

OPI Power Hour FAQ's

11/16/2021

Question: When will OPIM be launched?

Answer: We are still waiting for final CMS approval. Tentative launch date is July 1, 2022. More details will be provided in the coming months to allow for new staff hiring and training.

Question: Will we (AAAs) be billing Medicaid as fee for service?

Answer: The process for billing of service coordination hasn't been decided yet.

Question: Regarding the start of home visits, is it necessary to get approval beyond the local office? Local office with narration is what we have been advising and doing.

Answer: Local office management approval with narration is allowed. Central office approval is also available.

Question: When will the next OPI training be held?

Answer: February/March 2022

Question: Will OPIM provide more hours?

Answer: Possibly, the service plan will be more person-centered and will allow the consumer more choice around the use of their hours based on their needs.

Question: What will happen to our undocumented consumers who can't apply for other benefits?

Answer: Standard OPI will still be available for consumers who do not meet the criteria for OPIM. This includes those who do not meet citizenship requirements or those who are over the resource limits.

Question: If a consumer is on OPIM, does this mean they can have TXIX medical and OPI services?

Answer: No, OPIM does not include Title XIX medical benefits. Consumers who qualify for OSIPM would not be eligible for OPIM.

Question: Can consumers decide not to become part of the OPIM program and remain on original OPI?

Answer: Possibly. The standard OPI budget will be reduced statewide, so this will impact your local budget if consumers who qualify for OPIM remain on the original program.

Question: How is the caregiver shortage being addressed with this program? What if caregivers are not available in certain locations?

Answer: The caregiver shortage is going to be a major concern. Discussions are happening in workgroups on what the process will be in this situation.

Question: With the resumption of home visits, will CMs be able to reduce hours and disenroll consumers who no longer meet SPL?

Answer: No, we are still under a federal public health emergency declaration. Continue to request service extensions until updated guidance is released.