilizing the following:

- i. The QNXT call tracking system will be used to document all significant telephonic conversations regarding inquiries from Members/caregivers and Providers. All telephonically received grievances will be documented in the QNXT call tracking system. QNXT call tracking allows storage of a record of inquiries and grievances, status reporting and outcomes reporting.
- ii. Communication between ICT Members and/or stakeholders will be documented in QNXT call tracking, QNXT clinical modules or Case Management documentation electronic platform as appropriate. This documentation allows electronic status tracking and archiving of discussions. Written meeting summaries may be used when issues discussed are not easily documented using the electronic means documented above.
- iii. Written and faxed communications when received are stored in an electronic document storage solution and archived to preserve the data. Written documents related to appeals and grievances result in a call tracking entry made in QNXT call tracking when they are received allowing electronic tracking of status and resolution.
- iv. Email communication with stakeholders is archived in the Molina email server.
- v. Direct person-to-person communication will result in a QNXT call tracking entry or a written summary depending on the situation.
- vi. Molina Committee meetings will result in official meeting minutes which will be archived for future reference.

A designated Molina Quality Improvement Director will have responsibility to oversee, monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of the Molina MI Health Link Communication Program.

- c. **Performance and Health Outcomes Measurement** - Molina collects, analyzes reports and acts on data evaluating the Model of Care. To evaluate the Model of Care, Molina may collect data from multiple sources including:
  - i. Administrative (demographics, call center data)
  - ii. Authorizations
  - iii. CAHPS®
  - iv. Call Tracking
  - v. Claims

- vi. Clinical Care Advance (Care/Case/Disease Management Program data)
- vii. Encounters
- viii. HEDIS®
- ix. HOS
- x. Medical Record Reviews
- xi. Pharmacy
- xii. Provider Access Survey
- xiii. Provider Satisfaction Survey
- xiv. Risk Assessments
- xv. Utilization
- xvi. Chronic Disease Self-Management Plan (CDSMP) Assessment Results
- xvii. Case Management Satisfaction Survey

Molina will use internal Quality Improvement Specialists, External Survey Vendors and Healthcare Analysts to collect analyze and report on the above data using manual and electronic analysis. Data analyzed and reported on will demonstrate the following:

- a. Improved Member access to services and benefits.
- b. Improved health status.
- c. Adequate service delivery processes.
- d. Use of evidence based clinical practice guidelines for management of chronic conditions.
- e. Participation by Members/caregivers and ICT Members in care planning.
- f. Utilization of supplementary benefits.
- g. Member use of communication mechanisms.
- h. Satisfaction with Molina's Case Management Program.

Molina will submit CMS required public reporting data including:

- a. HEDIS® Data
- b. MI HEALTH LINK Structure and Process Measures
- c. Health Outcomes Survey
- d. CAHPS® Survey

Molina will submit CMS required reporting data including some of the following:

- a. Audits of health information for accuracy and appropriateness.
- b. Member/caregiver education for frequency and appropriateness.
- c. Clinical outcomes.
- d. Mental/Behavioral health/psychiatric services utilization rates.
- e. Complaints, grievances, services and benefits denials.
- f. Disease management indicators.
- g. Disease management referrals for timeliness and appropriateness.
- h. Emergency room utilization rates.
- i. Enrollment/disenrollment rates.
- j. Evidence-based clinical guidelines or protocols utilization rates.
- k. Fall and injury occurrences.
- l. Facilitation of Member developing advance directives/health proxy.
- m. Functional/ADLs status/deficits.
- n. Home meal delivery service utilization rates.
- o. Hospice referral and utilization rates.
- p. Hospital admissions/readmissions.

- q. Hospital discharge outreach and follow-up rates.
- r. Immunization rates.
- s. Medication compliance/utilization rates.
- t. Medication errors/adverse drug events.
- u. Medication therapy management effectiveness.
- v. Mortality reviews.
- w. Pain and symptoms management effectiveness.
- x. Policies and procedures for effectiveness and staff compliance.
- y. Preventive programs utilization rates (e.g., smoking cessation).
- z. Preventive screening rates.
- aa. Primary care visit utilization rates.
- bb. Satisfaction surveys for Members/caregivers.
- cc. Satisfaction surveys for Provider network.
- dd. Screening for depression and drug/alcohol abuse.
- ee. Screening for elder/physical/sexual abuse.
- ff. Skilled nursing facility placement/readmission rates.
- gg. Skilled nursing facility level of care Members living in the community having admissions/readmissions to skilled nursing facilities.
- hh. Urinary incontinence rates.
- ii. Wellness program utilization rates.

Molina will use the above data collection, analysis and reporting to develop a comprehensive evaluation of the effectiveness of the Molina Model of Care. The evaluation will include identifying and acting on opportunities to improve the program. A designated Molina Quality Improvement Director and/or Medical Director will have responsibility for monitoring and evaluating the Molina MI HEALTH LINK Model of Care. Molina will notify stakeholders of improvements to the Model of Care by posting the Model of Care Evaluation on its website.

- d. **Care Management for the Most Vulnerable Subpopulations** - The Molina MI HEALTH LINK will identify vulnerable sub-populations including frail/disabled, multiple chronic conditions, End Stage Renal Disease (ESRD) and those nearing end of life by the following mechanisms:
  - a. Risk assessments;
  - b. Home visits;
  - c. Predictive modeling;
  - d. Claims data;
  - e. Pharmacy data;
  - f. Care/case/disease management activities;
  - g. Self-referrals by Members/caregivers;
  - h. Referrals from Member Services; and/or,
  - i. Referrals from Providers.

Specific add-on services of most use to vulnerable sub-populations include:

- a. Case management;
- b. Disease management; and/or,
- c. Provider home visits.

The needs of the most vulnerable population will be met within the Molina MI HEALTH LINK Model of Care by early identification and higher stratification/priority in Molina programs including Disease Management and Case Management. These Members will be managed more aggressively and more frequently by the ICT. This will assure that they are receiving all necessary services and that they have adequate care plans before, during and after transitions in health care settings or changes in health care status.

**Provider Network** - The Molina MI Health Link maintains a network of Providers and facilities that has a special expertise in the care of Dual Eligible Special Needs Plans Members. The population served in Dual Eligible Special Needs Plans has a disproportionate share of physical and mental/behavioral health disabilities. Molina's network is designed to provide access to medical care for the Molina MI Health Link population.

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The Molina MI Health Link will use nationally recognized, evidence based clinical practice guidelines. Molina Medical Directors will select clinical practice guidelines that are relevant to the MI HEALTH LINK population. These clinical practice guidelines will be communicated to Providers utilizing Provider newsletter and the Molina website. Molina will annually measure Provider compliance with important aspects of the clinical practice guidelines and report results to Providers.

11. **Model of Care Training** - The Molina MI Health Link will provide initial and annual MI HEALTH LINK Model of Care training to all employed and contracted personnel. Web based or in person Model of Care training will be offered initially to all Molina employees who have not completed such training and to all new employees. Verification of employee training will be through attendance logs for in person training or certificate of completion of web-based training program.

All Molina Providers have access to MI HEALTH LINK Model of Care training via the Molina website. Providers may also participate in webinar or in person training sessions on the MI HEALTH LINK Model of Care. Molina will issue a written request to Providers to participate in Model of Care training. Due to the very large community-based network of Providers and their participation in multiple MI Health Link s it is anticipated that many Providers will not accept the invitation to complete training. The Molina Provider Services Department will identify key groups that have large numbers of Molina's MI Health Link Members and will conduct specific in person trainings with those groups. The development of model of care training materials will be the responsibility of a designated Molina Services Program Director or Medical Director.

Implementation and oversight of completion of training will be the responsibility of a designated Molina Compliance staff (employees) and a designated Molina Provider Services staff (Providers). Employees will be required to complete training or undergo disciplinary action in accordance with Molina policies on completion of required training.

12. **Communication** - Molina will monitor and coordinate care for Members using an integrated communication system between Members/caregivers, the Molina ICT, other Molina staff, Providers and CMS. Communications structure includes the following elements:
  - a. Molina utilizes state of the art telephonic communications systems for telephonic interaction between Molina staff and all other stakeholders with capabilities for call center queues, call center reporting, computer screen sharing (available only to Molina staff) and audio conferencing. Molina maintains Member and Provider services call centers during CMS mandated business hours and a Nurse Advice Line (after hours) that Members and Providers may use for communication and inquiries. Interactive voice response systems may be used for Member assessment data gathering as well as general health care reminders. Electronic fax capability and Molina's ePortal allow for the electronic transmission of data for authorization purposes and transitions between settings. Faxed and electronic information is maintained in the Member's Molina record.
  - b. For communication of a general nature Molina uses newsletters (Provider and Member), the Molina website and blast fax communications (Providers only).

Molina may also use secure web-based interfaces for Member assessment, staff training, Provider inquiries and Provider training.
  - c. For communication between Members of the ICT, Molina has available audio conferencing and audio video conferencing (Molina staff only). Most regular and ad-hoc ICT care management meetings will be held on a face-to-face basis with PCPs, other Providers and Member/caregivers joining via audio conferencing as needed.
  - d. Written and fax documentation from Members and Providers (clinical records, appeals, grievances) when received will be routed through secure mail room procedures to appropriate parties for tracking and resolution.
  - e. Email communication may be exchanged with Providers and CMS.
  - f. Direct person-to-person communication may also occur between various stakeholders and Molina.
  - g. Molina Quality Improvement Committees and Sub-Committees will meet regularly on a face-to-face basis with Committee Members not able to attend in person attending via audio conferencing.

Tracking and documentation of communications occurs utilizing the following:

- a. The QNXT call tracking system will be used to document all significant telephonic conversations regarding inquiries from Members/caregivers and Providers.

All telephonically received grievances will be documented in the QNXT call tracking system. QNXT call tracking allows storage of a record of inquiries and grievances, status reporting and outcomes reporting.

- b. Communication between ICT Members and/or stakeholders will be documented in QNXT call tracking, QNXT clinical modules or Case Management documentation electronic platform as appropriate. This documentation allows electronic status tracking and archiving of discussions. Written meeting summaries may be used when issues discussed are not easily documented using the electronic means documented above.
- c. Written and faxed communications when received are stored in an electronic document storage solution and archived to preserve the data. Written documents related to appeals and grievances result in a call tracking entry made in QNXT call tracking when they are received allowing electronic tracking of status and resolution.
- d. Email communication with stakeholders is archived in the Molina email server.
- e. Direct person-to-person communication will result in a QNXT call tracking entry or a written summary depending on the situation.
- f. Molina Committee meetings will result in official meeting minutes which will be archived for future reference.
- g. A designated Molina Quality Improvement Director will have responsibility to oversee, monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of the Molina MI Health Link Communication Program.

**13. Performance and Health Outcomes Measurement** - Molina collects, analyzes reports and acts on data evaluating the Model of Care. To evaluate the Model of Care, Molina may collect data from multiple sources including:

- a. Administrative (demographics, call center data)
- b. Authorizations
- c. CAHPS®
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- e. Claims
- f. Clinical Care Advance (Care/Case/Disease Management Program data)
- g. Encounters
- h. HEDIS®
- i. HOS
- j. Medical Record Reviews
- k. Pharmacy
- l. Provider Access Survey
- m. Provider Satisfaction Survey
- n. Risk Assessments
- o. Utilization
- p. Chronic Disease Self-Management Plan (CDSMP) Assessment Results
- q. Case Management Satisfaction Survey

Molina will use internal Quality Improvement Specialists, External Survey Vendors and Healthcare Analysts to collect analyze and report on the above data using manual and electronic analysis. Data analyzed and reported on will demonstrate the following:

- a. Improved Member access to services and benefits.
- b. Improved health status.
- c. Adequate service delivery processes.



- d. Use of evidence based clinical practice guidelines for management of chronic conditions.
- e. Participation by Members/caregivers and ICT Members in care planning.
- f. Utilization of supplementary benefits.
- g. Member use of communication mechanisms.
- h. Satisfaction with Molina's Case Management Program.

Molina will submit CMS required public reporting data including:

- a. HEDIS® Data
- b. MI HEALTH LINK Structure and Process Measures
- c. Health Outcomes Survey
- d. CAHPS® Survey

Molina will submit CMS required reporting data including some of the following:

- a. Audits of health information for accuracy and appropriateness.
- b. Member/caregiver education for frequency and appropriateness.
- d. Clinical outcomes.
- e. Mental/Behavioral health/psychiatric services utilization rates.
- f. Complaints, grievances, services and benefits denials.
- g. Disease management indicators.
- h. Disease management referrals for timeliness and appropriateness.
- i. Emergency room utilization rates.
- j. Enrollment/disenrollment rates.
- k. Evidence-based clinical guidelines or protocols utilization rates.
- l. Fall and injury occurrences.
- m. Facilitation of Member developing advance directives/health proxy.
- n. Functional/ADLs status/deficits.
- o. Home meal delivery service utilization rates.
- p. Hospice referral and utilization rates.
- q. Hospital admissions/readmissions.
- r. Hospital discharge outreach and follow-up rates.
- s. Immunization rates.
- t. Medication compliance/utilization rates.
- u. Medication errors/adverse drug events.
- v. Medication therapy management effectiveness.
- w. Mortality reviews.
- x. Pain and symptoms management effectiveness.
- y. Policies and procedures for effectiveness and staff compliance.
- z. Preventive programs utilization rates (e.g., smoking cessation).
- aa. Preventive screening rates.
- bb. Primary care visit utilization rates.
- cc. Satisfaction surveys for Members/caregivers.
- dd. Satisfaction surveys for Provider network.
- ee. Screening for depression and drug/alcohol abuse.
- ff. Screening for elder/physical/sexual abuse.
- gg. Skilled nursing facility placement/readmission rates.
- hh. Skilled nursing facility level of care Members living in the community having admissions/readmissions to skilled nursing facilities.

- ii. Urinary incontinence rates.
- jj. Wellness program utilization rates.

Molina will use the above data collection, analysis and reporting to develop a comprehensive evaluation of the effectiveness of the Molina Model of Care. The evaluation will include identifying and acting on opportunities to improve the program. A designated Molina Quality Improvement Director and/or Medical Director will have responsibility for monitoring and evaluating the Molina MI HEALTH LINK Model of Care. Molina will notify stakeholders of improvements to the Model of Care by posting the Model of Care Evaluation on its website.

**14. Care Management for the Most Vulnerable Subpopulations** - The Molina MI HEALTH LINK will identify vulnerable sub-populations including frail/disabled, multiple chronic conditions, End Stage Renal Disease (ESRD) and those nearing end of life by the following mechanisms:

- a. Risk assessments;
- b. Home visits;
- c. Predictive modeling;
- b. Claims data;
- c. Pharmacy data;
- d. Care/case/disease management activities;
- e. Self-referrals by Members/caregivers;
- f. Referrals from Member Services; and/or,
- g. Referrals from Providers.

Specific add-on services of most use to vulnerable sub-populations include:

- a. Case management;
- b. Disease management; and/or,
- c. Provider home visits.

The needs of the most vulnerable population will be met within the Molina MI HEALTH LINK Model of Care by early identification and higher stratification/priority in Molina programs including Disease Management and Case Management. These Members will be managed more aggressively and more frequently by the ICT. This will assure that they are receiving all necessary services and that they have adequate care plans before, during and after transitions in health care settings or changes in health care status.

## **9. Member Rights and Responsibilities**

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Providers must comply with the rights and responsibilities of Molina Members as outlined in the Molina Evidence of Coverage (EOC). The EOC that is provided to Members annually is hereby incorporated into this Provider Manual. The most current EOC can be accessed via the following link: [www.MolinaHealthcare.com/Medicare/EOC](http://www.MolinaHealthcare.com/Medicare/EOC). Refer to Chapter 8 which is titled “Your Rights and Responsibilities”.

State and Federal Law requires that health care Providers and health care facilities recognize Member rights while Members are receiving medical care and that Members respect the health care Provider’s or health care facility’s right to expect certain behavior on the part of the Member.

For additional information, please contact Molina at (800) 665-3072, seven (7) days a week, 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m., local time. TTY/TDD users, please call 711.

### **Second Opinions**

If a Member does not agree with the Provider’s plan of care, the Member has the right to request, at no cost, a second opinion from another Provider. Members should call Member Services to find out how to get a second opinion. Second opinions may require Prior Authorization.

