

# System Transformation Update

September 1, 2009



Infant & Toddler  
Connection of Virginia

## A NOTE ABOUT THIS UPDATE:

This Update is prepared by the Infant & Toddler Connection of Virginia State Team at DBHDS and reviewed for accuracy and thoroughness by our partners at DMAS and VDH. Updates will be issued on or about the 1<sup>st</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> of each month.

## IMPLEMENTATION TASK FORCE:

- The System Transformation Implementation Task Force met on August 20. Issues discussed included the following:
  - Feedback on the draft Medicaid Early Intervention Manual;
  - Development of a sample letter that can be sent to a physician summarizing the IFSP and obtaining physician signature as an alternative to physician signature on the IFSP;
  - Mechanisms and timing for providing information about the system transformation to referral sources; and
  - Medicaid coverage of early intervention services for children enrolled in Medicaid MCOs.
- The data exchange agreement between DMAS and DBHDS has been signed by the heads of both agencies. Work continues in order to finalize the interagency agreement between the two agencies related to the Medicaid Early Intervention Program.
- The System Transformation Implementation Task Force will meet next on September 16 via teleconference call.
- Notes from task force meetings are posted on the Infant & Toddler Connection of Virginia website at <http://www.infantva.org/ovw-Transformation.htm#TaskForce>.
- On August 20, 2009, DBHDS Commissioner James Reinhard sent an email action alert to CSBs communicating 2 items that require local action no later than September 15. Those actions relate to provider credentialing and child data verification and are specified in the “EI Modules” and “Data System” sections of this Update.

## UPDATED DOCUMENTS:

- Please note that the table with Medicaid reimbursement codes and limitations, which appears in several documents (including the practice manual and *Reimbursement and Billing Information* sheet), has been revised as follows:
  - The G codes have been corrected since the previous table had two of the numbers reversed; and

- The limitations have been revised to allow a greater number of units for assessment and services.
- Information concerning Medicaid enrollment has been updated on the *Reimbursement and Billing Information* sheets.
- Corrected versions of these documents have been posted to our website.

#### EI MODULES:

- Successful implementation of the Medicaid Early Intervention initiative requires that all Part C early intervention providers complete the EI training modules, receive Early Intervention certification from DBHDS, and be registered through DMAS as authorized Medicaid providers. This three-step process must be completed in advance of October 1 if providers expect to access Medicaid funds. Early intervention providers planning to access Medicaid funds beginning October 1 must:
  - Complete the 4 required EI training modules, passing each competency test with at least 80% accuracy, **no later than September 15.**
  - Complete the practitioner certification application, which is accessible via the following link:

<https://www.eicert.dbhds.virginia.gov/Logon.aspx>

When the proceeding steps are completed, DBHDS will include the provider on the Authorized Registry and this registry list will be shared with DMAS on a regular basis. Inclusion on the registry is required prior to the provision of early intervention services and in order for the provider to be reimbursed for these services by either Medicaid or Part C.

- Every registered user of the EI Modules has a personal "homepage." This page stores all information about modules taken, number of attempts, scores **and certificates**. Please follow these steps to access your own information:
  - Go to website at <http://www.eitraining.vcu.edu/>
  - Log in using your username and password (the one you created for yourself when you registered as a user).
  - Look in upper right corner of screen and double click on "Account Control." This is your personal homepage.
  - Scroll about 3/4 down the page until you see "Course Statistics." This provides information on the modules you have taken, number of attempts, scores, certificates, etc.
  - To print your certificate, you need Adobe Reader. You can install by clicking the Adobe Reader icon if you do not have Adobe Reader already on your computer.
  - Click "Save certificate as PDF for printing" and print or save to your own folder. The information is ALWAYS stored here on your personal homepage.
- As of August 27:
  - 1,006 users had registered for the training modules
  - 758 people have passed the Family-Centered Practices module

- 688 people have passed the Child Development module
- 416 have passed the Service Pathway module
- 264 have passed the Practitioner Requirements module
- 220 have passed Supervision module

#### DISCIPLINE QUALIFICATIONS FOR EI CERTIFICATION:

- **Important change** - In an August 14 memo and in the August 17 System Transformation Update, we stated that a license in elementary education does not meet the qualifications for a certified early intervention professional. In seeking further clarification from the Virginia Department of Education (DOE), we have been informed that, as a result of the 2007 DOE licensure regulations, licensure in elementary education (preK-6) is considered inclusive of early/primary education (preK-3). Therefore, we will accept licensure in elementary education (preK-6) as meeting the discipline-specific qualifications for an educator seeking certification as an Early Intervention Professional in the Infant & Toddler Connection of Virginia.
- When completing the certification application, practitioners with licensure in early elementary (preK-6) should select early/primary education (preK-3) in the qualifications drop-down menu.

#### QUESTIONS RELATED TO CERTIFICATION:

- If you have questions related to the EI Modules, please contact Cori Hill at 540-943-6776 or [cfhill@vcu.edu](mailto:cfhill@vcu.edu).
- Questions related to the certification application may be directed to David Mills at 804-371-6593 or [david.mills@dbhds.virginia.gov](mailto:david.mills@dbhds.virginia.gov).
- Beverly Crouse is the contact person for questions about discipline-specific qualifications. She can be reached at 540-231-0803 or [btcrouse@vt.edu](mailto:btcrouse@vt.edu).

#### DATA SYSTEM:

- DMAS and DBHDS are collaborating to verify the accuracy of the Medicaid number for any child now receiving EI services. During the week of September 1, 2009 DMAS will run a final validation report and provide this information to DBHDS. We expect this report will necessitate follow-up with local systems to address any identified data problems and the time frame for turn-around is likely to be one week. Hopefully, ongoing local efforts related to data quality will minimize the impact of any requests for updates or correction.

#### STATEWIDE TRAINING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE:

- One-day provider trainings on the Medicaid – EI Initiative will be held in 5 locations across the state in September. Presented jointly by DMAS and DBHDS, these trainings will address covered services, billing, documentation, provider qualifications, and utilization review. Locations and dates include:

- **September 11 – Fairfax**
- **September 18 – Richmond**
- **September 22 – Abingdon**
- **September 23 - Bedford**
- **September 25 – Newport News**

A letter announcing the trainings is posted on our website, [www.infantva.org](http://www.infantva.org), in the “What’s New” section. The letter includes specific information about sites, dates and times; the training agenda; the process for registration. **All personnel responsible for administration, services, utilization review, eligibility verification, billing and claims follow-up should be in attendance and are urged to register.**

- Creating Connections is back! We are excited to announce that the EI Conference has been approved and planning has begun. Please save the dates: **April 12 and 13, 2010** at the Hotel Roanoke. Help share this news and watch for additional information