



South Dakota
Department of
Social Services

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

DIVISION OF MEDICAL SERVICES
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December 4, 2023

Attention: South Dakota Medicaid Providers
From: South Dakota Medicaid
RE: Changes to Community Health Worker Orders

South Dakota Medicaid has revised the ordering requirements for Community Health Worker (CHW) services to better facilitate access to the services.

CHW Order Requirements

Effective December 1, 2023, CHW services can be ordered by a physician, physician assistant, nurse practitioner, certified nurse midwife, or dentist with whom the recipient has had a face-to-face or telemedicine visit within the last 90 days. For recipients in the Primary Care Provider (PCP) or Health Home (HH) program the order for CHW services does not have to be made by a recipient's PCP or Health Home provider. Substance use disorder (SUD) agencies may also refer individuals for CHW services if they have provided treatment to the individual in the last 90 days. The CHW services must be billed using the "HF" modifier.

Primary Care Provider and Health Home Provider Provisions

If the services are ordered/referred by a provider other than the PCP/HH, the CHW agency must forward the order, service plan, and documentation to the recipient's PCP or HH provider for their awareness if the recipient is in one of those programs. In addition, the service plans must include written objectives to establish or re-establish primary care for an annual wellness visit at a minimum. This requirement does not apply to CHW Service Plans ordered by dentists since dental services are outside the scope of the PCP/HH programs.

To check a recipient's primary care physician or health home status, use the provider portal, or call South Dakota Medicaid's claims unit at 1-800-452-7691 to verify eligibility through the Interactive Voice Response System (IVR).

For more information regarding CHW billing requirements please see the [Community Health Worker Billing and Policy Manual](#).

Sincerely,

South Dakota Medicaid