## **10. Provider Responsibilities**

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### **Nondiscrimination of Healthcare Service Delivery**

Molina complies with the guidance set forth in the final rule for Section 1557 of the Affordable Care Act, which includes notification of nondiscrimination and instructions for accessing language services in all significant Member materials, physical locations that serve our Members, and all Molina MMP website home pages. All Providers who join the Molina Provider network must also comply with the provisions and guidance set forth by the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) and the Office for Civil Rights (OCR). Molina requires Providers to deliver services to Molina Members without regard to race, color, national origin, age, disability, religion, genetic information, military status, ancestry, health status, sex, or need for health services. This includes gender identity, sexual orientation, pregnancy and sex stereotyping. Providers must post a non-discrimination notification in a conspicuous location of their office along with translated non-English taglines in the top fifteen (15) languages spoken in the State to ensure Molina Members understand their rights, how to access language services, and the process to file a complaint if they believe discrimination has occurred.

Additionally, Participating Providers or contracted medical groups/IPAs may not limit their practices because of a Member's medical (physical or mental) condition or the expectation for the need of frequent or high cost care. Providers must not discriminate against enrollees based on their payment status and cannot refuse to serve members because they receive assistance with Medicare cost sharing from a State Medicaid Program.

### **Section 1557 Investigations**

All Molina Providers shall disclose all investigations conducted pursuant to Section 1557 of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act to Molina's Civil Rights Coordinator.

Molina Healthcare  
Civil Rights Coordinator  
200 Oceangate, Suite 100  
Long Beach, CA 90802

**Toll Free:** (866) 606-3889

**TTY/TDD:** 711

**On Line:** <https://molinahealthcare.AlertLine.com>

**Email:** [civil.rights@MolinaHealthcare.com](mailto:civil.rights@MolinaHealthcare.com)

### **Facilities, Equipment and Personnel**

The Provider's facilities, equipment, personnel and administrative services must be at a level and quality necessary to perform duties and responsibilities to meet all applicable legal requirements including the accessibility requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

## **Provider Data Accuracy and Validation**

It is important for Providers to ensure Molina has accurate practice and business information. Accurate information allows us to better support and serve our Provider Network and Members. Maintaining an accurate and current Provider Directory is a State and Federal regulatory requirement, as well as an NCQA® required element. Invalid information can negatively impact Member access to care, Member assignments and referrals. Additionally, current information is critical for timely and accurate claims processing.

Providers must validate the Provider Online Directory (POD) information at least quarterly for correctness and completeness. Providers must notify Molina in writing (some changes can be made online) at least thirty (30) days in advance, when possible, of changes such as, but not limited to:

- Change in office location(s), office hours, phone, fax, or email
- Addition or closure of office location(s)
- Addition or termination of a Provider (within an existing clinic/practice)
- Change in Tax ID and/or NPI
- Opening or closing your practice to new patients (PCPs only)
- Any other information that may impact Member access to care

Please visit our Provider Online Directory at <https://providersearch.molinahealthcare.com> to validate and correct most of your information.

A convenient Provider web form can be found on the POD and additionally on the Provider Portal at <https://provider.MolinaHealthcare.com>. You can also notify your Provider Services Representative if your information needs to be updated or corrected.

**Note:** Some changes may impact credentialing. Providers are required to notify Molina of changes to credentialing information in accordance with the requirements outlined in the Credentialing section of this Provider Manual.

Molina is required to audit and validate our Provider Network data and Provider Directories on a routine basis. As part of our validation efforts, we may reach out to our Network of Providers through various methods, such as: letters, phone campaigns, face-to-face contact, fax and fax-back verification, etc. Providers are required to provide timely responses to such communications.

## **Molina Electronic Solutions Requirements**

Molina requires Participating Providers to utilize electronic solutions and tools whenever possible.

Molina requires all contracted Providers to participate in and comply with Molina's Electronic Solution Requirements, which include, but are not limited to, electronic submission of prior authorization requests, prior authorization status inquiries, health plan access to electronic medical records (EMR), electronic Claims submission, electronic fund transfers (EFT), electronic remittance advice (ERA), electronic Claims Appeal and registration for and use of Molina's Provider Web Portal (Provider Portal).

Electronic Claims include Claims submitted via a clearinghouse using the EDI process and claims submitted through the Molina Provider Portal.

Any Provider entering the network as a Contracted Provider will be required to comply with Molina's Electronic Solution Policy by registering for Molina's Provider Web Portal and submitting electronic claims upon entry into the network. Providers entering the network as a Contracted Provider must enroll for EFT/ERA payments within thirty (30) days of entering the Molina network.

Molina is committed to complying with all HIPAA Transactions, Code Sets, and Identifiers) (TCI) standards. Providers must comply with all HIPAA requirements when using electronic solutions with Molina. Providers must obtain a National Provider Identifier (NPI) and use their NPI in HIPAA Transactions, including Claims submitted to Molina. Providers may obtain additional information by visiting Molina's [HIPAA Resource Center](http://www.MolinaHealthcare.com) located on our website at [www.MolinaHealthcare.com](http://www.MolinaHealthcare.com).

If a Provider does not comply with Molina's Electronic Solution Requirements, the Provider's claim will be denied.

### **Electronic Solutions/Tools Available to Providers**

- Electronic Tools/Solutions available to Molina Providers include:
- Electronic Claims Submission Options
- Electronic Payment (Electronic Funds Transfer) with Electronic Remittance Advice (ERA) Provider Web Portal

### **Electronic Claims Submission Requirement**

Molina requires Participating Providers to submit claims electronically. Electronic claims submission provides significant benefits to the Provider including:

- Promotes HIPAA compliance
- Helps to reduce operational costs associated with paper Claims (printing, postage, etc.)
- Increases accuracy of data and efficient information delivery
- Reduces Claim delays since errors can be corrected and resubmitted electronically
- Eliminates mailing time and Claims

Molina offers the following electronic Claims submission options:

- Submit Claims directly to Molina Healthcare of Michigan, Inc. via the Provider Portal. See our Provider Web Portal Quick Reference Guide at <https://provider.MolinaHealthcare.com> or contact your Provider Services Representative for registration and Claims submission guidance.
- Submit Claims to Molina through your EDI clearinghouse using Payer ID 38334, refer to our website [www.MolinaHealthcare.com](http://www.MolinaHealthcare.com) for additional information.

While both options are embraced by Molina, Providers submitting Claims via Molina's Provider Portal (available to all Providers at no cost) offer a number of Claims processing benefits beyond the possible cost savings achieved from the reduction of high-cost paper Claims.

Electronic Claims submitting benefits include:

- Ability to add attachments to Claims
- Submit corrected Claims
- Easily and quickly void Claims
- Check Claims status

- Receive timely notification of a change in status for a particular Claim
- Ability to Save incomplete/un-submitted Claims
- Create/Manage Claim Templates

For more information on EDI Claims submission, see the Claims and Compensation section of this Provider Manual.

### **Electronic Payment (EFT/ERA) Requirement**

Participating Providers are strongly encouraged to enroll for Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) and Electronic Remittance Advice (ERA). Providers enrolled in EFT payments will automatically receive ERAs as well. EFT/ERA services allow Providers to reduce paperwork, the ability to have searchable ERAs, and to receive payment and ERA access faster than the paper check and RA processes. There is no cost to the Provider for EFT enrollment, and Providers are not required to be in- network to enroll. Molina uses a vendor to facilitate the HIPAA compliant EFT payment and ERA delivery.

Below is the link to register with Change Healthcare ProviderNet to receive electronic payments and remittance advices. Additional instructions on how to register are available under the EDI/ERA/EFT tab on Molina's website: [www.MolinaHealthcare.com](http://www.MolinaHealthcare.com).

Any questions during this process should be directed to Change Healthcare Provider Services at [wco.provider.registration@changehealthcare.com](mailto:wco.provider.registration@changehealthcare.com) or (877) 389-1160.

### **Provider Web Portal**

Providers are strongly encouraged to register for and utilize Molina's Provider Portal. The Provider Portal is an easy to use, online tool available to all of our Providers at **no cost**. The Provider Portal offers the following functionality:

- Verify and print member eligibility – As well as view benefits, covered services and Member Health record.
- Member Roster – View a list of assigned membership for PCP(s)
- Claims Functions
  - Professional and Institutional Claims (individual or multiple claims)
  - Receive notification of Claims status change
  - Correct Claims
  - Void Claims
  - Add attachments to previously submitted Claims
  - Check Claims status
  - Export Claims reports
  - Create and Manage Claim Templates
  - Open Saved Claims
- Prior Authorizations/Service Requests
  - Create and submit Service/Prior Authorization Requests
  - Check status of Service/Authorization Requests
  - Receive notification of change in status of Service/Authorization Requests
  - Create Service Request/Authorization Templates
- View HEDIS® Scores and compare to national benchmarks
- Appeals

- Create and submit a Claim Appeal
- Add Appeal attachments to Appeal
- Receive Email Confirmation

**Third Party Billers can access and utilize all Claim Functions.** Third Party Billers no longer have to phone in to get Claim updates and to make changes. All Claim functionalities are now available for Third Party Billers (on-shore) online at Molina's Provider Portal.

### **Balance Billing**

Providers contracted with Molina cannot bill the Member for any covered benefits. The Provider is responsible for verifying eligibility and obtaining approval for those services that require prior authorization.

Providers may not charge Members fees for covered services.

Providers agree that under no circumstance shall a Member be liable to the Provider for any sums owed by Molina to the Provider. Balance billing a Molina Member for services covered by Molina is prohibited. This includes asking the Member to pay the difference between the discounted and negotiated fees, and the Provider's usual and customary fees.

For additional information please refer to the Compliance and Claims and Compensation sections of this Provider Manual.

### **Member Rights and Responsibilities**

Providers are required to comply with the Member Rights and Responsibilities as outlined in Member materials (such as Member Handbooks).

For additional information please refer to the Member Rights and Responsibilities section of this Provider Manual

### **Member Information and Marketing**

Any written informational or marketing materials directed to Molina Members must be developed and distributed in a manner compliant with all State and Federal Laws and regulations and be approved by Molina prior to use. Please contact your Provider Services Representative for information and review of proposed materials.

### **Member Eligibility Verification**

Possession of a Molina ID Card does not guarantee Member eligibility or coverage. A Provider must verify a recipient's eligibility each time the recipient presents to their office for services. Payment for services rendered is based on enrollment and benefit eligibility.

For additional information please refer to the Eligibility and Enrollment section of this Provider Manual.



## **Healthcare Services (Utilization Management and Case Management)**

Providers are required to participate in and comply with Molina's Utilization Management and Care Management programs, including all policies and procedures regarding Molina's facility admission, prior authorization, and Medical Necessity review determination procedures. Providers will also cooperate with Molina in audits to identify, confirm, and/or assess utilization levels of covered services.

For additional information please refer to the Healthcare Services section of this Provider Manual.

## **In Office Laboratory Tests**

Molina Healthcare's policies allow only certain lab tests to be performed in a physician's office regardless of the line of business.

All other lab testing must be referred to an In-Network Laboratory Provider that is a certified, full service laboratory, offering a comprehensive test menu that includes routine, complex, drug, genetic testing and pathology. A list of those lab services that are allowed to be performed in the physician's office is found on the Molina website at [www.MolinaHealthcare.com](http://www.MolinaHealthcare.com).

For more information about In-Network Laboratory Providers, please consult the Molina Provider Directory (<https://providersearch.MolinaHealthcare.com/>). For testing available through In-Network Laboratory Providers. For a list of In-Network Laboratory Provider patient services centers, please reach out to the In-Network Laboratory Provider.

Specimen collection is allowed in a physician's office and shall be compensated in accordance with your agreement with Molina Healthcare and applicable state and federal billing and payment rules and regulations.

**Claims for tests performed in the physician office, but not on Molina's list of allowed in-office laboratory tests will be denied.**

## **Referrals**

A referral is necessary when a Provider determines Medically Necessary services are beyond the scope of the PCP's practice or it is necessary to consult or obtain services from other in-network specialty health professionals (please refer to the Healthcare Services section of this Manual).

Information is to be exchanged between the PCP and Specialist to coordinate care of the patient to ensure continuity of care.

Providers need to document referrals that are made in the patient's medical record. Documentation needs to include the specialty, services requested, and diagnosis for which the referral is being made.

Providers should direct Members to health professionals, hospitals, laboratories, and other facilities and Providers which are contracted and credentialed (if applicable) with Molina MI Health Link except in the case of Emergency Services. There may be circumstances in which referrals may require an out of network Provider; prior authorization will be required from Molina except in the case of Emergency Services.

PCPs are able to refer a Member to an in-network specialist for consultation and treatment without a referral request to Molina.

### **Admissions**

Providers are required to comply with Molina's facility admission, prior authorization, and Medical Necessity review determination procedures.

### **Participation in Utilization Review and Care Management Programs**

Providers are required to participate in and comply with Molina's utilization review and Care Management programs, including all policies and procedures regarding prior authorizations. This includes the use of an electronic solution for the submission of documentation required for medical review and decision making. Providers will also cooperate with Molina in audits to identify, confirm, and/or assess utilization levels of covered services.

### **Continuity and Coordination of Provider Communication**

Molina stresses the importance of timely communication between Providers involved in a Member's care. This is especially critical between specialists, including behavioral health Providers, and the Member's PCP. Information should be shared in such a manner as to facilitate communication of urgent needs or significant findings. Each year, we review feedback received from PCPs and specialists and facilities to determine if the level of satisfaction with the information provided across settings or between Providers is sufficient.

### **Treatment Alternatives and Communication with Members**

Molina endorses open Provider-Member communication regarding appropriate treatment alternatives and any follow up care. Molina promotes open discussion between Provider and Members regarding Medically Necessary or appropriate patient care, regardless of covered benefits limitations. Providers are free to communicate any and all treatment options to Members regardless of benefit coverage limitations. Providers are also encouraged to promote and facilitate training in self-care and other measures Members may take to promote their own health.

### **Pharmacy Program**

Providers are required to adhere to Molina's drug formularies and prescription policies. Additional information regarding Molina's pharmacy program is available in the Medicare D section of this Provider Manual.

### **Pain Safety Initiative (PSI) Resources**

Safe and appropriate opioid prescribing and utilization is a priority for all of us in health care. Molina requires Providers to adhere to Molina's drug formularies and prescription policies designed to prevent abuse or misuse of high-risk chronic pain medication. Providers are expected to offer additional education and support to Members regarding Opioid and pain safety as needed.

Molina is dedicated to ensuring Providers are equipped with additional resources, which can be found on the Molina Healthcare Provider website. Providers may access additional Opioid-safety and Substance Use Disorder resources at [www.MolinaHealthcare.com](http://www.MolinaHealthcare.com) under the Health Resource

tab. Please consult with your Provider Services representative or reference the medication formulary for more information on Molina's Pain Safety Initiatives.

### **Participation in Quality Programs**

Providers are expected to participate in Molina's Quality Programs and collaborate with Molina in conducting peer review and audits of care rendered by Providers. Such participation includes, but is not limited to:

- Access to Care Standards
- Site and Medical Record-Keeping Practice Reviews
- Delivery of Patient Care Information

Additional information regarding Quality Programs is available in the Quality section of this Provider Manual.

### **Compliance**

Providers must comply with all State and Federal Laws and regulations related to the care and management of Molina Members.

### **Confidentiality of Member Protected Health Information (PHI) and HIPAA Transactions**

Molina requires that Providers respect the privacy of Molina Members (including Molina Members who are not patients of the Provider) and comply with all applicable Laws and regulations regarding the privacy of patient and Member PHI. Please refer to the Compliance section of this Provider Manual for additional information.

### **Participation in Grievance and Appeals Programs**

Providers are required to participate in Molina's Grievance Program and cooperate with Molina in identifying, processing, and promptly resolving all Member complaints, grievances, or inquiries.

If a Member has a complaint regarding a Provider, the Provider will participate in the investigation of the grievance. If a Member appeals, the Provider will participate by providing medical records or statement if needed. This includes the maintenance and retention of Member records for a period of not less than ten (10) years and retained further if the records are under review or audit until such time that the review or audit is complete.

