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Date: December 18, 2023

To: Fee-for-service (FFS) non-emergent medical transportation (NEMT) brokerages and providers

From: Nathan Roberts, Health and Professional Services Policy manager
Medicaid Programs

Subject: NEMT for approved EPSDT services, effective January 1, 2023

January 1, 2023, the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) expanded OHP benefits for children and youth under age 21 to include all Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic and Treatment (EPSDT) services. This includes:

- All medically necessary and medically appropriate physical, dental, behavioral health and pharmacy services.
- NEMT to access approved EPSDT services.

When approving NEMT for children and youth under age 21, brokerages must consider whether services are medically necessary and medically appropriate for their individual needs and approve exceptions as appropriate. For example:

- Do not use age as the sole reason to deny requests for caregiver travel with members over age 12.
- EPSDT requires granting exceptions to age and other hard limits when medically necessary and appropriate for the member's individual needs and circumstances.

To learn more about EPSDT and how to determine service eligibility, please refer to the [EPSDT provider guide](#), which is on OHA's Medical Transportation Services Program [page](#) and EPSDT [page](#).

What should you do?

For children and youth under age 21, continue to consider individual needs when determining coverage for:

- Mode of transport, including secure transport
- Caregivers accompanying members
- Other accommodations

Approve exceptions when appropriate.

Questions?

- **FFS brokerages:** Please contact Operations and Policy Analyst [Jenni Claiborne](#) or [Michelle Meuwissen](#).
- **CCO brokerages:** Please contact [each CCO that contracts with your brokerage](#). They can tell you whether and how the information in this announcement applies to you.

Thank you for your continued support of the Oregon Health Plan and the services you provide to our members.