

Minnesota Partnership on Pediatric Obesity Care and Coverage (MPPOCC) Fact Sheet on Pediatric Obesity Services

What we know currently about coverage:

In general, Medicaid program covered services include:

- Screening, education, assessments, counseling, surgery and other medically necessary services (Some limitations and prior authorization requirements may apply. Contact health plan for specifics.)
- Comprehensive, intensive behavioral interventions to promote improvement in weight status, including: (1) counseling and other interventions targeting diet and physical activity; (2) parental involvement (for younger children); and (3) >25 hours contact with child and/or family over 6 months
- Visits with primary care and specialty clinicians, dietitians, nurses, counselors and Community Health Workers for the purpose of obesity management

Additional information:

- Medical Assistance fee-for-service, Prepaid Medical Assistance Program (PMAP), and MNCare pediatric enrollees do not have co-pays or other cost-sharing.
- Benefits for PMAP and MNCare pediatric enrollees are the same.
- The number of allowable visits can vary by health plan.
- Further clarification is needed regarding coverage for same-day appointments with multiple providers, and coverage for community-based services.
- Private coverage varies.

Recommendations:

- Provide pediatric obesity services according to USPSTF recommendations. (<http://www.uspreventiveservicestaskforce.org/uspstf/uspschobes.htm>)
- Encourage your billing department to review and assure billing, coding and related service delivery and documentation practices meet health plan requirements.
- Encourage your billing department to determine service costs and communicate these costs up-front in case an individual's plan does not cover the services.

If you have questions, contact provider services at:

MN Department of Human Services	651-431-2700 or 800-366-5411
Blue Cross Blue Shield/Blue Plus of MN	800-676-BLUE (2583)
HealthPartners:	952-883-7666
Medica	800-458-5512
PreferredOne	763-847-4477 or 800-997-1750
UCare	612-676-3300 or 888-531-1493

Coding resources:

- American Academy of Pediatrics Obesity Clinical Decision Support (http://www.hsph.harvard.edu/prc/files/2012/09/Ped-Obesity-flip-chart_Maine_FINAL.pdf)
- “Analysis Shows Existing Medicaid Benefit Codes Cover Childhood Obesity-Related Health Care Treatment” (http://www.rwjf.org/content/dam/farm/reports/program_results_reports/2007/rwjf17101)
- “Strategies for Improving Access to Comprehensive Obesity Prevention and Treatment Services for Medicaid Enrollees” (https://www.cce.csus.edu/conferences/childobesity/09/docs/handouts_r3/Policies%20and%20Weight%20%E2%80%93%20Don%E2%80%99t%20Wait_a.pdf)

Supporting innovative pilots

The MPPOCC provides a “Discussion Guide” to connect MN health plans with clinics interested in piloting additional services and reimbursement mechanisms.

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Partnership Members

- Blue Cross Blue Shield/Blue Plus of MN
- CentraCare
- Children's Hospitals and Clinics
- Entira Family Clinics
- Essentia Health
- Fairview Health Services
- HealthPartners
- Hennepin County Medical Center
- Hennepin County Public Health
- Mayo Clinic
- Medica
- Minneapolis Health Department
- MN Academy of Family Physicians
- Minnesota Academy of Pediatrics
- MN Dept. of Health
- MN Community Measurement
- MN Council of Health Plans
- MN Medical Association
- Park Nicollet
- PreferredOne
- Sanford Health
- Sartell Pediatrics
- UCare
- University of Minnesota Health – Children's Hospital
- YMCA Twin Cities
- Youth Determined to Succeed
- YWCA of Minneapolis

Background

The Minnesota Partnership on Pediatric Obesity Care and Coverage (Partnership), which is led by the Minnesota Council of Health Plans (MCHP) and the Minnesota Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics (MNAPP), is comprised of organizations dedicated to reducing childhood obesity through clinical and community services. The Partnership formed in 2012.

Purpose

To gain a better understanding of (1) clinics' childhood obesity coverage and service packages; and (2) what the health plans would need to do to support these packages.

Addressing Barriers

- Reimbursement
- Coding
- Community referrals
- Communications: providers and parents/kids
- Data, especially focused on getting BMI collected and reported

Accomplishments

- Partnership formally adopted the 5-2-1-0 program and messages
- Resources (including 5-2-1-0 counseling) are posted on MNAAP website
- Partnership members on the MN Community Measurement (MNCM) Measures Work Group
 - "[Treating Childhood Obesity](#)" published in Jan 2014 edition of Minnesota Medicine
 - Support Breastfeeding Coalition
 - Support SHIP (Statewide Health Improvement Program) efforts
 - Work with MN Dept of Human Services on community covered benefits
 - ICSI (Institute for Clinical Systems Improvement) guideline: [Prevention and Management of Obesity for Children and Adolescents](#)
 - Developed a "Discussion Guide" for clinics to use for pilot projects with health plans
 - Consensus on key measures for clinics to track
 - January 2015 webinar: [Pediatric Obesity Services: What's Covered in MN?](#)

Resources

- MN Academy of Pediatrics (MNAAP): <http://www.mnaap.org>
- Institute of Medicine (IOM): <http://www.iom.edu>
- Statewide Health Improvement Program (SHIP): <http://www.health.state.mn.us/ship/>

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