Please refer to the Complaints, Grievance and Appeals Process section of this Manual for additional information regarding this program.

### **Participation in Credentialing**

Providers are required to participate in Molina's credentialing and re-credentialing process and will satisfy, throughout the term of their contract, all credentialing and re-credentialing criteria established by Molina and applicable accreditation, State and Federal requirements.

This includes providing prompt responses to Molina's requests for information related to the credentialing or re-credentialing process.

Providers must notify Molina no less than thirty (30) days in advance when they relocate or open an additional office. When this notification is received, a site review of the new office may be conducted before the Provider's recredentialing date.

More information about Molina's Credentialing program, including Policies and Procedures is available in the Credentialing section of this Provider Manual.

### **Delegation**

Delegated entities must comply with the terms and conditions outlined in Molina's Delegation Policies and Delegated Services Addendum. Please see the Delegation section of this Provider Manual for more information about Molina's delegation requirements and delegation oversight

## **11. Cultural Competency and Linguistic Services**

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### **Background**

Molina works to ensure all Members receive culturally competent care across the service continuum to reduce health disparities and improve health outcomes. The Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate Services in Health Care (CLAS) standards published by the US Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), Office of Minority Health (OMH) guide the activities to deliver culturally competent services. Molina complies with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Section 1557 of the Affordable Care Act (ACA) and other regulatory/contract requirements. Compliance ensures the provision of linguistic access and disability-related access to all Members, including those with Limited English Proficiency (LEP) and Members who are deaf, hard of hearing, non-verbal, have speech impairment, or have an intellectual disability. Policies and procedures address how individuals and systems within the organization will effectively provide services to people of all cultures, races, ethnic backgrounds and religions as well as those with disabilities in a manner that recognizes values, affirms and respects the worth of the individuals and protects and preserves the dignity of each.

Additional information on cultural competency and linguistic services is available at [www.MolinaHealthcare.com](http://www.MolinaHealthcare.com), from your local Provider Services Representative and by calling Molina Provider Services at (855) 322-4077.

### **Nondiscrimination of Healthcare Service Delivery**

Molina complies with the guidance set forth in the final rule for Section 1557 of the Affordable Care Act, which includes notification of nondiscrimination and instructions for accessing language services in all significant Member materials, physical locations that serve our Members, and all Molina websites. All Providers who join the Molina Provider network must also comply with the provisions and guidance set forth by the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) and the Office for Civil Rights (OCR). Molina requires Providers to deliver services to Molina Members without regard to race, color, national origin, age, disability or sex. This includes gender identity, sexual orientation, pregnancy and sex stereotyping. Providers must post a non-discrimination notification in a conspicuous location of their office along with translated non-English taglines in the top fifteen (15) languages spoken in the state to ensure Molina Members understand their rights, how to access language services, and the process to file a complaint if they believe discrimination has occurred.

Additionally, Participating Providers or contracted medical groups/Independent Physician Associations (IPA's) may not limit their practices because of a Member's medical (physical or mental) condition or the expectation for the need of frequent or high cost-care. Providers must not discriminate against enrollees based on their payment status and cannot refuse to serve Members because they receive assistance with Medicare cost sharing from a State Medicaid Program.

Providers can refer Molina Members who are complaining of discrimination to the Molina Civil Rights Coordinator at: (866) 606-3889, or TTY, 711.

Members can also email the complaint to [civil.rights@MolinaHealthcare.com](mailto:civil.rights@MolinaHealthcare.com).

Members can mail their complaint to Molina at:

Civil Rights Coordinator  
200 Oceangate  
Long Beach, CA 90802

Members can also file a civil rights complaint with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, OCR. Complaint forms are available at <https://www.hhs.gov/ocr/complaints/index.html>. The form can be mailed to:

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services  
200 Independence Avenue, SW  
Room 509F, HHH Building  
Washington, D.C. 20201

Members can also send it to a website through the Office for Civil Rights Complaint Portal, available at <https://ocrportal.hhs.gov/ocr/smartscreen/main.jsf>

If you or a Molina Member needs help, call (800) 368-1019; TTY (800) 537-7697.

Should you or a Molina Member need more information, you can refer to the Health and Human Services website for more information: <https://www.federalregister.gov/d/2016-11458>

### **Cultural Competency**

Molina is committed to reducing health care disparities. Training employees, Providers and their staffs, and quality monitoring are the cornerstones of successful culturally competent service delivery. Molina integrates Cultural Competency training into the overall Provider training and quality monitoring programs. An integrated quality approach intends to enhance the way people think about our Members, service delivery and program development so that cultural competency becomes a part of everyday thinking.

### **Provider and Community Training**

Molina offers educational opportunities in cultural competency concepts for Providers, their staff, and Community Based Organizations. Molina conducts Provider training during Provider orientation with annual reinforcement training offered through Provider Services or online/webinar training modules.

Training modules, delivered through a variety of methods, include:

1. Written materials;
2. On-site cultural competency training;
3. Online cultural competency provider training; and,
4. Integration of cultural competency concepts and nondiscrimination of service delivery into Provider communications

## **Integrated Quality Improvement – Ensuring Access**

Molina ensures Member access to language services such as oral interpretation, American Sign Language (ASL) and written translation. Molina must also ensure access to programs, aids and services that are congruent with cultural norms, support Members with disabilities, and assist Members with LEP.

Molina develops Member materials according to Plain Language Guidelines. Members or Providers may also request written Member materials in alternate languages and formats (i.e. braille, audio, large print), leading to better communication, understanding and Member satisfaction. Online materials found on [www.MolinaHealthcare.com](http://www.MolinaHealthcare.com) and information delivered in digital form meet Section 508 accessibility requirements to support Members with visual impairments.

Key Member information, including Appeals and Grievance forms, are also available in threshold languages on the Molina Member website.

## **Program and Policy Review Guidelines**

Molina conducts assessments at regular intervals of the following information to ensure its programs are most effectively meeting the needs of its Members and Providers:

- Annual collection and analysis of race, ethnicity and language data from:
  - Eligible individuals to identify significant culturally and linguistically diverse populations within plan's membership
  - Contracted Providers to assess gaps in network demographics
- Revalidate data at least annually
- Local geographic population demographics and trends derived from publicly available sources (Community Health Needs Assessment)
- Applicable national demographics and trends derived from publicly available sources
- Assessment of Provider Network
- Collection of data and reporting for the Diversity of Membership HEDIS® measure.
- Annual determination of threshold languages and processes in place to provide Members with vital information in threshold languages.
- Identification of specific cultural and linguistic disparities found within the plan's diverse populations.
- Analysis of HEDIS® and CAHPS® results for potential cultural and linguistic disparities that prevent Members from obtaining the recommended key chronic and preventive services.
- Comparison with selected measures such as those in Healthy People 2020

## **24 Hour Access to Interpreter Services**

Providers may request interpreters for Members whose primary language is other than English by calling Molina's Contact Center toll free at (855) 322-4077. If Contact Center Representatives are unable to interpret in the requested language, the Representative will immediately connect you and the Member to a qualified language service provider.

Molina Providers must support Member access to telephonic interpreter services by offering a telephone with speaker capability or a telephone with a dual headset. Providers may offer Molina

Members interpreter services if the Members do not request them on their own. Please remember it is never permissible to ask a family member, friend or minor to interpret.

### **Documentation**

As a contracted Molina Provider, your responsibilities for documenting Member language services/needs in the Member's medical record are as follows:

- Record the Member's language preference in a prominent location in the medical record. This information is provided to you on the electronic member lists that are sent to you each month by Molina.
- Document all Member requests for interpreter services.
- Document who provided the interpreter service. This includes the name of Molina's internal staff or someone from a commercial interpreter service vendor. Information should include the interpreter's name, operator code and vendor.
- Document all counseling and treatment done using interpreter services.
- Document if a Member insists on using a family member, friend or minor as an interpreter, or refuses the use of interpreter services after notification of his or her right to have a qualified interpreter at no cost.

### **Members who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing**

Molina provides a TTY/TDD connection, which may be reached by dialing 711. This connection provides access to Member & Provider Contact Center, Quality Improvement, Healthcare Services and all other health plan functions.

Molina strongly recommends that Provider offices make available assistive listening devices for members who are deaf and hard of hearing. Assistive listening devices enhance the sound of the provider's voice to facilitate a better interaction with the member.

Molina will provide face-to-face service delivery for ASL to support our members who are deaf or hard of hearing. Requests should be made three (3) business days in advance of an appointment to ensure availability of the service. In most cases, members will have made this request via Molina Member Services.

### **Nurse Advice Line**

Molina provides twenty-four (24) hours/seven (7) days a week Nurse Advice Services for members. The Nurse Advice Line provides access to twenty-four (24) hour interpretive services. Members may call Molina Healthcare's Nurse Advice Line directly (English line (888) 275-8750) or (Spanish line at (866) 648-3537) or for assistance in other languages. The Nurse Advice TTY/TDD is 711. The Nurse Advice Line telephone numbers are also printed on membership cards.



## **12. Delegation**

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This section contains information specific to Molina's delegation criteria. Molina may delegate certain administrative responsibilities upon meeting all of Molina's delegation criteria. Molina is accountable for all aspects of the Member's health care delivery, even when it delegates specific responsibilities to sub-contracted entities. Molina's Delegation Oversight Committee (DOC), or other designated committee, must approve all delegation and sub-delegation arrangements.

If you have additional questions related to delegated functions, please contact your Molina Contract Manager.

### **Delegation Criteria**

#### **Sanction Monitoring**

All sub-contractors of Molina are required to show proof of processes to screen staff and employees at all levels against Federal exclusions lists. Screening must be done prior to the employee/staff's hire date, and occur monthly thereafter. Molina will include a Sanction Monitoring pre-assessment audit with all other pre-assessment audits, any time a function(s) is/are being considered for delegation.

Sanction Monitoring functions may be delegated to entities which meet Molina criteria. To be delegated for sanction monitoring functions, Providers must:

- Pass Molina's sanction monitoring pre-assessment, which is based CMS standards;
- Demonstrate that employees and staff are screened against Office of Inspector General (OIG), Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) and System for Award Management (SAM) sanction lists prior to hire dates, and monthly thereafter.
- Correct deficiencies within mutually agreed upon timeframes when issues of non-compliance are identified by Molina.
- Agree to Molina's contract terms and conditions for sanction monitoring delegates.
- Submit timely and complete Sanction Monitoring delegation reports as detailed in the Delegated Services Addendum to the applicable Molina contact.
- Comply with all applicable Federal and State Laws.
- When staff or employees are identified as having a positive sanction, provide Molina with notification according to Contractual Agreements of the findings and action(s) being taken to ensure sanctioned staff is not providing services to Molina Members.

### **Credentialing**

Credentialing functions may be delegated to entities which meet National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA®) criteria for credentialing functions. To be delegated for credentialing functions, Providers must:

- Pass Molina's credentialing pre-assessment, which is based on NCQA® credentialing standards.
- Have a multi-disciplinary Credentialing Committee who is responsible for review and approval or denial/termination of practitioners included in delegation.

- Have an Ongoing Monitoring process in place that screens all practitioners included in delegation against OIG, MDHHS and SAM exclusion lists a minimum of every thirty (30) days.
- Correct deficiencies within mutually agreed upon timeframes when issues of non-compliance are identified by Molina.
- Agree to Molina's contract terms and conditions for credentialing delegates.
- Submit timely and complete Credentialing delegation reports as detailed in the Delegated Services Addendum to the applicable Molina contract.
- Comply with all applicable Federal and State Laws.
- When key specialists, as defined by Molina, contracted with IPA or group terminate, provide Molina with a letter of termination according to Contractual Agreements and the information necessary to notify affected Members.

Note: If the Provider is an NCQA® Certified or Accredited organization, a modified pre-assessment audit may be conducted. Modification to the audit depend on the type of Certification or Accreditation the Medical Group, IPA, or Vendor has, but will always include evaluation of applicable state requirements and Molina business needs.

If the Provider sub-delegates Credentialing functions, the sub-delegate must be NCQA® accredited or certified in Credentialing functions, or demonstrate and ability to meet all Health Plan, NCQA®, and State and Federal requirements identified above. A written request must be made to Molina prior to execution of a contract, and a pre-assessment must be completed on the potential sub-delegate, and annually thereafter. Evaluation should include review of Credentialing policies and procedures, Credentialing and Recredentialing files, Credentialing Committee Minutes, Ongoing Monitoring documentation and a process to implement corrective action if issues of non-compliance are identified.

An entity may request Credentialing delegation from Molina through Molina's Delegation Oversight Manager or through their Contract Manager. Molina will ask the potential delegate to submit a Credentialing Pre-Delegation Survey, policies and procedures for review and will schedule an appointment for pre-assessment. The results of the pre-assessment are submitted to the Peer Review Credentialing Committee (PRC) for review and approval. Final decision to delegate Credentialing responsibilities is based on the entity's ability to meet Molina, State and Federal requirements for delegation.

### **Delegation Reporting Requirements**

Delegated entities contracted with Molina must submit no less than monthly and quarterly reports determined by the function(s) delegated to the identified Molina Delegation Oversight Staff within the timeline indicated by the Health Plan. For a copy of Molina's current delegation reporting requirements, please contact your Molina Contract Manager.

### **CMS Preclusion List**

All subcontractors delegated for Credentialing and/or Claims Administration must review their practitioner network against the CMS Preclusion list. The CMS Preclusion list will be provided to the subcontractor on a monthly basis by Molina Healthcare.

Within five (5) business days of receipt, the subcontractor must review the list and identify any practitioners with a new preclusion since the last publication date. Within fifteen (15) calendar days of receipt of the list, the subcontractor must notify Molina of any identified practitioner(s), including a report of all Molina claims paid to the provider in the previous twelve (12) months. Depending on delegated expectations, subcontractors may also be responsible for sending the necessary Member notification at least sixty (60) calendar days prior to the Preclusion effective date, informing the Member of the need to select a new practitioner.

Note: Member notification responsibilities depend on the functions delegated and the services provided. Not all subcontractors are responsible for this piece, and in some cases, are required to send the appropriate information to Molina so that Molina can notify impacted Members. If there are questions about subcontractor responsibilities related to Member notification of precluded providers, please contact your Molina Delegation Oversight contact.

## 13. Claims and Compensation

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As a contracted Provider, it is important to understand how the Claims process works to avoid delays in processing your Claims. The following items are covered in this section for your reference:

- ... Hospital-Acquired Conditions and Present on Admission Program
- ... Claim Submission
- ... Coordination of Benefits (COB)/Third Party Liability (TPL)
- ... Medicaid Coverage for Molina Medicare Members
- ... Timely Claim Filing
- ... Claim Edit Process
- ... Claim Review
- ... Claim Auditing
- ... Corrected Claims
- ... Timely Claim Processing
- ... Electronic Claim Payment
- ... Overpayment and Incorrect Payment
- ... Provider Claim Redeterminations – Contracted Providers
- ... Provider Reconsideration of Delegated Claims – Contracted Providers
- ... Billing the Member
- ... Fraud and Abuse
- ... Encounter Data

### **Hospital-Acquired Conditions and Present on Admission Program**

The Deficit Reduction Act of 2005 (DRA) mandated that Medicare establish a program that would modify reimbursement for fee for service beneficiaries when certain conditions occurred as a direct result of a hospital stay that could have been reasonably been prevented by the use of evidenced-based guidelines. CMS titled the program “Hospital-Acquired Conditions and Present on Admission Indicator Reporting” (HAC and POA).

