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Memorandum

To: Skilled Nursing Facility administrators
Hospital discharge teams

From: Nathan Roberts, Hospital and Professional Services Policy manager,
Medicaid Programs
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Department of Human Services Aging and People with Disabilities

Date: January 6, 2026

Subject: Updates to Medicaid Post-Hospital Extended Care Benefit, effective
Jan. 1, 2026

Effective Jan. 1, 2026, Oregon Health Authority (OHA) has expanded the coverage
period for the Medicaid Post-Hospital Extended Care (PHEC) benefit from 20 to 100
days. The PHEC benefit:

- Covers skilled nursing or rehabilitation services for qualifying Oregon Health
  Plan (OHP) members who meet Medicare skilled nursing criteria but do not
  have Medicare coverage.

- To qualify, members must have had a minimum 3-day hospital stay. A medical
  provider must determine that the individual needs extended care but can
  discharge from the hospital stay.

The new PHEC Provider Guide provides detailed information about the PHEC benefit
and who qualifies for the benefit.

Why is this happening?

Section 6 of Senate Bill 296 (2025) directs OHA to establish a PHEC benefit that
covers up to 100 days. This change intends to ensure OHP members get the post-
hospital care they need for their recovery, wellness and safety.

What should you do?

To ensure qualifying OHP members can access up to 100 days of PHEC benefit as appropriate based on their individual needs and circumstances:

- Share this information and the PHEC Provider Guide with key staff.

- Update workflows and policies as needed.

To assess PHEC eligibility for OHP members:

- For fee-for-service (open card) members, contact your local APD/AAA office.

- For coordinated care organization (CCO) members, contact the member's CCO.

Dual eligibles have access to a Medicare benefit instead of PHEC. PHEC billing requirements have not changed; please bill PHEC according to established requirements.

Questions?

If you have any questions, please contact OHP Provider Services at dmap.providerservices@odhsoha.oregon.gov or 800-336-6016.

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

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https://www.oregon.gov/oha/hsd/ohp/pages/phec.aspx

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