

Overview:

Long Term Home Health Care Program (LTHHCP) 1915(c) Waiver Amendment June 2012

The New York State (NYS) 2011-12 Enacted Budget required mandatory enrollment of certain Medicaid recipients into Managed Long Term Care (MLTC) plans. Specifically, people aged 21 and over, who are eligible for both Medicaid and Medicare and in need of certain community-based long term care services for over 120 days will be required to enroll in a MLTC plan upon approval of the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) of an amendment to the Partnership 1115 waiver.

Included in the requirement to enroll in a MLTC are participants in the Long Term Home Health Care Program (LTHHCP) Medicaid 1915(c) waiver. In order to effectuate that requirement; amendments to the 1915 (c) waiver are necessary. Those amendments were submitted to CMS on June 13, 2012. The waiver amendments primarily concern Participant Access and Eligibility (Appendix B) and Cost Neutrality Demonstration (Appendix J).

When approved, the LTHHCP waiver will be aligned with the planned MLTC mandatory enrollment and transition of LTHHCP participants: 1) new LTHHCP participation will cease in counties deemed mandatory enrollment areas (starting in New York City); and 2) in January 2013 current LTHHCP participants will be transitioned in New York City, Nassau, Suffolk and Westchester Counties. The process of closing new LTHHCP participation and transition of existing participants will continue Statewide as sufficient MLTC capacity becomes available. It is anticipated that expanding statewide will occur over the next three years. However, the LTHHCP waiver will remain operational for as long as required to meet the needs of participants not required to transition to MLTC, such as individuals under age 21 and/or non-dual eligible.

Please see attachments that contain the materials submitted to CMS (Request for an Amendment; Appendix B and Appendix J).