The following is a list of CMS Hospital Acquired Conditions. Effective October 1, 2008, CMS reduces payment for hospitalizations complicated by these categories of conditions that were not present on admission (POA):

1. Foreign Object Retained After Surgery
2. Air Embolism
3. Blood Incompatibility
4. Stage III and IV Pressure Ulcers
5. Falls and Trauma
  - a. Fractures
  - b. Dislocations
  - c. Intracranial Injuries
  - d. Crushing Injuries
  - e. Burn
  - f. Other Injuries
6. Manifestations of Poor Glycemic Control
  - a. Hypoglycemic Coma

- b. Diabetic Ketoacidosis
  - c. Non-Ketotic Hyperosmolar Coma
  - d. Secondary Diabetes with Ketoacidosis
  - e. Secondary Diabetes with Hyperosmolarity
- 7. Catheter-Associated Urinary Tract Infection (UTI)
- 8. Vascular Catheter-Associated Infection
- 9. Surgical Site Infection Following Coronary Artery Bypass Graft – Mediastinitis
- 10. Surgical Site Infection Following Certain Orthopedic Procedures:
  - a. Spine
  - b. Neck
  - c. Shoulder
  - d. Elbow
- 11. Surgical Site Infection Following Bariatric Surgery Procedures for Obesity
  - a. Laparoscopic Gastric Restrictive Surgery
  - b. Laparoscopic Gastric Bypass
  - c. Gastroenterostomy
- 12. Surgical Site Infection Following Placement of Cardiac Implantable Electronic Device (CIED)
- 13. Iatrogenic Pneumothorax with Venous Catheterization
- 14. Deep Vein Thrombosis (DVT)/Pulmonary Embolism (PE) Following Certain Orthopedic Procedures
  - a. Total Knee Replacement
  - b. Hip Replacement

**What this means to Providers:**

- ... Acute IPPS Hospital claims will be returned with no payment if the POA indicator is coded incorrectly or missing; and
- ... No additional payment will be made on IPPS hospital claims for conditions that are acquired during the patient's hospitalization.

If you would like to find out more information regarding the Medicare HAC/POA program, including billing requirements, the following CMS site provides further information:

<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/HospitalAcqCond/>

**Claims Submission**

Participating Providers are required to submit Claims to Molina with appropriate documentation. Provider must follow the appropriate State and CMS Provider billing guidelines. Providers must utilize electronic billing through a clearinghouse or Molina's Provider Portal whenever possible and use current HIPAA compliant ANSI X 12N format (e.g., 837I for institutional Claims, 837P for professional Claims, and 837D for dental Claims) and use electronic Payer ID number 38334.

For Members assigned to a delegated medical group/IPA that processes its own Claims, please verify the Claim Submission instructions on the Member's Molina ID card. Claims that do not comply with Molina's electronic Claim submission requirements will be denied.

Providers must bill Molina for services with the most current CMS approved diagnostic and procedural coding available as of the date the service was provided, or for inpatient facility Claims, the date of discharge.

### **Required Elements**

The following information must be included on every claim:

- Member name, date of birth and Molina Member ID number
- Member's gender
- Member's address
- Date(s) of service
- Valid International Classification of Diseases diagnosis and procedure codes
- Valid revenue, CPT or HCPCS for services or items provided
- Valid Diagnosis Pointers
- Total billed charges for service provided
- Place and type of service code
- Days or units as applicable
- Provider tax identification
- National Provider Identifier (NPI)
- Rendering Provider as applicable
- Provider name and billing address
- Place of service and type (for facilities)
- Disclosure of any other health benefit plans
- E-signature
- Service Facility Location

Inaccurate, incomplete, or untimely submissions and re-submissions may result in denial of the claim.

### **National Provider Identifier (NPI)**

A valid NPI is required on all Claim submissions. Providers must report any changes in their NPI or subparts to Molina as soon as possible, not to exceed thirty (30) calendar days from the change.

Rendering, Ordering, Referring, Attending, Prescribing, and Billing NPI must be enrolled in CHAMPS. Claims submitted for providers that are not enrolled in CHAMPS will be rejected.

### **Electronic Claim Submissions**

Molina strongly encourages Participating Providers to submit Claims electronically. Electronic Claims submission provides significant benefits to the Provider including:

- Helps to reduce operation costs associated with paper claims (printing, postage, etc.).
- Increases accuracy of data and efficient information delivery.
- Reduces Claim delays since errors can be corrected and resubmitted electronically.
- Eliminates mailing time and Claims reach Molina faster.

### **Molina offers the following electronic Claims submission options:**

Last Updated January 1, 2020

Submit Claims directly to Molina via the [Provider Portal](#)

Submit Claims to Molina via your regular EDI clearinghouse using Payer ID 38334

### **Provider Portal**

Molina's Provider Portal offers a number of claims processing functionalities and benefits:

- Available to all Providers at no cost
- Available twenty-four (24) hours per day, seven (7) days per week
- Ability to add attachments to claims (Portal and clearinghouse submissions)
- Ability to submit corrected claims
- Easily and quickly void claims
- Check claims status
- Receive timely notification of a change in status for a particular claim

### **Clearinghouse**

Molina uses Change Healthcare as its gateway clearinghouse. Change Healthcare has relationships with hundreds of other clearinghouses. Typically, Providers can continue to submit Claims to their usual clearinghouse.

Molina accepts EDI transactions through our gateway clearinghouse for Claims via the 837P for Professional and 837I for institutional. In order to ensure that all data being submitted to our gateway is received properly your submitter must utilize the latest version of the 837 standard. It is important to track your electronic transmissions using your acknowledgement reports. The reports assure Claims are received for processing in a timely manner.

#### **When your Claims are filed via a Clearinghouse:**

You should receive a 999 acknowledgement from your clearinghouse.

You should also receive 277CA response file with initial status of the claims from your clearinghouse.

You should contact your local clearinghouse representative if you experience any problems with your transmission.

### **EDI Claims Submission Issues**

Providers who are experiencing EDI Submission issues should work with their clearinghouse to resolve this issue. If the Provider's clearinghouse is unable to resolve, the Provider may call the Molina EDI Customer Service line at (866) 409-2935 or email us at [EDI.Claims@MolinaHealthcare.com](mailto:EDI.Claims@MolinaHealthcare.com) for additional support.

### **Paper Claim Submissions**

If electronic claim submission is not possible, please submit paper claims to the following address:

Molina Healthcare

P.O. Box 22668

Long Beach, CA 90801

*(\*Please **do not** submit claims to the Troy, Michigan address as your claim may be returned.)*

*Faxed claims are not accepted by Molina Healthcare and if received, the claim will be returned.*

### **Coordination of Benefits and Third Party Liability**

For Members enrolled in a Molina plan, Molina and/or contracted Medical Groups/IPAs are financially responsible for the care provided to these Members. Molina will pay claims for covered services; however, if TPL/COB is determined Molina may cost avoid if appropriate or request recovery post payment. Molina will attempt to recover any overpayments paid as the primary payer when another insurance is primary.

### **Medicaid Coverage for Molina Medicare Members**

There are certain benefits that will not be covered by Molina Medicare program but may be covered by **fee-for-service Medicaid**. In this case, the Provider should bill Medicaid with a copy of the Molina Medicare remittance advice and the associated state agency will process the claim accordingly.

After exhausting all other primary coverage benefits, Providers may submit claims to Molina Medicare. A copy of the remittance advice from the primary payer must accompany the claim or the claim will be denied. If the primary insurance paid more than Molina's contracted allowable rate the claim is considered paid in full and zero dollars will be applied to claim.

### **Timely Claim Filing**

Provider shall promptly submit to Molina Claims for Covered Services rendered to Members. All Claims shall be submitted in a form acceptable to and approved by Molina, and shall include any and all medical records pertaining to the Claim if requested by Molina or otherwise required by Molina's policies and procedures. Claims must be submitted by Provider to Molina within three hundred sixty-five (365) calendar days after the discharge for inpatient services or the date of service for outpatient services. If Molina is not the primary payer under coordination of benefits or third party liability, Provider must submit Claims to Molina within ninety (90) calendar days after final determination by the primary payer. Except as otherwise provided by Law or provided by Government Program requirements, any Claims that are not submitted to Molina within these timelines shall not be eligible for payment and Provider hereby waives any right to payment.

### **Reimbursement Guidance and Payment Guidelines**

Providers are responsible for submission of accurate claims. Molina requires coding of both diagnoses and procedures for all claims. The required coding schemes are the International Classification of Diseases, 10th Revision, Clinical Modification ICD-10-CM for diagnoses. For procedures, the Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System Level 1 (CPT codes), Level 2 and 3 (HCPCS codes) are required for professional and outpatient claims. Inpatient hospital claims require ICD-10-PCS (International Classification of Diseases, 10th Revision, Procedure Coding System). Furthermore, Molina requires that all claims be coded in accordance with the HIPAA transaction code set guidelines and follow the guidelines within each code set.

Molina utilizes a claims adjudication system that encompasses edits and audits that follow State and Federal requirements and also administers payment rules based on generally accepted



principles of correct coding. Payment rules based on generally accepted principles of correct coding include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Manuals and RVU files published by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), including:
  - National Correct Coding Initiative (NCCI) edits, including procedure-to-procedure (PTP) bundling edits and Medically Unlikely Edits (MUEs). In the event a State benefit limit is more stringent/restrictive than a Federal MUE, Molina will apply the State benefit limit. Furthermore, if a professional organization has a more stringent/restrictive standard than a Federal MUE or State benefit limit, the professional organization standard may be used.
  - In the absence of State guidance, Medicare National Coverage Determinations (NCDs).
  - In the absence of State guidance, Medicare Local Coverage Determinations (LCDs).
  - CMS Physician Fee Schedule Relative Value File (RVU) indicators.
- Current Procedural Technology (CPT) guidance published by the American Medical Association (AMA).
- ICD-10 guidance published by the National Center for Health Statistics.
- State-specific claims reimbursement guidance.
- Other coding guidelines published by industry-recognized resources.
- Payment policies based on professional associations or other industry-recognized guidance for specific services. Such payment policies may be more stringent than State and Federal guidelines.
- Molina policies based on the appropriateness of health care and medical necessity.
- Payment policies published by Molina.

## General Coding Requirements

Correct coding is required to properly process claims. Molina requires that all claims be coded in accordance with the HIPAA transaction code set guidelines and follow the guidelines within each code set.

## CPT and HCPCS Codes

Codes must be submitted in accordance with the chapter and code-specific guidelines set forth in the current/applicable version of the AMA CPT and HCPCS codebooks. In order to ensure proper and timely reimbursement, codes must be effective on the date of service (DOS) for which the procedure or service was rendered and not the date of submission.

## Modifiers

Modifiers consist of two (2) alphanumeric characters and are appended to HCPCS/CPT codes to provide additional information about the services rendered. **Modifiers may be appended only if the clinical circumstances justify the use of the modifier(s).** For example, modifiers may be used to indicate whether a:

- Service or procedure has a professional component
- Service or procedure has a technical component

- Service or procedure was performed by more than one physician
- Unilateral procedure was performed
- Bilateral procedure was performed
- Service or procedure was provided more than once
- Only part of a service was performed

For a complete listing of modifiers and their appropriate use, consult the AMA CPT and the HCPCS code books.

### **ICD-10-CM/PCS Codes**

Molina will utilize ICD-10-CM and PCS billing rules, and will deny claims that do not meet Molina's ICD-10 Claim Submission Guidelines. In order to ensure proper and timely reimbursement, codes must be effective on the dates of service (DOS) for which the procedure or service was rendered and not the date of submission. Refer to the ICD-10 CM/PCS Official Guidelines for Coding and Reporting on the proper assignment of principal and additional diagnosis codes.

### **Place of Service (POS) Codes**

Place of Service Codes (POS) are two-digit codes placed on health care professional claims (CMS 1500) to indicate the setting in which a service was provided. CMS maintains POS codes used throughout the health care industry. The POS should be indicative of where that specific procedure/service was rendered. If billing multiple lines, each line should indicate the POS for the procedure/service on that line.

### **Type of Bill**

Type of bill is a four-digit alphanumeric code that gives three specific pieces of information after the first digit, a leading zero. The second digit identifies the type of facility. The third classifies the type of care. The fourth indicates the sequence of this bill in this particular episode of care, also referred to as a "frequency" code. For a complete list of codes, reference the National Uniform Billing Committee's (NUBC's) Official UB-04 Data Specifications Manual.

### **Revenue Codes**

Revenue codes are four-digit codes used to identify specific accommodation and/or ancillary charges. There are certain revenue codes that require CPT/HCPCS codes to be billed. For a complete list of codes, reference the NUBC's Official UB-04 Data Specifications Manual.

### **Diagnosis Related Group (DRG)**

Facilities contracted to use DRG payment methodology submit claims with DRG coding. Claims submitted for payment by DRG must contain the minimum requirements to ensure accurate claim payment.

Molina processes DRG claims through DRG software. If the submitted DRG and system-assigned DRG differ, the Molina-assigned DRG will take precedence. Providers may appeal with medical record documentation to support the ICD-10-CM principal and secondary diagnoses (if applicable) and/or the ICD-10-PCS procedure codes (if applicable). If the claim cannot be grouped due to insufficient information, it will be denied and returned for lack of sufficient information.

## **NDC**

Effective May 1, 2014, the 11 digit National Drug Code Number (NDC) must be reported on all professional and outpatient claims when submitted on the CMS-1500 claim form, UB-04 or its electronic equivalent.

Providers will need to submit claims with both HCPCS and NDC codes with the exact NDC that appears on the medication packaging in the 5-4-2 digit format (i.e. xxxxx-xxxx-xx) as well as the NDC units and descriptors. Claims submitted without the NDC number will be denied.

## **Coding Sources**

### **Definitions**

CPT – Current Procedural Terminology 4th Edition; an American Medical Association (AMA) maintained uniform coding system consisting of descriptive terms and codes that are used primarily to identify medical services and procedures furnished by physicians and other health care professionals. There are three types of CPT codes:

- Category I Code – Procedures/Services
- Category II Code – Performance Measurement
- Category III Code – Emerging Technology

HCPCS – HealthCare Common Procedural Coding System; a CMS maintained uniform coding system consisting of descriptive terms and codes that are used primarily to identify procedure, supply and durable medical equipment codes furnished by physicians and other health care professionals.

ICD-10-CM – International Classification of Diseases, 10th revision, Clinical Modification ICD-10-CM diagnosis codes are maintained by the National Center for Health Statistics, Centers for Disease Control (CDC) within the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS).

ICD-10-PCS - International Classification of Diseases, 10th revision, Procedure Coding System used to report procedures for inpatient hospital services.

## **Claim Auditing**

Provider acknowledges Molina's right to conduct pre and post-payment billing audits. Provider shall cooperate with Molina's audits of Claims and payments by providing access at reasonable times to requested Claims information, all supporting medical records, Provider's charging policies, and other related data as deemed relevant to support the transactions billed. Providers are required to submit, or provide access to, medical records upon our request. Failure to do so in a timely manner may result in an audit failure and/or denial, resulting in an overpayment.

In reviewing medical records for a procedure, Molina may select a statistically valid random sample, or smaller subset of the statistically valid random sample. This gives an estimate of the proportion of claims that we paid in error. The estimated proportion, or error rate, may be projected across all claims to determine the amount of overpayment.

Provider audits may be telephonic, an on-site visit, internal claims review, client-directed/regulatory investigation and/or compliance reviews, and may be vendor assisted. Molina asks that you provide us, or our designee, during normal business hours, access to examine, audit, scan and copy any and all records necessary to determine compliance and accuracy of billing.

Molina shall use established industry Claims adjudication and/or clinical practices, State, and Federal guidelines, and/or Molina's policies and data to determine the appropriateness of the billing, coding, and payment.

If Molina suspects that there is fraudulent activity, we may conduct an on-site audit without notice. Should you refuse to allow access to your facilities, Molina reserves the right to recover the full amount paid or due to you.

### **Corrected Claims**

Corrected Claims are considered new Claims for processing purposes. Corrected Claims must be submitted electronically with the appropriate fields on the 837I or 837P completed. Molina's Provider Portal includes functionality to submit corrected Institutional and Professional claims. Corrected claims must include the correct coding to denote if the claim is Replacement of Prior Claim or Corrected Claim for an 837I or the correct Resubmission Code for an 837P. **Claims submitted without the correct coding will be returned to the Provider for resubmission.**

### **EDI (Clearinghouse) Submission**

#### **837P**

In the 2300 Loop, the CLM segment (claim information) CLM05-3 (claim frequency type code) must indicate one of the following qualifier codes:

- "1"-ORIGINAL (initial claim)
- "7"-REPLACEMENT (replacement of prior claim)
- "8"-VOID (void/cancel of prior claim)

In the 2300 Loop, the REF \*F8 segment (claim information) must include the original reference number (Internal Control Number/Document Control Number ICN/DCN).

