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PERMANENT ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER

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CHAPTER 410
OREGON HEALTH AUTHORITY
HEALTH SYSTEMS DIVISION: MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

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FILING CAPTION: Transportation Network Company Pilot Program.

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RULE SUMMARY: Transportation Network Company Pilot Program

CHANGES TO RULE:

410-141-3920

Transportation: NEMT General Requirements

(1) A Coordinated Care Organization (CCO) shall provide all non-emergency medical transportation (NEMT) services for its members. For purposes of OAR 410-141-3920 to 410-141-3965, references to a "member" include any individual eligible for NEMT services under section (1) of this rule unless context dictates otherwise.¶

(a) The CCO is responsible for NEMT services for all of its members' health care services consistent with the covered services described in OAR 410-141-3820 and the excluded services and limitations described in 410-141-3825 and (1)(b) and (1)(c) of this rule;¶

(b) NEMT services for those health care services that, based on the member's plan type, are paid by the Authority's fee-for-service program and that, based on rule or contract, are carved-out from or otherwise not covered by the CCO and provided by the Authority;¶

(c) For members enrolled in the Compact of Free Association (COFA) Dental Program or the Veteran Dental Program, both of which are defined in OAR chapter 410, division 200, the CCO is responsible only for NEMT services related to the member's dental services.¶

(2) A CCO shall provide a toll-free call center for members to request rides.¶

(a) The CCO shall ensure that its call center operates, at a minimum, Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. The CCO may close its call center on New Year's Day, Memorial Day, July 4th, Labor Day, Thanksgiving, and Christmas. The Authority may approve, in writing, additional days of closure if the CCO requests the closure at least 30 days in advance.¶

(A) Consistent with OAR 410-141-3505, a CCO may subcontract the operation of its call center. If the CCO's subcontractor is also contracted by the Authority as an NEMT brokerage for FFS members, the CCO remains fully accountable for the performance of the subcontracted work related to the CCO contract.¶

(3) Neither a CCO nor any of its Subcontracted transportation providers may bill a member for transport to or from covered medical services, even if the CCO or its contracted transportation provider denied reimbursement for the transportation services.¶

(4) Transportation providers shall be considered "participating providers" for the purposes of OAR 410-141-3520 (Record Keeping and Use of Health Information Technology).¶

(5) A CCO shall have written policies and procedures regarding its NEMT services. All policies and procedures must be provided to all Members either in Contractor's Member Handbook or in a stand-alone document referred to as a "NEMT rider guide" that meets the delivery and content specifications as defined by the Authority. The CCO's written policies and procedures regarding NEMT services shall provide, without limitation, for the following:¶

(a) Allow members or their representatives to schedule:¶

(A) NEMT services up to 90 days in advance;¶

(B) Multiple NEMT services at one time for recurring appointments up to 90 days in advance; and¶

(C) Same-day NEMT services.¶

(b) Comply with the following criteria for member drop-offs and pick-up protocols. Drivers are not permitted to:¶

(A) Drop Members off at an appointment more than 15 minutes prior to the office or other facility opening for business unless requested by the member or, as applicable, the Member's guardian, parent, or representative; and¶

(B) Pick up Members from an appointment more than 15 minutes after the office or facility closes for business unless the appointment is not reasonably expected to end within 15 minutes after closing, or as requested by the member, or as applicable, the Member's guardian, parent, or representative.¶

(c) Describe passenger rights and responsibilities as set forth in 42 CFR ¶438.210, and as set forth in OARs 410-141-3920 through 410-141-3960, and other state and federal administrative statutes and rules relating to the rights and responsibilities of Medicaid recipients such as the right to file a grievance and request an appeal or reconsideration.¶

(6) A CCO must review a NEMT ride service authorization request with the following modifications:¶

(a) Approving and scheduling, or denying, a request for NEMT ride services (including all legs of the trip) within twenty-four (24) hours of receiving the request. This timeframe shall be reduced as necessary to ensure the member arrives in time for their appointment:¶

(A) If approved, notify members by their preferred method of contact of the applicable arrangements prior to the date of the NEMT service;¶

