
PROVIDER BULLETIN

Regional Center Services

Medical Record Documentation for Health Plan Chart Audits:



The Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) requires PCP's to refer eligible members to the Regional Center and document the referral in the medical chart. Any coordination between the doctor's office and the Regional Center should also be documented. The health plans perform chart audits of this element each year.

Background:

The Regional Center system serves people with developmental disabilities administered through the Lanterman Developmental Disabilities Act (Lanterman Act). The Lanterman Act gives people with developmental disabilities the right to services and supports they need to live a more independent and normal life. The Regional Center is the central coordinating agency in a community network.

The following conditions are defined as developmental disabilities by the Lanterman Act:

- Intellectual Disability (formerly known as Mental Retardation)
- Cerebral Palsy
- Autism Spectrum Disorder
- Epilepsy
- Other conditions closely related to intellectual disability or requiring treatment similar to that required for individuals with intellectual disability

This definition does not include other handicapping conditions that are solely physical, learning, or psychiatric in nature.

EARLY START PROGRAM (ES)

Families whose infants or toddlers have a developmental delay or disability or an established risk condition with a high probability of resulting in a delay may be eligible to receive Regional Center benefits through the Early Start program.

You can find additional information on the Department of Developmental Disabilities website at www.dds.ca.gov. If you have questions about this bulletin, please call Liza Johnson at 818-265-0800, x232.