#### **837I**

Bill type for UB claims are billed in loop 2300/CLM05-1. In Bill Type for UB, the "1" "7" or "8" goes in the third digit for "frequency".

In the 2300 Loop, the REF \*F8 segment (claim information) must include the original reference number (Internal Control Number/Document Control Number ICN/DCN).

### **Timely Claims Processing**

A complete claim is a claim that has no defect, impropriety, lack of any required substantiating documentation as outlined in Part A above, or particular circumstance requiring special treatment that prevents timely payment from being made on the claim.

Claims processing will be completed for contracted Providers in accordance with the timeliness provisions set forth in the Provider's contract. Unless the Provider and Molina or contracted medical group/IPA have agreed in writing to an alternate schedule, Molina will process the claim for service as follows:

- Ninety (90) percent in thirty (30) days and one hundred (100) percent in ninety (90) days after receipt of clean Claims.

The receipt date of a Claim is the date Molina receives notice of the Claim.

### **Electronic Claim Payment**

Participating Providers are required to enroll for Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) and Electronic Remittance Advice (ERA). Providers who enroll in EFT payments will automatically receive ERAs as well. EFT/ERA services allow Providers to reduce paperwork, provides searchable ERAs, and Providers receive payment and ERA access faster than the paper check and RA processes. There is no cost to the Provider for EFT enrollment, and Providers are not required to be in-network to enroll. Molina uses a vendor to facilitate the HIPAA compliant EFT payment and ERA delivery. Additional information about EFT/ERA is available at [www.MolinaHealthcare.com](http://www.MolinaHealthcare.com) or by contacting our Provider Services Department.

### **Overpayments and Incorrect Payments Refund Requests**

If, as a result of retroactive review of coverage decisions or payment levels, Molina determines that it has made an Overpayment to a Provider for services rendered to a Member, it will make a claim for such Overpayment.

A Provider shall pay a Claim for an Overpayment made by Molina which the Provider does not contest or dispute within the specified number of days on the refund request letter mailed to the Provider.

If a provider does not repay or dispute the overpaid amount within the timeframe allowed Molina may offset the overpayment amount(s) against future payments made to the provider.

Payment of a Claim for Overpayment is considered made on the date payment was received or electronically transferred or otherwise delivered to Molina, or the date that the Provider receives a payment from Molina that reduces or deducts the Overpayment.

### **Claims Disputes/Reconsideration**

Providers disputing a claim previously adjudicated must request such action within Ninety (90) days of Molina's original remittance advice date. Regardless of type of denial/dispute (service denied, incorrect payment, administrative, etc.); all Claim disputes must be submitted on the Molina Claims Dispute Request Form (CDRF) found on Provider website and the Provider Portal. **The form must be filled out completely in order to be processed.**

Additionally, the item(s) being resubmitted should be clearly marked as reconsideration and must include the following:

- Any documentation to support the adjustment must accompany the reconsideration request.
- The Claim number clearly marked on all supporting documents.

Forms may be submitted via fax (248) 925-1768

**Or**

Webportal <https://provider.molinahealthcare.com/provider/login>

**Please Note:** Requests for adjustments of Claims paid by a delegated medical group/IPA must be submitted to the group responsible for payment of the original Claim.

The Provider will be notified of Molina's decision in writing within forty five (45) calendar days of receipt of the Claims Dispute/Adjustment request.

### **Billing the Member**

Providers cannot bill a Medicaid Member for any covered benefits. The Provider is responsible for verifying eligibility and obtaining approval for those services that require prior authorization. Providers agree that under no circumstance shall a Member be liable to the Provider for any sums owed by Molina to the Provider.

Provider agrees to accept payment from Molina as payment in full or bill the appropriate responsible party.

Provider may not bill a Molina Member for any unpaid portion of the bill or for a claim that is not paid with the following exceptions:

- The Member has been advised by the Provider that the service is not a covered benefit and the Provider has documentation.
- The Member has been advised by the Provider that he/she is not contracted with Molina and has documentation.
- The Member agrees in writing to have the service provided with full knowledge that they are financially responsible for payment.

### **Fraud and Abuse**

Failure to report instances of suspected Fraud and Abuse is a violation of the Law and subject to the penalties provided by Law. Please refer to the Compliance section of this Provider Manual for more information.

### **Encounter Data**

Each capitated Provider/organization delegated for Claims processing is required to submit Encounter data to Molina for all adjudicated Claims. The data is used for many purposes, such as regulatory reporting, rate setting and risk adjustment, hospital rate setting, the Quality Improvement program and HEDIS® reporting.

Encounter data must be submitted at least once per month from the date of service in order to meet State and CMS encounter submission threshold and quality measures. Encounter data must be submitted via HIPAA compliant transactions, including the ANSI X12N 837I – Institutional, 837P – Professional, and 837D -- Dental. Data must be submitted with Claims level detail for all non-institutional services provided. For institutional services, only those services covered by Molina should be reported.

Molina has a comprehensive automated and integrated Encounter data system capable of supporting all 837 file formats and proprietary formats if needed.

Providers must correct and resubmit any encounters which are rejected (non-HIPAA compliant) or denied by Molina. Encounters must be corrected and resubmitted within fifteen (15) days from the rejection/denial.

Molina has created 837P, 837I, and 837D Companion Guides with the specific submission requirements available to Providers.

When your Encounters are filed electronically Providers should receive two (2) types of responses:

- First, Molina will provide a 999 acknowledgement of your transmission
- Second, Molina will provide a 277 CA response file for each transaction

## **14. Credentialing and Recredentialing**

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The purpose of the Credentialing Program is to assure the Molina Healthcare and its subsidiaries (Molina) network consists of quality Practitioners who meet clearly defined criteria and standards. It is the objective of Molina to provide superior health care to the community. Additional information is available in the Credentialing Policy and Procedure which can be requested by contacting your Molina provider services representative.

The decision to accept or deny a credentialing applicant is based upon primary source verification, secondary source verification and additional information as required. The information gathered is confidential and disclosure is limited to parties who are legally permitted to have access to the information under State and Federal Law.

The Credentialing Program has been developed in accordance with State and Federal requirements and the standards of the National Committee of Quality Assurance (NCQA®). The Credentialing Program is reviewed annually, revised, and updated as needed.

### **Non-Discriminatory Credentialing and Recredentialing**

Molina does not make credentialing and recredentialing decisions based on an applicant's race, ethnic/national identity, gender, gender identity, age, sexual orientation, ancestry, religion, marital status, health status, or patient types (e.g. Medicaid) in which the Practitioner specializes. This does not preclude Molina from including in its network Practitioners who meet certain demographic or specialty needs; for example, to meet cultural needs of Members.

### **Types of Practitioners Credentialed & Recredentialed**

Practitioners and groups of practitioners with whom Molina contracts must be credentialed prior to the contract being implemented. Practitioner types requiring credentialing include but are not limited to:

- Acupuncturists
- Addiction medicine specialists
- Audiologists
- Behavioral healthcare practitioners who are licensed, certified or registered by the state to practice independently
- Chiropractors
- Clinical Social Workers
- Dentists
- Doctoral or masters-level psychologists
- Licensed/Certified Midwives (Non-Nurse)
- Massage Therapists
- Masters-level clinical social workers
- Masters-level clinical nurse specialists or psychiatric nurse practitioners
- Medical Doctors (MD)
- Naturopathic Physicians
- Nurse Midwives
- Nurse Practitioners



- Occupational Therapists
- Optometrists
- Oral Surgeons
- Osteopathic Physicians (DO)
- Pharmacists
- Physical Therapists
- Physician Assistants
- Podiatrists
- Psychiatrists and other physicians
- Psychologist
- Speech and Language Pathologists
- Telemedicine Practitioners

### **Criteria for Participation in the Molina Network**

All Practitioner must have active enrollment in the Michigan Medicaid program.

Molina has established criteria and the sources used to verify these criteria for the evaluation and selection of Practitioners for participation in the Molina network. These criteria have been designed to assess a Practitioner's ability to deliver care. This policy defines the criteria that are applied to applicants for initial participation, recredentialing and ongoing participation in the Molina network.

To remain eligible for participation Practitioners must continue to satisfy all applicable requirements for participation as stated herein and in all other documentations provided by Molina.

Molina reserves the right to exercise discretion in applying any criteria and to exclude Practitioners who do not meet the criteria. Molina may, after considering the recommendations of the Professional Review Committee, waive any of the requirements for network participation established pursuant to these policies for good cause if it is determined that such waiver is necessary to meet the needs of Molina and the community it serves. The refusal of Molina to waive any requirement shall not entitle any Provider to a hearing or any other rights of review.

Practitioners must meet the following criteria to be eligible to participate in the Molina network. The Practitioner shall have the burden of producing adequate information to prove they meet all criteria for initial participation and continued participation in the Molina network. If the Practitioner fails to meet/provide proof of meeting these criteria, the credentialing application will be deemed incomplete and it will result in an administrative denial or termination from the Molina network. Practitioners who fail to provide proof of meeting these criteria do not have the right to submit an appeal.

- **Application** - Provider must submit to Molina a complete credentialing application either from CAQH ProView or other State mandated Practitioner application. The attestation must be signed within one-hundred-twenty (120) days. Application must include all required attachments.
- **License, Certification or Registration** - Provider must hold a current and valid license, certification or registration to practice in their specialty in every State in which they will provide care and/or render services for Molina Members. Telemedicine Practitioners are

required to be licensed in the State where they are located and the State the Member is located.

- **DEA or CDS Certificate** - Provider must hold a current, valid, unrestricted Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) or Controlled Dangerous Substances (CDS) certificate. Provider must have a DEA or CDS in every State where the Provider provides care to Molina Members. If a Practitioner has never had any disciplinary action taken related to their DEA and/or CDS and has a pending DEA/CDS certificate or chooses not to have a DEA and/or CDS certificate, the Practitioner must then provide a documented process that allows another Practitioner with a valid DEA and/or CDS certificate to write all prescriptions requiring a DEA number. If a Practitioner does not have a DEA or CDS because it has been revoked, restricted or relinquished due to disciplinary reasons, the Practitioner is not eligible to participate in the Molina network.
- **Specialty** – Provider must only be credentialed in the specialty in which they have adequate education and training. Provider must confine their practice to their credentialed area of practice when providing services to Molina Members.
- **Education** - Practitioners will only be credentialed in an area of practice in which they have adequate education. Practitioner must have graduated from an accredited school with a degree required to practice in their designated specialty.
- **Residency Training** - Providers must have satisfactorily completed residency programs from accredited training programs in the specialties in which they are practicing. Molina only recognizes residency training programs that have been accredited by the Accreditation Council of Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) and the American Osteopathic Association (AOA) in the United States or by the College of Family Physicians of Canada (CFPC), the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada. Oral Surgeons must complete a training program in Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA). Training must be successfully completed prior to completing the verification. It is not acceptable to verify completion prior to graduation from the program. As of July 2013, podiatric residencies are required to be three (3) years in length. If the podiatrist has not completed a three (3)-year residency or is not board certified, the podiatrist must have five (5) years of work history practicing podiatry.
- **Fellowship Training** - If the Provider is not board certified in the specialty in which they practice and has not completed a residency program in the specialty which they practice, they must have completed a fellowship program from an accredited training program in the specialty in which they are practicing.
- **Board Certification** - Board certification in the specialty in which the Practitioner is practicing is preferred but not required. Initial applicants who are not board certified will be considered for participation if they have satisfactorily completed a residency program from an accredited training program in the specialty in which they are practicing. Molina recognizes board certification only from the following Boards:
  - American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS)
  - American Osteopathic Association (AOA)
  - American Board of Foot and Ankle Surgery (ABFAS)
  - American Board of Podiatric Medicine (ABPM)
  - American Board of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery
  - American Board of Addiction Medicine (ABAM)
  - College of Family Physicians of Canada (CFPC)
  - Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada (RCPSC)

- Behavioral Analyst Certification Board (BACB)
- National Commission on Certification of Physician Assistants (NCCPA)
- **General Practitioners** – Practitioners who are not board certified and have not completed a training program from an accredited training program are only eligible to be considered for participation as a General Practitioner in the Molina network. To be eligible, the Practitioner must have maintained a primary care practice in good standing for a minimum of the most recent five (5) years without any gaps in work history. Molina will consider allowing a Practitioner who is/was board certified and/or residency trained in a specialty other than primary care to participate as a General Practitioner, if the Practitioner is applying to participate as a Primary Care Physician (PCP), Urgent Care or Wound Care. General practitioners providing only wound care services do not require five (5) years of work history as a PCP.
- **Nurse Practitioners & Physician Assistants** – In certain circumstances, Molina may credential a Practitioner who is not licensed to practice independently. In these instances, it would also be required that the Practitioner providing the supervision and/or oversight be contracted and credentialed with Molina.
- **Work History-** Provider must supply most recent five (5)-years of relevant work history on the application or curriculum vitae. Relevant work history includes work as a health professional. If a gap in employment exceeds six (6) months, the practitioner clarifies the gap verbally or in writing. The organization documents a verbal clarification in the practitioner's credentialing file. If the gap in employment exceeds one (1) year, the practitioner clarifies the gap in writing.
- **Malpractice History** - Provider must supply a history of malpractice and professional liability claims and settlement history in accordance with the application.
- **Professional Liability Insurance** – Provider must supply a history of malpractice and professional liability claims and settlement history in accordance with the application. Documentation of malpractice and professional liability claims, and settlement history is requested from the practitioner on the credentialing application. If there is an affirmative response to the related disclosure questions on the application, a detailed response is required from the practitioner.
- **State Sanctions, Restrictions on Licensure or Limitations on Scope of Practice** – Practitioner must disclose a full history of all license/certification/registration actions including denials, revocations, terminations, suspension, restrictions, reductions, limitations, sanctions, probations and non-renewals. Practitioner must also disclose any history of voluntarily or involuntarily relinquishing, withdrawing, or failure to proceed with an application in order to avoid an adverse action or to preclude an investigation or while under investigation relating to professional competence or conduct. If there is an affirmative response to the related disclosure questions on the application, a detailed response is required from the practitioner.  
Molina will also verify all licenses, certifications and registrations in every state where the practitioner has practiced. At the time of initial application, the practitioner must not have any pending or open investigations from any state or governmental professional disciplinary body. This would include Statement of Charges, Notice of Proposed Disciplinary Action or the equivalent.
- **Medicare, Medicaid and other Sanctions and Exclusions** – Practitioner must not be currently sanctioned, excluded, expelled or suspended from any state or federally funded program including but not limited to the Medicare or Medicaid programs. Practitioner must disclose all Medicare and Medicaid sanctions. If there is an affirmative response to the

related disclosure questions on the application, a detailed response is required from the practitioner. Practitioner must disclose all debarments, suspensions, proposals for debarments, exclusions or disqualifications under the non-procurement common rule, or when otherwise declared ineligible from receiving federal contracts, certain subcontracts, and certain federal assistance and benefits. If there is an affirmative response to the related disclosure questions on the application, a detailed response is required from the practitioner.

- **Medicare Opt Out** – Practitioners currently listed on the Medicare Opt-Out Report may not participate in the Molina network for any Medicare or Duals (Medicare/Medicaid) lines of business.
- **SSA Death Master File** – Practitioners must provide their Social Security number. That Social Security number should not be listed on the Social Security Administration Death Master File.
- **Medicare Preclusion List** – Practitioners currently listed on the Preclusion List may not participate in the Molina network for any Medicare or Duals (Medicare/Medicaid) lines of business.
- **Professional Liability Insurance** – Practitioner must have and maintain professional malpractice liability insurance with limits that meet Molina criteria. This coverage shall extend to Molina Members and the practitioners activities on Molina's behalf. Practitioners maintaining coverage under a federal tort or self-insured are not required to include amounts of coverage on their application for professional or medical malpractice insurance.
- **Inability to Perform** – Practitioner must disclose any inability to perform essential functions of a practitioner in their area of practice with or without reasonable accommodation. If there is an affirmative response to the related disclosure questions on the application, a detailed response is required from the practitioner.
- **Lack of Present Illegal Drug Use** – Practitioner must disclose if they are currently using any illegal drugs/substances.
- **Criminal Convictions** – Practitioner must disclose if they have ever had any criminal convictions. Practitioner must not have been convicted of a felony or pled guilty to a felony for a healthcare related crime including but not limited to healthcare fraud, patient abuse and the unlawful manufacture distribution or dispensing of a controlled substance.
- **Loss or Limitations of Clinical Privileges** – At initial credentialing, Practitioner must disclose all past and present issues regarding loss or limitation of clinical privileges at all facilities or organizations with which the practitioner has had privileges. If there is an affirmative response to the related disclosure questions on the application, a detailed response is required from the practitioner. At recredentialing, Practitioner must disclose past and present issues regarding loss or limitation of clinical privileges at all facilities or organizations with which the practitioner has had privileges since the previous credentialing cycle.
- **Hospital Privileges** - Practitioners must list all current hospital privileges on their credentialing application. If the practitioner has current privileges, they must be in good standing.
- **NPI** - Practitioner must have a National Provider Identifier (NPI) issued by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS).
- **Community Health Automated Medicaid Processing System (CHAMPS)** – All Practitioners must have active enrollment in the Michigan Medicaid Program and must meet the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) requirements to be eligible to participate in the Molina network.