(B) If intending to deny the NEMT ride, the CCO must provide a secondary review by another employee with knowledge of NEMT service requirements and mail the NOABD within 72 hours of denial determination.¶

(b) Adhering to the grievance and appeal processes and rights specified in OAR 410-141-3835 through 410-141-3915 available with respect to NEMT services; and¶

(c) The CCO shall mail, within 72 hours of denial, a notice of adverse benefit determination to:¶

(A) A member denied a ride; and¶

(B) CCOs shall provide a copy of the NOABD to the provider with which the affected member was scheduled for an appointment, when the provider is part of the CCO's provider network and requested the transportation on the member's behalf, in a format that is agreeable to the provider and provides sufficient documentation of notification.¶

(7) This rule applies only to the Authority's pilot project in effect for 2/16/2024 through 2/15/2025, which allows a CCO to utilize a Transportation Network Company (TNC) to provide NEMT services to the CCO's members. ¶

(a) Transportation network company (TNC) has the meaning found in ORS 742.520. ¶

(b) A TNC must obtain a certification from the Oregon Health Authority to participate in the TNC Pilot Program as an NEMT provider. Certification for the TNC pilot program is obtained by submitting to HSD.QualityAssurance@odhsoha.oregon.gov the following documents: ¶

(A) A document that identifies the process or policies the TNC follows and documents its compliance with the requirement that each driver has a valid driver license. The TNC must maintain records of their drivers participating in the TNC Pilot and share relevant information with OHA when requested; ¶

(B) A document that identifies the processes or policies the TNC follows and documents its compliance with the processes and policies, to ensure that proposed TNC pilot program drivers, employees, agents and contractors are not, as described in 42 CFR ¶438.610 (a) or (b): Excluded, suspended, or debarred, or otherwise excluded from participating in procurement or non-procurement activities under the Federal Acquisition Regulations or federal Executive Order No. 12549 or the implementation guidelines for federal Executive Order No. 12549; or Excluded from participation in any federal health care program under section 1128 or 1128A of the Social Security Act as described in 42 CFR 438.610; ¶

(C) A document that identifies the process or policies that the TNC follows and documents its compliance with the processes and policies, to ensure that all TNC proposed pilot program drivers have not: Committed more than three (3) traffic violations under ORS 801.557 in the past three (3) years; or Committed one (1) or more traffic crimes under ORS 801.545 within the past seven (7) years; or Have been convicted of Driving Under the Influence of Intoxicants under ORS 813.010 within the last seven (7) years; ¶

(D) The TNC's policy for monitoring the driving records and criminal records of all of its proposed TNC pilot program drivers, employees, agents, and contractors; ¶

(E) The TNC's policy for compliance with federal and state regulatory requirements to ensure all OHP member information is protected in accordance with OAR 410-136-3280; ¶

(F) Proof of insurance and policy compliant with ORS 742.520(1)(b). ¶

(c) Upon receipt of the documents identified in subsection (b) of this rule, the application shall be reviewed and if all requirements are met, then the Authority shall issue a certificate of approval to participate in the TNC Pilot Program. ¶

(A) Once certification is issued, a TNC certified to participate in the TNC Pilot Program shall be eligible to provide rides to OHP Members upon request from the Authority or a CCO; ¶

(B) Rides authorized to be provided by a driver employed by or contracted with a certified TNC Pilot Program may only be utilized by a CCO or the Authority if: ¶

(i) No NEMT driver who meets the requirements identified in OAR 410-136-3040 (NEMT Driver) accepts an NEMT brokerage request within twenty-four (24) hours of the scheduled ride time; or ¶

(ii) A previously scheduled NEMT Driver cancels the assigned ride within twenty-four (24) hours of the scheduled ride time and no other NEMT Driver accepts, within a reasonable period of time, the brokerage's new request for another NEMT Driver; or ¶

(iii) The previously scheduled NEMT Driver does not arrive at the pick-up location within fifteen (15) minutes after the scheduled pick-up time.

Statutory/Other Authority: ORS 413.042, ORS 414.625

Statutes/Other Implemented: ORS 414.625