

## Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals Health Plan Advisory 15-18 May 21, 2015

### Early and Periodic Screening Diagnostic and Treatment-Personal Care Services (EPSDT-PCS)

The purpose of this advisory is to provide clarifications on current operational processes for the EPSDT-PCS program that are not yet reflected in Rule and/or the Provider Manual. Specifically:

1. **Presence of a Caregiver** – The following statement from the EPSDT-Personal Care Services provider policy manual, Section 30.17, EPSDT-PCS Prior Authorization, Plan of Care, page 4 of 5, is currently being removed from the policy:

“The Plan of Care shall include... Child care arrangements specified for children 14 years of age or younger, (parent/relative/paid caregiver)”.

**The presence of a caregiver for any EPSDT-PCS eligible recipient, regardless of age, is not to be a determinant in prior authorizing or paying for services.** Bayou Health Managed Care Organizations are to remove this statement or similar language from their policies and forms.

2. **Physical Ability of Parent or Guardian** – To reflect the Louisiana State Plan Amendment (SPA), Attachment 31.A, item 4.b., the following statements will be removed from Chapter 30, Section 30.15, page 1 of 2, second bullet of the Recipient Criteria part of the policy:
  - “To establish medical necessity, the parent or guardian must be physically unable to provide personal care services to the child”, and
  - “If the parent(s) is in the home and is not providing care to the EPSDT eligible, medical documentation for the parent or guardian must be submitted with the request so that the Bureau of Health Services Financing may determine that the parent(s) is physically unable to provide personal care services to the child”.

**The physical ability of a caregiver for any EPSDT-PCS eligible recipient, regardless of age, is not to be a determinant in prior authorizing or paying for services.** Bayou Health Managed Care Organizations are to remove this statement or similar language from their policies and forms.

Health plans shall update their EPSDT-PCS protocols effective immediately to reflect these changes.