## **Notification of Discrepancies in Credentialing Information & Practitioner Rights to Correct Erroneous Information**

Molina will notify the practitioner immediately in writing in the event that credentialing information obtained from other sources varies substantially from that provided by the practitioner. Examples include but are not limited to actions on a license, malpractice claim source of information if the information is not obtained to meet organization credentialing verification requirements or if disclosure is prohibited by law.

Practitioners have the right to correct erroneous information in their credentials file. Practitioner's rights are published on the Molina website in the Provider Manual.

The notification sent to the practitioner will detail the information in question and will include instructions to the practitioner indicating:

- Their requirement to submit a written response within ten (10) calendar days of receiving notification from Molina.
- In their response, the practitioner must explain the discrepancy, may correct any erroneous information and may provide any proof that is available.
- The practitioner's response must be sent to Molina Healthcare, Inc. Attention: Credentialing Director at PO Box 2470, Spokane, WA 99210.

Upon receipt of notification from the practitioner, Molina will document receipt of the information in the practitioner's credentials file. Molina will then re-verify the primary source information in dispute. If the primary source information has changed, correction will be made immediately to the practitioner's credentials file. The practitioner will be notified in writing that the correction has been made to their credentials file. If the primary source information remains inconsistent with the practitioners' information, the Credentialing Department will notify the practitioner.

If the practitioner does not respond within ten (10) calendar days, their application processing will be discontinued, and network participation will be administratively denied or terminated.

## **Practitioners Right to Review Information Submitted to Support Their Credentialing Application**

Practitioners have the right to review their credentials file at any time. Practitioner's rights are published on the Molina website and are included in this Provider Manual.

The practitioner must notify the Credentialing Department and request an appointed time to review their file and allow up to seven (7) calendar days to coordinate schedules. A Medical Director and the Director responsible for Credentialing or the Quality Improvement Director will be present. The practitioner has the right to review all information in the credentials file except peer references or recommendations protected by Law from disclosure.

The only items in the file that may be copied by the practitioner are documents, which the practitioner sent to Molina (e.g., the application and any other attachments submitted with the application from the Practitioner. Practitioners may not copy any other documents from the credentialing file.

## **Practitioners Right to be Informed of Application Status**

Practitioners have a right, upon request, to be informed of the status of their application by telephone, email or mail. Practitioner's rights are published on the Molina website and are included in this Provider Manual. Molina will respond to the request within two (2) working days. Molina will share with the practitioner where the application is in the credentialing process to include any missing information or information not yet verified.

## **Notification of Credentialing Decisions**

Initial credentialing decisions are communicated to practitioners via letter or email. This notification is typically sent by the Molina Medical Director within two (2) weeks of the decision. Under no circumstance will notifications letters be sent to the practitioners later than sixty (60) calendar days from the decision. Notification of recredentialing approvals are not required.

## **Recredentialing**

Molina recredentials every practitioner at least every thirty-six (36) months.

## **Excluded Practitioners**

Excluded Practitioner means an individual Practitioner, or an entity with an officer, director, agent, manager or individual who owns or has a controlling interest in the entity who has been convicted of crimes as specified in section 1128 of the SSA, excluded from participation in the Medicare or Medicaid program, assessed a civil penalty under the provisions of section 1128, or has a contractual relationship with an entity convicted of a crime specified in section 1128.

Pursuant to section 1128 of the SSA, Molina and its Subcontractors may not subcontract with an Excluded Practitioner/person. Molina and its Subcontractors shall terminate subcontracts immediately when Molina and its Subcontractors become aware of such excluded Practitioner/person or when Molina and its Subcontractors receive notice.

Molina and its Subcontractors certify that neither it nor its Member/Practitioner is presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this transaction by any Federal department or agency. Where Molina and its Subcontractors are unable to certify any of the statements in this certification, Molina and its Subcontractors shall attach a written explanation to this Agreement.

## **Ongoing Monitoring of Sanctions and Exclusions**

Molina monitors the following agencies for Practitioner sanctions and exclusions between recredentialing cycles for all Practitioner types and takes appropriate action against Practitioners when occurrences of poor quality are identified. If a Molina Practitioner is found to be sanctioned or excluded, the Practitioner's contract will immediately be terminated effective the same date as the sanction or exclusion was implemented.

- **The United States Department of Health & Human Services (HHS), Office of Inspector General (OIG) Fraud Prevention and Detection Exclusions Program** – Monitor for individuals and entities that have been excluded from Medicare and Medicaid programs.

- **State Medicaid Exclusions** – Monitor for State Medicaid exclusions through each State’s specific Program Integrity Unit (or equivalent).
- **Medicare Exclusion Database (MED)** – Molina monitors for Medicare exclusions through the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) MED online application site.
- **Medicare Preclusion List** – Monitor for individuals and entities that are reported on the Medicare Preclusion List.
- **National Practitioner Database** – Molina enrolls all credentialed practitioners with the NPDB Continuous Query service to monitor for adverse actions on license, DEA, hospital privileges and malpractice history between credentialing cycles.
- **System for Award Management (SAM)** – Monitor for Practitioners sanctioned with SAM. Molina also monitors the following for all Practitioner types between the recredentialing cycles.
  - Member Complaints/Grievances
  - Adverse Events
  - Medicare Opt Out
  - Social Security Administration Death Master File

### **Provider Appeal Rights**

In cases where the Credentialing Committee suspends or terminates a Provider’s contract based on quality of care or professional conduct, a certified letter is sent to the Provider describing the adverse action taken and the reason for the action, including notification to the Provider of the right to a fair hearing when required pursuant to Laws or regulations.

## 15. Member Grievances and Appeals

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Molina Members have the right to file and submit a grievance and/or appeal through a formal process. Members may elect a personal representative or a provider to file the grievance or appeal on their behalf.

### **Complaints, Grievances and Appeals Process**

1. **Complaints** – may be either grievances or appeals or both and may be processed under one or both procedures. The Appeals and Grievance Form can be completed by the Member or representative when filing and submitting a grievance or appeal.

Each issue is adjudicated separately. **Complaints or disputes involving organization determinations are processed as appeals.** All other issues are processed as grievances. General guidelines that are used to determine the category of the complaint are:

- The grievance process will be used for complaints concerning disenrollment, cost sharing, changes in premiums, and access to a Provider or Molina;
- Changes in Provider availability to a specific Member will be considered an organization determination.
- The QIO process is used for complaints regarding quality of medical care.

2. **Grievances** – Grievance procedures are as follows:

- Molina will accept any information or evidence concerning the grievance orally or in writing not later than sixty (60) days after the event and will thoroughly investigate, track and process the grievance within thirty (30) days unless an extension is granted;
- If Molina extends the time necessary or refuses to grant an organization determination or reconsideration Molina will respond to the Member within twenty-four (24) hours; and,
- Complaints concerning the timely receipt of services already provided are considered grievances.

**Quality of Care** – Molina Members have a right to file a complaint regarding the care provided. Molina must respond to all Quality of Care complaints in writing to the Member. Molina monitors, manages, and improves the quality of clinical care and services received by its Members by investigating all issues including Serious Adverse Events, Hospital Acquired Conditions and Never Events. Members may also file care complaints with the State's contracted and CMS assigned Quality Improvement Organization.

3. **Organization Determination**

Organization Determinations are any determinations (an approval, modification or denial) made by Molina regarding payment or services to which a Member believes he/she is entitled such as temporarily out-of-area renal dialysis services, emergency services, post-stabilization care, or urgently needed services.

Molina Utilization Management Department handles organization determination.

Organization Determination is discussed in Healthcare Services section of this Provider Manual. Any party to an organizational determination, e.g., a Member, a Member's



representative or a non-contracted Provider, or a termination of services decision, may request that the determination be reconsidered.

Organization determinations are either standard or expedited depending on the urgency of the Member's request.

#### **4. Part-D Appeals – Please see the Medicare Part D section of this Provider Manual.**

#### **Definition of Key Terms used in the Molina Healthcare Grievance and Appeal Process**

The definitions that follow will clarify terms used by Molina for Member appeals and grievances. Following the definitions is a brief discussion of Molina grievance and appeal processes. Any questions on these policies should be directed to your Provider Services Representative.

**Appeal** – Any of the procedures that deal with the review of adverse organization determinations on the health care services a Member believes he or she is entitled to receive, including delay in providing, arranging for, or approving the health care services (such that a delay would adversely affect the health of the Member), or on any amounts the Member must pay for a service as defined in 42 CFR 422.566(b). These procedures include reconsideration by Molina and if necessary, an independent review entity, hearing before an Administrative Law Judge (ALJ), review by the Medicare Appeals Council (MAC), and judicial review.

**Assignee** – A non-contracted Provider who has furnished a service to the Member and formally agrees to waive any right to payment from the Member for that service.

**Complaint** – Any expression of dissatisfaction to Molina, Provider, facility or Quality Improvement Organization (QIO) by a Member made orally or in writing. This can include concerns about the operations of Providers or Molina such as: waiting times, the demeanor of health care personnel, the adequacy of facilities, the respect paid to Members, the claims regarding the right of the Member to receive services or receive payment for services previously rendered. It also includes a plan's refusal to provide services to which the Member believes he or she is entitled. A complaint could be either a grievance or an appeal, or a single complaint could include elements of both. Every complaint must be handled under the appropriate grievance and/or appeal process.

**Coverage Determination: Denial Notices** – A written denial notice by Molina that states the specific reasons for the denial and informs the Member of his or her right to reconsideration. The notice describes both the standard and expedited appeals processes and the rest of the appeals process. For payment denials, the notice describes the standard redetermination process and the rest of the appeals process.

**Effectuation** – Compliance with a reversal of Molina original adverse organization determination. Compliance may entail payment of a claim, authorization for a service, or provision of services.

**Member** – A Medicare-eligible individual who has elected a Medicare plan offered by a Medicare Advantage organization, or a Medicare eligible individual who has elected a cost plan or HCPP.

**Independent Review Entity** – An independent entity contracted by CMS to review Molina's adverse reconsiderations of organization determinations.

Inquiry – Any oral or written request to Molina, Provider, or facility, without an expression of dissatisfaction, e.g., a request for information or action by a Member.

Medicare Plan – A plan defined in 42 CFR. 422.2 and described at 422.4.

Organization Determination – Any determination made by Molina with respect to any of the following:

1. Payment for temporarily out of the area renal dialysis services, emergency services, post-stabilization care, or urgently needed services;
2. Payment for any other health services furnished by a Provider other than a Molina Medicare Provider that the Member believes are covered under Medicare, or, if not covered under Medicare, should have been furnished, arranged for, or reimbursed by Molina;
3. Molina's refusal to provide or pay for services, in whole or in part, including the type or level of services, that the Member believes should be furnished or arranged for by the Medicare health plan;
4. Discontinuation of a service if the Member believes that continuation of the services is medically necessary; and/or,
5. Failure of Molina to approve, furnish, arrange for, or provide payment for health care services in a timely manner, or to provide the Member with timely notice of an adverse determination, such that a delay would adversely affect the health of the Member.

Quality Improvement Organization (QIO) – Organizations comprised of practicing doctors and other health care experts under contract to the Federal government to monitor and improve the care given to Medicare Members. QIOs review complaints raised by Members about the quality of care provided by Providers, inpatient hospitals, hospital outpatient departments, hospital emergency rooms, skilled nursing facilities, home health agencies, Molina, and ambulatory surgical centers. The QIOs also review continued stay denials for Members receiving care in acute inpatient hospital facilities as well as coverage terminations in SNFs, HHAs and CORFs.

Quality of Care Issue – A quality of care complaint may be filed through the Molina grievance process and/or a QIO. A QIO must determine whether the quality of services (including both inpatient and outpatient services) provided by Molina meets professionally recognized standards of health care, including whether appropriate health care services have been provided and whether services have been provided in appropriate settings.

Reconsideration – A Member's first step in the appeal process after an adverse organization determination; Molina or independent review entity may reevaluate an adverse organization determination, the findings upon which it was based, and any other evidence submitted or obtained.

Representative – An individual appointed by a Member or other party, or authorized under State or other applicable Law, to act on behalf of a Member or other party involved in the appeal.

Unless otherwise stated, the representative will have all of the rights and responsibilities of a Member or party in obtaining an organization determination or in dealing with any of the levels of the appeals process, subject to the applicable rules described in 42 CFR part 405.

## **Important Information about Member Appeal Rights**

For information about members' appeal rights, call the Molina Member Service Department Monday through Friday 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. toll free at (855) 735-5604 or 711 for persons with hearing impairments (TTY/TDD).

Below is information for Molina Members regarding their appeal rights. A detailed explanation of the appeal process is included in the Member's Evidence of Coverage (EOC) that has been provided to them. If Members have additional questions, please refer them to Molina's Member & Provider Contact Center.

### **There Are Two (2) Kinds of Appeals You Can File**

**Standard Appeal Thirty (30) days** – You can ask for a standard appeal. The plan must give you a decision no later than thirty (30) days after it gets your appeal. The plan may extend this time by up to fourteen (14) days if you request an extension, or if it needs additional information and the extension benefits the Member.

**Expedited Seventy-Two (72) hour review** – You can request for an expedited appeal if you believe that the Member's health could be seriously harmed by waiting too long for a decision. The plan must decide an expedited appeal no later than seventy-two (72) hours after it receives your appeal. The plan may extend this time by up to fourteen (14) days if you request an extension, or if it needs additional information and the extension benefits the Member.

### **What do I include with my Appeal?**

You should include name of the appealing physician, their address, their contact information, Member ID number, reason for appealing and any evidence you wish to attach. You may send in supporting medical records, documentations, or other information that explains why the plan should provide service.

### **How do I file an Appeal?**

For Standard Appeal\*: mail, deliver, or fax your written appeal to Molina at:

Molina Healthcare  
Attn: Grievance and Appeals  
P.O. Box 22816  
Long Beach, CA 90801-9977  
FAX: (562) 499-0610

Hours of Operation: Monday through Sunday 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

To file an oral grievance call us toll free: (888) 275-8750

## **Medical Coverage Appeals with eviCore Healthcare on selected services**

\*Molina has contracted with eviCore Healthcare (eviCore) to manage preauthorization requests for the following specialized clinical services:

- Imaging and Special Tests
  - Advanced Imaging (MRI, CT, PET, Select Ultrasounds)
  - Cardiac Imaging
- Radiation Therapy
- Sleep Covered Services and Related Equipment
- Molecular and Genomic Testing

For medical coverage appeals of the above services, contact eviCore:

eviCore Healthcare  
Attn: Clinical Appeals  
400 Buckwalter Place Blvd  
Bluffton, SC 29910

Fax: 1-866-699-8128

Or email [appeals@evicore.com](mailto:appeals@evicore.com)

## 16. Medicare Part D

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A Part D coverage determination is a decision about whether to provide or pay for a Part D drug. A decision concerning a tiering exception request, a formulary exception request a decision on the amount of cost sharing for a drug or whether a member has or has not satisfied a prior authorization or other UM requirement.

Any party to a coverage determination, (e.g., a member, a member's representative) may request that the determination be appealed. A member, a member's representative, or provider are the only parties who may request that Molina Medicare expedite a coverage determination or redetermination.

Coverage determinations are either standard or expedited depending on the urgency of the member's request.

