

Summary for

Developmental Day Treatment Clinic Services (DDTCS) Provider Manual Update #115

Developmental Day Treatment Clinic Services Provider Manual Update #115 is submitted to effect a change in wording/terminology regarding benefit limitations for Arkansas Medicaid beneficiaries under age 21, related to Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy and Speech/Language Therapy services. DHS Office of Chief Counsel has determined the language currently in place regarding therapy “benefit limits” does not accurately/legally reflect the policy and intent of policy mandated by Centers for Medicare and Medicaid as applied to children under the age of 21. Through Medicaid’s ARKids–A and coverage under the Early and Periodic Screening, Detection and Treatment (EPSDT) program, benefits are not truly “limited”. Medicaid has established thresholds of regular benefits that are available to beneficiaries under age 21 that, once exceeded, require additional medical necessity review and documentation to reimburse the provider for services performed. These services are not defined as “limited” rather they are reviewed and approved based on continued need and medical necessity. These changes are informational and function to incorporate legally defensible language into Medicaid’s provider instruction manuals to correctly/legally state current policy and procedures. Separate guidelines and instructions are added to the manual that did not address these issues under separate sections for beneficiaries under age 21 and age 21 and over. Minor wording changes have been made throughout the update to correct language and clarify policy intent.