

## AA/PCA

Medicaid Members insured under the **Adoption Assistance and Permanency Care Assistance Program (AA/PCA)** moved into Medicaid Managed care on September 1, 2017. Most of these members moved into STAR, while a few moved into STAR Kids. The benefits for these members are the standard benefits of STAR and STAR Kids respectively.

# AA/PCA

## STAR Kids SAI

Driscoll Health Plan is 85% finished with the initial **STAR Kids Screening and Assessment Instruments (SAI)**. This implies that nearly all members have met their assigned Service Coordinator and most PCPs have seen an “order set” generating many of the authorizations for ongoing therapies, disposable supplies, durable medical equipment, and specialty referrals. It is our hope that with complete understanding of each member’s needs and the development of a service plan, some of the paperwork burden can be alleviated. Your prompt attention and timely interaction with the Service Coordinators should make care for these members easier.



## www.txhealthsteps.com

www.txhealthsteps.com continues to add new online courses pertinent to the care of your Medicaid members. This award winning site offers more than 60 free Continuing Education courses in a highly interactive format. A sample of offerings include: Introduction to Screening, Brief Intervention, and Referral to Treatment (SBIRT), Building a Comprehensive and Effective Medical Home, Electronic Medical Records Implementation, and Effective Asthma Management at School.



## Vendor Drug Program

The **Vendor Drug Program** made their mid-year adjustments to the preferred drug list on July 27. While many drugs moved from “Preferred” to “Non-preferred” and vice versa, the high volume medications effecting Primary Care Providers include:

Drug Name	New Status
Bromfed DM	Non-preferred
Bromphen/Pseud/DM	Preferred
Nasonex*	Non-preferred
Quillichew ER	Non-preferred
Methylphenidate CD/ER	Non-preferred

No changes are expected in the **Synagis** (paluvizumab) criteria nor recommendations for the upcoming season. The authorization form is available on the Driscoll Health Plan Portal under the Pharmacy tab, and when completed will guide the prescriber regarding essential information needed to gain “first pass” approval of a request. We anticipate first dose administration in October for our South Texas region.

Due to continued **Zika** spread in Texas, **mosquito repellent** is available to women between 10 and 45 years of age and males 14 and up requesting it at any enrolled pharmacy. This coverage extends to enrolled members in Medicaid, CHIP, CHIP Perinate, Texas Healthy Women, and Children with Special Health Care Needs programs. Two cans per month are available to each eligible member.

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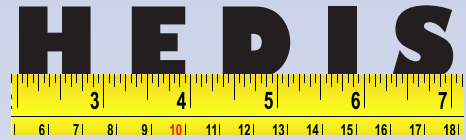
## Antihistamines

Antihistamines, use at your own risk! The warning came loud and clear this past May after the state of Connecticut experienced the deaths of four children under the age of two as a result of parents giving their children antihistamines to help them sleep. Despite extensive outreach about safety concerns with antihistamines and combination cough and cold products in the very young, it is still common practice. In fact, over the past year Driscoll Health Plan dispensed over 85,000 cough and cold prescriptions for members less than four years of age; a majority of those from the antihistamine class. Please make it a priority to educate parents about the risks associated with antihistamines and cough and cold medications both prescription and over the counter products. If the perceived benefit outweighs the risk, consider limiting prescriptions to a single active ingredient. As a reminder, the preferred minimally sedating antihistamines under Texas Medicaid are cetirizine and loratadine.



## QM Corner – HEDIS® 2018

HEDIS® 2018 is just around the corner, but there is still time to ensure that your claims submissions are accurate and show evidence of the service(s) provided. By submitting timely, accurate and appropriate claims and encounter data to DHP, you and your office staff can reduce the need for chart reviews and avoid the load it adds to your already busy day. HEDIS® reference guides are being developed, will be distributed to you and your office, and will be available on the Provider Portal.



If you have questions or want more information on HEDIS® 2018, please contact the QM department at 361-694-5880 or email [DHP\\_HEDIS@dchstx.org](mailto:DHP_HEDIS@dchstx.org) or fax 361-808-2723.

HEDIS® 2018 Hybrid Measures	STAR	CHIP	STAR Kids
<b>WCC</b> - Weight Assessment and Counseling for Nutrition and Physical Activity for Children/Adolescents: • BMI Percentile • Counseling for Nutrition • Counseling for Physical Activity	✓	✓	✓
<b>CIS</b> - Childhood Immunization Status • Combination 2 • Combination 4 • Combination 10 • Antigens	✓	✓	✓
<b>CBP</b> - Controlling High Blood Pressure	✓		
<b>CDC</b> - Comprehensive Diabetes Care • HbA1c Control (<8) • HbA1c Testing • BP Control (<140/90 mmHg)	✓		
<b>PPC</b> - Prenatal and Postpartum Care • Timeliness of Prenatal Care • Postpartum Care	✓		
<b>W15</b> - Well-Child Visits in the First 15 Months of Life	✓		
<b>W34</b> - Well-Child Visits in the Third, Fourth, Fifth, and Sixth Years of Life	✓	✓	✓
<b>AWC</b> - Adolescent Well-Care Visits	✓	✓	✓