### **Appeals/Redeterminations**

When a Member's request for a coverage determination is denied, Members may choose someone (including an attorney, Provider, or other authorized representative) to serve as their personal representative to act on their behalf. After the date of the denial, a Member has up to sixty (60) days to request a redetermination. This is the first level of appeal for Part D adverse decisions. Appeal data is confidential.

The redetermination request will be responded to within seven (7) days. If an expedited appeal is required for an emergent situation, then the decision will be made within seventy-two (72) hours of the request.

At any time during the appeal process, the Member or personal representative may submit written comments, papers or other data about the appeal in person or in writing. If the appeal/reconsideration is denied, the Member has the right to send the appeal to the Independent Review Entity (IRE) within sixty (60) days of receipt of the appeal. The IRE has seven (7) days to make a decision for a standard appeal/reconsideration and seventy-two (72) hours for an expedited request. The IRE will notify Molina and the Member of the decision. When an expedited review is requested, the IRE will make a decision within seventy-two (72) hours.

If the IRE changes the Molina decision, authorization for service must be made within seventy-two (72) hours for standard appeals and within twenty-four (24) hours for expedited appeals.

Payment appeals must be paid within thirty (30) days from the date the plan receives notice of the reversal.

If the IRE upholds Molina's denial they will inform the Member of their right to a hearing with the ALJ and will describe the procedures that must be followed to obtain an ALJ hearing.

CMS's IRE monitors Molina's compliance with determinations to decisions that fully or partially reverse an original Molina denial. The IRE is currently Maximums Federal Services, Inc.

## **Part D Prescription Drug Exception Policy**

CMS defines a coverage determination as the first decision made by a plan regarding the prescription drug benefits a Member is entitled to receive under the plan, including a decision not to provide or pay for a Part D drug, a decision concerning an exception request, and a decision on the amount of cost sharing for a drug.

An exception request is a type of coverage determination request. Through the exceptions process, a Member can request an off-formulary drug, an exception to the plan's tiered cost sharing structure, and an exception to the application of a cost UM tool (e.g., step therapy requirement, dose restriction, or prior authorization requirement).

Molina is committed to providing access to medically necessary prescription drugs to Members of Molina. If a drug is prescribed that is not on Molina's formulary, the Member or Member's representative may file for an exception. All exceptions and appeals are handled at the plan level (on-site) and are not delegated to another entity. Please see below for contact information by plan for personnel who handle the exceptions. Members or the Member's representatives (who can include Providers and pharmacists) may call, write, fax, or e-mail Molina's exception contact person to request an exception. Procedures and forms to apply for an exception may be obtained from the contact persons.

Part D Exceptions and Appeals Contact Information: call **Molina at (855) 735-5604** or **fax (866) 290-1309**.

The Policy and Procedure for Exceptions and Appeals will be reviewed by a Pharmacy and Therapeutics (P&T) Committee on an annual basis at minimum. Exception/Prior Authorization criteria are also reviewed and approved by a P&T Committee.

1. **Formulary** - A formulary is a list of medications selected by Molina in consultation with a team of health care providers, which represents the prescription therapies believed to be a necessary part of a quality treatment program. Molina will generally cover the drugs listed in our formulary as long as the drug is medically necessary, the prescription is filled at a Molina network pharmacy and other plan rules are followed.

Formularies may be different depending on the Molina plan and will change over time. Current formularies for all products may be downloaded from our Website at [www.MolinaHealthcare.com](http://www.MolinaHealthcare.com).

2. **Copayments for Part D** - The amount a patient pays depends on which drug tier the drug is in under the plan and whether the patient fills the prescription at a preferred network pharmacy.

Most Part D services have a co-payment;

- Co-payments cannot be waived by Molina per the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services; and
- Co-payments for Molina may differ by state and plan.

### 3. Restrictions on Molina Medicare Drug Coverage

Some covered drugs may have additional requirements or limits on coverage. These requirements and limits may include:

- **Prior Authorization:** Molina requires prior authorization for certain drugs, some of which are on the formulary and also drugs that are not on the formulary. Without prior approval, Molina may not cover the drug;
- **Quantity Limits:** For certain drugs, Molina limits the amount of the drug that it will cover;
- **Step Therapy:** In some cases, Molina requires patients to first try certain drugs to treat a medical condition before it will cover another drug for that condition. For example, if Drug A and Drug B both treat a medical condition, Molina may not cover drug B unless drug A is tried first; and/or,
- **Part B Medications:** Certain medications and/or dosage forms listed in this formulary may be available on Medicare Part B coverage depending upon the place of service and method of administration. Newly FDA approved drugs are considered non-formulary and subject to non-formulary policies and other non-formulary utilization criteria until a coverage decision is rendered by the Molina Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee.

### 4. Non-Covered Molina Medicare Part D Drugs:

- Agents when used for anorexia, weight loss, or weight gain (no mention of medically necessary);
- Agents when used to promote fertility;
- Agents used for cosmetic purposes or hair growth;
- Agents used for symptomatic relief of cough or colds;
- Prescription vitamins and minerals, except those used for prenatal care and fluoride preparations;
- Non-prescription drugs, except those medications listed as part of Molina's Medicare over-the-counter (OTC) monthly benefit as applicable and depending on the plan;
- Outpatient drugs for which the manufacturer seeks to require that associated tests or monitoring services be purchased exclusively from the manufacturer or its designee as a condition of sale;
- Molina Members with Medicaid coverage may have a limited selection of these excluded medications as part of its Medicaid coverage for Members assigned to Molina Medicaid.
- Prescriptions that are not being used for a medically accepted indication (i.e., prescriptions must either be FDA-approved or compendia supported for the diagnosis for which they are being used; the Medicare-approved compendia are American Hospital Formulary Service Drug Information (AHFS) and DRUGDEX® Information System).

### 5. There may be differences between the Medicare and Medicaid Formularies-The

Molina Formulary includes many injectable drugs not typically found in its Medicaid formularies such as those for the aged, blind and disabled.

### 6. Requesting a Molina Medicare Formulary Exception - Molina Medicare product drug prior authorizations are called Exceptions, which are required when your patient needs a drug that is not on the Formulary. A member, a member's appointed representative or a member's prescribing provider are permitted to file an Exception. (The process for filing

an exception is predominantly a fax-based system.) The form for exception requests is available on the Molina Medicare website [www.MolinaHealthcare.com](http://www.MolinaHealthcare.com).

**7. Requesting a Molina Medicare or Medicaid Formulary Redetermination (Appeal) -**

The appeal process involves an adverse determination regarding Molina Medicare issuing a denial for a requested drug or claim payment. If the member received a Notice of Denial of Medicare Prescription Drug Coverage and disagrees with the decision rendered, he/she may request a redetermination (appeal) from Molina Medicare by completing the appeal form sent with the Notice of Denial.

A Member, a Member's appointed representative or a Member's prescribing Provider (for expedited appeals) may complete the appeal form and submit any information which may help Molina with the processing of the appeal. An appeal must be submitted in writing and filed within sixty (60) calendar days from the date that the determination was rendered.

- A standard appeal may be submitted to Molina in writing or can be taken over the telephone. The appeal will be reviewed upon receipt and the Member will be notified in writing within seven (7) calendar days from the date the request for re-determination is received.
- An expedited appeal can be requested orally or in writing by the Member or by a Provider acting on behalf of the Member. An expedited appeal may be requested in situations where applying the standard time frame could seriously jeopardize the Member's life, health or ability to regain maximum function. If a Provider supports the request for an expedited appeal, Molina will honor this request.
- If a Member submits an appeal without Provider support, Molina will review the request to determine if it meets Medicare's criteria for expedited processing. If the plan determines that the request meets the expedited criteria, Molina will render a decision as expeditiously as the Member's health requires, but not exceeding seventy-two (72) hours. If the request does not meet the expedited criteria, Molina will render a coverage decision within the standard redetermination time frame of seven (7) calendar days.

To submit a verbal request, please call **(855) 735-5604**.

Written appeals can be **faxed to (866)-290-1309**.

**8. Initiating a Part D Exception (Prior Authorization) Request -** Molina will accept requests from Providers or a Member's appointed representative on the behalf of the Member either by a written or verbal request. The request may be communicated through the standardized Molina Medication Prior Authorization Request Form or through telephone via fax and telephone lines.

All requests will be determined and communicated to the Member and the Member's prescribing Provider with an approval or denial decision within seventy-two (72) hours/three (3) calendar days after Molina receives the completed request.

Molina will request submission of additional information if a request is deemed incomplete for a determination decision. All requests may be approved by; 1) Molina Pharmacy Technician under the supervision of a pharmacist; 2) Molina Pharmacist; or, 3) Chief Medical Officer (CMO) of Molina. Review criteria will be made available at the request of the Member or his/her prescribing Provider. Molina will determine whether a specific off-label use is a medically accepted indication based on the following criteria:



- a. A prescription drug is a Part D drug only if it is for a medically accepted indication, which is supported by one or more citations included or approved for inclusion with the following compendia:
  - American Hospital Formulary Service Drug Information; and,
  - DRUGDEX Information System.
- b. Requests for off-label use of medications will need to be accompanied with excerpts from one (1) of the two (2) CMS-required compendia for consideration. The submitted excerpts must site a favorable recommendation.
- c. Depending upon the prescribed medication, Molina may request the prescribing Provider to document and justify off-label use in clinical records and provide information such as diagnostic reports, chart notes, and medical summaries.

Denial decisions are only given to the Member or Member's representative by a Pharmacist or CMO of Molina. The written denial notice to the Member (and the prescriber involved) includes the specific rationale for denial; the explanation of both the standard and expedited appeals process; and, an explanation of a Member's right to, and conditions for, obtaining an expedited an appeals process.

If Molina denies coverage of the prescribed medication, Molina will give the Member a written notice within seventy-two (72) hours explaining the reason for the denial and how to initiate the appeals process. If no written notice is given to the Member within the specified timeframe, Molina will start the next level of appeal by sending the Coverage Determination request to the IRE within twenty-four (24) hours.

If a coverage determination is expedited, Molina will notify the Member of the coverage determination decision within the twenty-four (24) hour timeframe by telephone and mail the Member a written Expedited Coverage Determination within three (3) calendar days of the oral notification. If Molina does not give the Member a written notification within the specified timeframe, Molina will start the next level of appeal by sending the Coverage Determination request to IRE within twenty-four (24) hours.

- 9. Initiating a Part D Appeal** – If Molina's initial coverage determination is unfavorable, a Member may request a first level of appeal, or re-determination within sixty (60) calendar days from the date of the notice of the coverage determination. In a Standard Appeal Molina has up to seven (7) days to make the re-determination, whether favorable or adverse, and notify the Member in writing within seven (7) calendar days from the date the request for re-determination is received. Members or a Member's prescribing Provider may request Molina to expedite a redetermination if the standard appeal timeframe of seven (7) days may seriously jeopardize the Member's life, health, or ability to regain maximum function. Molina has up to seventy-two (72) hours to make the re-determination, whether favorable or adverse, and notify the Member in writing within seventy-two (72) hours after receiving the request for re-determination. If additional information is needed for Molina to make a re-determination, Molina will request the necessary information within twenty-four (24) hours of the initial request for an expedited re-determination. Molina will inform

the Member and prescribing Provider of the conditions for submitting the evidence since the timeframe is limited on expedited cases.

**10. The Part D Independent Review Entity (IRE)** – If the re-determination is unfavorable, a Member may request reconsideration by the IRE. The Part D Qualified Independent Contractor is currently MAXIMUS Federal, a CMS contractor that provides second level appeals.

- **Standard Appeal:** The IRE has up to seven (7) days to make the decision.
- **Expedited Appeal:** The IRE has up to seventy-two (72) hours for to make the decision.
- **Administrative Law Judge (ALJ):** If the IRE's reconsideration is unfavorable, a Member may request a hearing with an ALJ if the amount in controversy requirement is satisfied. Note: Regulatory timeframe is not applicable on this level of appeal.
- **Medicare Appeals Council (MAC):** If the ALJ's finding is unfavorable, the Member may appeal to the MAC, an entity within the Department of Health and Human Services that reviews ALJ's decisions. Note: Regulatory timeframe is not applicable on this level of appeal.
- **Federal District Court (FDC)** – If the MAC's decision is unfavorable, the Member may appeal to a Federal district court, if the amount in controversy requirement is satisfied. Note: Regulatory timeframe is not applicable on this level of appeal.

### **Pain Safety Initiative (PSI) Resources**

Safe and appropriate opioid prescribing and utilization is a priority for all of us in health care. Molina requires Providers to adhere to Molina's drug formularies and prescription policies designed to prevent abuse or misuse of high-risk chronic pain medication. Providers are expected to offer additional education and support to Members regarding Opioid and pain safety as needed.

Molina is dedicated to ensuring Providers are equipped with additional resources, which can be found on the Molina Provider website. Providers may access additional Opioid-safety and Substance Use Disorder resources at [www.MolinaHealthcare.com](http://www.MolinaHealthcare.com) under the Health Resource tab. Please consult with your Provider Services Representative or reference the medication formulary for more information on Molina's Pain Safety Initiatives.

## **17. Risk Adjustment Management Program**

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### **What is Risk Adjustment?**

Risk Adjustment is a process that helps accurately measure the health status of a plan's membership based on medical conditions and demographic information.

This process helps ensure health plans receive accurate payment for services provided to Molina members and prepares for resources that may be needed in the future.

### **Why is Risk Adjustment Important?**

- Allows Molina to focus on quality and efficiency.
- Enables Molina to recognize and address current and potential health conditions early.
- Identifies members for Case Management referral.
- Ensures accurate payment for the acuity levels of Molina members.
- Risk Adjustment allows Molina to have the resources to deliver the highest quality of care to Molina members.

### **Your Role as a Provider**

As a Provider your documentation in a member's medical record is critical to a Member's quality of care.

For a complete and accurate medical record, all Provider documentation must:

- Be compliant with CMS correct coding initiative.
- Use the correct ICD-10 code by coding the condition to the highest level of specificity.
- Only submit codes for diagnoses confirmed during a face to face visit with the Member.
- Contain a treatment plan.
- Be clear and concise.
- Contain the Member's name and date of service.
- Have the physician's signature and credentials.

### **RADV Audits**

As part of the regulatory process, State and/or Federal agencies may conduct Risk Adjustment Data Validation (RADV) audits to ensure that the diagnosis data submitted by Molina is accurate. All claims/encounters submitted to Molina are subject to State and/or Federal and internal health plan auditing. If Molina is selected for a RADV audit, providers will be required to provide medical records to validate the previously submitted data.

### **Contact Information**

For questions about Molina's Risk Adjustment programs, please contact our team at:

[RiskAdjustment.Programs@MolinaHealthcare.com](mailto:RiskAdjustment.Programs@MolinaHealthcare.com)

## **18. Long Term Services and Support (LTSS)**

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### **LTSS Overview**

LTSS includes both Long-Term Care (LTC) and Home and Community Based Services (HCBS). Long-Term Care programs are when an individual is living in a facility-based care setting (such as a nursing home or intermediate care facility). Home and community-based services programs provide alternatives to living in facility-based care settings. These programs empower consumers to take an active role in their health care and to remain in the community. The programs serve people who are older adults, people with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities, or people with disabilities.

Molina understands the importance of working with our providers and Community Based Organizations (CBO's) in your area to ensure our members receive LTSS services that maintain their independence and ability to remain in the community.

Molina's LTSS provider network is a critical component to ensuring our members receive the right care, in the right place, at the right time. The following information has been included to help support our LTSS provider network and achieve a successful partnership in serving those in need.

### **LTSS Services and Molina Healthcare**

Molina Dual Options MI Health Link is the brand name of Molina Healthcare of Michigan Inc.'s Medicare-Medicaid Program (MMP). Molina Dual Options MI Health Link is designed for members who are dual eligible for both Medicare and full Medicaid to provide quality healthcare coverage and services with little out-of-pocket costs. Providers must meet requirements outlined in the MI Health Link Minimum Operating Standards in order to provide LTSS services to Molina Members. The MI Health Link Minimum Operating Standards document can be found on the MDHHS website.

For more information regarding member eligibility criteria to enroll in Molina's Dual Options MI Health Link, please refer to the Eligibility and Enrollment in Molina Dual Options (MI Health Link) A Medicare-Medicaid Program section of the Provider Manual.

