



COLORADO

Department of Health Care
Policy & Financing

Children with Life Limiting Illness Waiver Renewal Summary

January 30, 2015

The Colorado Department of Health Care Policy and Financing will be submitting a waiver renewal to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) for the Home and Community-Based Services Children with Life Limiting Illness (HCBS-CLLI) waiver. Home and Community-Based Services waivers provide an alternative to the comprehensive long-term care services delivered in institutional settings by waiving certain Medicaid provisions and allowing these services to be delivered in community settings.

The HCBS-CLLI waiver is a Palliative Care waiver that allows children to begin receiving services early in their diagnosis and allows the family to continue to pursue curative treatments while receiving palliative care. It removes the requirement of a physician certification that death is expected within nine months. If curative treatments are provided along with palliative care, there can be an effective continuum of care throughout the life of the child. This waiver serves children from birth through 18 years of age who are Medicaid eligible and diagnosed with a life-limiting illness.

The HCBS-CLLI waiver provides in-home Respite Care consisting of personal care, nursing or home health aide depending upon the condition of the child; Expressive Therapies such as creative art, music or play therapy; Palliative/Supportive Care such as pain and symptom management and care coordination; Massage therapy; Therapeutic Grief Support and Bereavement Services. Case management for the HCBS-CLLI Waiver is provided by Single Entry Point agencies. Clients who receive HCBS-CLLI waiver services are eligible for all other Medicaid State Plan benefits, including long term home health services.

The Department of Health Care Policy and Financing is required by CMS to either renew a waiver after five years or allow the waiver to expire. The Department plans to renew HCBS-CLLI. All Quality performance measures are being updated to incorporate CMS' new sub-assurances and to allow the state to report meaningful, measureable data as evidence of meeting those sub-assurances. No other significant changes are being made to this renewal.

The renewal will be submitted to CMS by March 2, 2015.

Our mission is to improve health care access and outcomes for the people we serve while demonstrating sound stewardship of financial resources.
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