### **LTSS Benefits and Services**

- **Adaptive Medical Equipment and supplies**  
Devices, controls, or appliances specified in the Individual Integrated Care and Supports Plan (IICSP) that enable Members 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 Member functional limitations.

- **Adult Day Program**

Adult Day Program services are furnished four or more hours per day on a regularly scheduled basis, for one or more days per week, or as specified in the Plan of Care, in a non-institutional, community-based setting, encompassing both health and social services needed to ensure the optimal functioning of the Member. Meals provided as part of these services shall not constitute a “full nutritional regimen,” i.e., three meals per day. Physical, occupational and speech therapies may be furnished as component parts of this service.

- **Assistive Technology**

This includes technology items used to increase, maintain, or improve a member’s functioning and promote independence. The service may include assisting the Member in the selection, design, purchase, lease, acquisition, application, or use of the technology item. This service also includes vehicle modifications to the vehicle that is the Member's primary method of transportation. This service includes repairs and maintenance of assistive technology devices.

- **Chore Services**

Services needed to maintain the home in a clean, sanitary, and safe environment to provide safe access inside the home and yard maintenance and snow plowing to provide access to and egress outside of the home. This service includes tasks such as heavy household chores (washing floors, windows, and walls), tacking loose rugs and tiles, moving heavy items of furniture, mowing, raking, and cleaning hazardous debris such as fallen branches and trees, and pest control. May include materials and disposable supplies used to complete chore tasks.

- **Community Transition Services**

This service includes non-reoccurring expenses for Members transitioning from a nursing facility to another residence where the Member is responsible for his or her own living arrangement.

- **Environmental Modifications**

Physical adaptations to the home, required by the Member’s Plan of Care, that are necessary to ensure the health and welfare of the Member or that enable the Member to function with greater independence in the home. Such adaptations include the installation of ramps and grab bars, widening of doorways, modification of bathroom facilities, or installation of specialized electric and plumbing systems that are necessary to accommodate the medical equipment and supplies necessary for the welfare of the Member.

- **Expanded Community Living Supports**

To receive Expanded Community Living Supports (ECLS), Members MUST have a need for prompting, cueing, observing, guiding, teaching, and/or reminding to independently complete activities of daily living (ADLs) such as eating, bathing, dressing, toileting, other personal hygiene, etc.

- **Fiscal Intermediary**

Fiscal Intermediary (FI) services assist the Member, or a representative identified in the Member’s Plan of Care to live independently in the community while controlling his/her individual budget and choosing the staff to work with him/her. The FI helps the Member to manage and distribute funds contained in the individual budget. The Member uses funds to purchase home and community-based services authorized in the Plan of Care. Note: this service is only available to self-determining waiver members as identified and authorized by Health Plan.

- **Home Delivered Meals**  
The provision of one to two nutritionally sound meals per day to Members who are unable to care for their nutritional needs. This service must include and prioritize healthy meal choices that meet any established criteria under state or federal law. Meal options must meet Member preferences in relation to specific food items, portion size, dietary needs, and cultural and/or religious preferences. Each provider shall document meals served.
- **Non-Medical Transportation**  
Service offered to enable Members to gain access to waiver and other community services, activities, and resources, specified by the Plan of Care.
- **Personal Care Services**  
Personal care services are available to persons who require hands-on assistance in activities of daily living (ADLs): eating, toileting, bathing, grooming, dressing, mobility, and transferring, as well as direct assistance in instrumental activities of daily living (IADL), including personal laundry, light housekeeping, shopping, meal preparation and cleanup, and medication administration.
- **Personal Emergency Response System**  
This electronic device enables Members to secure help in an emergency. The Member may also wear a portable “help” button to allow for mobility. The system is connected to the Member’s phone and programmed to signal a response center once a “help” button is activated.
- **Preventive Nursing Services**  
Preventive Nursing Services are covered on a part-time, intermittent (separated intervals of time) basis for a Member who generally requires nursing services for the management of a chronic illness or physical disorder in the Member’s home and are provided by a registered nurse (RN) or a licensed practical nurse (LPN) under the supervision of a RN. Nursing services are for Members who require more periodic or intermittent nursing than otherwise available for preventive interventions to reduce the occurrence of adverse outcomes for the Member such as hospitalizations and nursing facility admissions. A Member using this service must demonstrate a need for observation and evaluation.
- **Private Duty Nursing**  
Private Duty Nursing (PDN) services are skilled nursing interventions provided to a Member age 21 or older on an individual and continuous basis, up to a maximum of 16 hours per day, to meet the Member’s health needs directly related to the Member’s physical disability.
- **Respite**  
Respite care services are provided on a short-term, intermittent basis to relieve the Member’s family or other primary caregiver(s) from daily stress and care demands during times when they are providing unpaid care. Relief needs of hourly or shift staff workers should be accommodated by staffing substitutions, plan adjustments, or location changes and not by respite care.

## **Getting Care, Getting Started**

A Molina Care Coordinator will engage with members and routinely assess for barriers and opportunities to coordinate medical, behavioral health, and LTSS services.

Specifically, along with providing the fully integrated Individualized Care Plan (ICP), Care Coordinators provide verbal, written and/or alternate format information on:

- After-hours assistance for urgent situations
- Access to timely appointments
- Accommodations available to meet individual linguistic, literacy, and preferred modes of communication
- Advocacy, engagement of family members and informal supports

Molina will work closely with the various Community Based Organizations (CBOs) for home and community-based services (HCBS) to ensure that the member is getting the care that they need.

Once you have been identified as the provider of service, it will be your responsibility for billing of these services. The Individualized Care Plan (ICP) will document services, duration, and any other applicable information.

## **Individualized Care Plan Coordination**

LTSS services to be covered by Molina will require coordination and approval.

The Individualized Care Plan includes the consideration of medical, behavioral, and long-term care needs of the member identified through a person-centered assessment process. The ICP includes informal care, such as family and community support. Molina Healthcare of Michigan will ensure that a person-centered service plan is implemented for the member in compliance with the Department of Health and Human Services HCBS final rule section 441.301.

A Person-centered Service Plan means the plan that documents the amount, duration, and scope of the home and community-based services. The service plan is person centered and must reflect the services and supports that are important for the member to meet their needs, goals and preferences that are identified through an assessment of functional need. The service plan will also identify what is important regarding the delivery of these services and supports (42 CFR 441.301).

The Individualized Care Plan (ICP) will be developed under member's direction and implemented by assigned members of the Interdisciplinary Care Team (ICT) no later than the end date of any existing SA or within the state specific timeframes for initial and reassessments. This applies to (state the different waiver populations in which this applies). All services and changes to services must be documented in the ICP and be under the direction of the member in conjunction with the members Care Coordinator.

The Integrated Care Team (ICT) under member's direction, is responsible for developing the ICP, and is driven by and customizable according to the needs and preferences of the member. As a provider you may be asked to be a part of the ICT.

Additional services can be requested through the member's Care Coordinator anytime including during the assessment process and through the ICT process. Additional services needed must be at

the members direction and can be brought forward by the member, the care manager, and/or the ICT team as necessary. Once an additional need is established, the care plan will be updated with the member's consent and additional services approved.

For additional information regarding LTSS service coordination and approvals in the member's ICP, please contact the Molina Care Coordination Line at (855) 735-5604 ext. 751583.

### **Transition of Care Programs**

Molina has goals, processes and systems in place to ensure smooth transitions between member's setting of care and level of care. This includes transitions to and from inpatient settings (i.e. Nursing Facility to Home).

All Care Coordinators are trained on the transitions of care approach that Molina follows for transitions between care settings. The Care Coordinators can use tablet technology to facilitate on-site, in-person, and home-based assessments that are housed in an electronic health management platform.

### **Continuity of Care (COC) Policy and Requirements**

Molina will allow for the safe transition of members while adhering to minimal service disruption. To minimize service disruption, Molina will honor the member's existing service plans, level of care, and providers (including out-of-network providers) for ninety (90) days.

A member's existing provider may be changed during 90 day transition period only in the following circumstances: (1) the member requests a change; (2) the provider chooses to discontinue providing services to a member as currently allowed by Medicaid; (3) Molina or MDHHS identify provider performance issues that affect a member's health or welfare; or (4) the provider is excluded under state or federal exclusion requirements.

Out-of-network providers who are providing services to members during the initial continuity of care period may be contacted to provide them with information on becoming credentialed, in-network providers as appropriate. If the provider chooses not to join the network, or the member does not select a new in-network provider by the end of the *90 days*, Molina will work with the member in selecting an in-network provider.

Members in a Nursing Facility (NF) at the time of Molina LTSS enrollment may remain in that NF if the member continues to meet nursing facility level of care, unless they or their family or authorized representative prefer to move to a different NF or return to the community. The only reasons for which Molina may require a change in NF is if (1) Molina or MDHHS identify provider performance issues that affect a member's health or welfare; or (2) the provider is excluded under State or Federal exclusion requirements.

For additional information regarding continuity of care and transition of LTSS members, please contact the Molina Care Coordination Line at (855) 735-5604 ext. 751583.

### **Self-Directed Care and Services**

Members have the choice of how their services are delivered through various models, which may include consumer-direction.



Self-directed Care and Services are where individuals or their representatives have decision-making authority over certain services and manage their services with support. Self-directed services give individuals and their families more flexibility, control and responsibility for managing all aspects of the individual's care. Under Self-Directed Care, an individual is the "boss" and can hire and/or fire a provider.

A Care Coordinator will provide oversight to assist the consumer with self-directed personal care. The consumer may choose an authorized representative to help with the day-to-day supervision of their service provider and to assist with employer-related tasks. A financial management agency, also known as a Fiscal Intermediary (FI), will work with consumers to handle the taxes, payroll and worker's compensation responsibilities of being an employer. In addition, all consumer-directed providers are required to meet established training requirements and undergo criminal background checks which will also be coordinated by the Fiscal Intermediary.

### **Credentialing**

Molina uses a standard Credentialing and recredentialing process consistent with state required policies for LTSS providers. Molina also ensures that network providers have physical access, reasonable accommodations and accessible equipment for members with physical or mental disabilities. Detailed information about Molina's credentialing/recredentialing process is available in the Credentialing section of this Provider Manual.

### **Delegation**

Molina may delegate certain administrative responsibilities upon meeting all of Molina's delegation criteria. Molina is accountable for all aspects of the Member's health care delivery, even when it delegates specific responsibilities to sub-contracted entities. Molina's Professional Review Committee must approve all delegation and sub-delegation arrangements. For further information, please reference the Delegation section of the Provider Manual.

### **Member Appeals, Grievances, and State Hearings**

Molina maintains an organized and thorough grievance and appeal process to ensure timely, fair, unbiased and appropriate resolutions. Molina LTSS members, or their authorized representatives, have the right to voice a grievance or submit an appeal through a formal process.

Molina ensures that members have access to the appeal process, by assisting throughout the process in a culturally and linguistically appropriate manner; including oral, written, and language assistance if needed. Appeals, Grievance, and State Fair Hearings information is also included in the Member Handbook. For further information, please reference the Appeals and Grievances section of the Provider Manual.

### **Provider Complaints**

Providers must follow the current Conditions of Participation and Service Specification requirements of their agreement with Molina for which they are certified/approved. Each entity that pays claims will review provider's documentation to verify that services authorized and paid for are provided. Providers must work with Molina first before submitting complaints to the state agency.

## **Critical Incident Reporting and Management**

Molina participates in efforts to prevent, detect and remediate critical incidents, based on requirements for home and community-based waiver programs.

It is important that our providers report any activities that seem out of the norm. It is imperative that we ensure our members are protected and safe from harm. Critical incidents occur in a NF, inpatient behavioral health or home-and community-based service delivery setting (e.g., an adult day health care center, a member's home or any other community-based setting), among other settings will be reported in a timely manner.

The following lists of "incidents" are required to be reported in a timely manner:

- Abuse: The infliction (by one's self or others) of injury, unreasonable confinement, intimidation or cruel punishment with resulting physical harm, pain or mental anguish.
  - Physical abuse is the intentional use of physical force resulting in injury, pain or impairment. It includes pushing, hitting, slapping, pinching and other ways of physically harming a person. It can also mean placing you in incorrect positions, force feeding, restraining or giving medication without your knowledge.
  - Emotional abuse occurs when a person is threatened, humiliated, intimidated or otherwise psychologically hurt. It includes the violation of your right to make decisions and/or the loss of your privacy.
  - Sexual abuse includes rape or other unwanted, nonconsensual sexual contact, but it can also mean forced or coerced nudity, exhibitionism and other non-touching sexual situations, regardless of the age of the perpetrator.
- Neglect: When someone has a duty to do so, but fails to provide goods, services, or treatment necessary to assure your health and welfare.
- Exploitation: the unlawful or improper act of using a member or a member's resources for monetary or personal benefit, profit, or gain.
- Misappropriation: depriving, defrauding or otherwise obtaining the money, or real or personal property (including medication) belonging to you by any means prohibited by law.
- Death of a member.

The maximum timeframe for reporting an incident shall be twenty-four (24) hours. The initial report of an incident within twenty-four (24) hours may be submitted verbally, in which case the person/agency/entity making the initial report shall submit a follow-up written report within forty-eight (48) hours. Non-life-threatening Critical Incidents may be reported by calling Molina at 855-322-4077. If the Critical Incident is life-threatening, contact 911.

## **Fighting Fraud, Waste and Abuse**

Proper member identification is vital to reduce fraud, waste and abuse (FWA) in government health care programs. The best way to verify a member's identity is to obtain a copy of the member's ID card and a form of picture ID.

Do you have suspicions of member or provider fraud? The Molina Healthcare AlertLine is available to you twenty-four (24) hours a day, seven (7) days a week, even on holidays at (866) 606-3889. Reports are confidential, but you may choose to report anonymously.

Molina complies with all Federal and State requirements regarding fraud and abuse, including but not limited to, sections 1128, 1156, and 1902(a) (68) of the Social Security Act.

For further information, please reference the Fraud, Waste and Abuse section of this Provider Manual.

### **Claims for LTSS Care and Services**

Providers are required to bill Molina for all LTSS services electronically, using EDI submission through an EDI Clearinghouse with Molina Healthcare's Payer ID of 38334, or through the Molina Web Portal unless otherwise required.

After registering on the Molina Web Portal, a provider will be able to verify member eligibility, review claim status, and create/submit claims to Molina. To register please visit <https://provider.molinahealthcare.com>. If you experience any problems with the Provider Self-Services website, please contact Molina Healthcare's Help Desk at 1-866-449-6848 for technical assistance.

Molina strongly encourages all claims to be submitted within 60 days of the services being rendered, however, all claims must be received by Molina within 365 days of the services being rendered to be considered for reimbursement.

For more detailed information related to billing, prompt payment, and claims disputes, please refer to the Claims and Compensation section of the Provider Manual.

### **Atypical Providers**

Atypical providers are service providers that do not meet the definition of health care provider. Examples include taxi services, home and vehicle modifications, insect control, habilitation and respite services, etc. Although they are not required to register for an NPI, these providers perform services that are reimbursed by Molina Dual Options MI Health Link.

### **Billing and Balance Billing Molina Members**

Providers contracted with Molina cannot bill the Member for any covered benefits. The Provider is responsible for verifying eligibility and obtaining approval for those services that require prior authorization. Providers agree that under no circumstance shall a Member be liable to the Provider for any sums owed by Molina to the Provider. Provider agrees to accept payment from Molina as payment in full or bill the appropriate responsible party.

Provider may not bill a Molina Member for any unpaid portion of the bill or for a claim that is not paid with the following exceptions:

- The Member has been advised by the Provider that the service is not a covered benefit and the Provider has documentation.
- The Member has been advised by the Provider that he/she is not contracted with Molina and has documentation.

The Member agrees in writing to have the service provided with full knowledge that they are financially responsible for payment.

**Patient Pay Amount (Nursing Facilities Only)**

Patient Pay Amount is the portion of health care costs that a patient is required to pay. Patient Liability is paid directly to a long-term care provider. Patient Pay Amounts remain the same each month unless there is a change in the members income or deductions.

Members residing in nursing facilities will be responsible for patient pay amounts as determined by the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS).