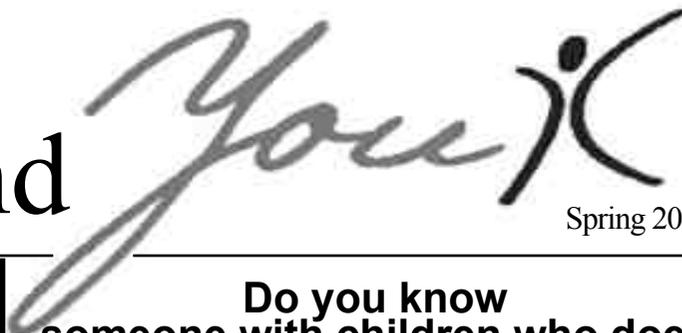


Medicaid and

Mark Sanford, Governor • Emma Forkner, DHHS Director
South Carolina Department of Health and Human Services



Spring 2009

****IMPORTANT NEWS ABOUT YOUR MEDICAID****

Dear Medicaid Beneficiary,

As a result of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA), South Carolina Medicaid will receive additional federal money. Because of this, the agency will restore changes it made to eligibility and services as a result of state budget cuts, including several changes already made or planned.

Please read the entire newsletter carefully to find out what affects you.

How to Contact Us

General Information

1-888-549-0820

To apply for Medicaid

1-888-549-0820

To find a doctor who accepts Medicaid

1-800-868-0404

Medicaid Pharmacy or GAPS Questions

1-800-834-2680 or (803) 898-2876

Medicaid Fraud and Abuse Hotline

1-888-364-3224

To Choose A Managed Care Plan

1-877-552-4642

**Do you know
someone with children who does
not have health insurance?**



Now they may have an option...

Healthy Connections Kids is a program designed for families with uninsured children who cannot afford to buy private insurance and do not meet the income requirements for regular Medicaid.

Healthy Connections Kids provides eligible children ages 1-18 with a chance to receive coverage through a medical home.

Applications for this program are available at local Medicaid eligibility offices, or by calling 1-877-552-4642.

Having Trouble Getting Your Prescriptions?

If you are enrolled in a Managed Care health plan and are receiving new prescriptions for medications that are not currently covered by the health plan, you should ask your pharmacist about obtaining an emergency supply of the medication.

Managed Care plans may allow for a 72-hour emergency supply of the drug in this instance. Pharmacists can visit www.SCDHHS.gov for specific Managed Care Plan information regarding emergency filling of prescriptions.

En Español

Si necesita esta boletín informativo de Medicaid en español, por favor llame a la oficina de Medicaid al 1-888-549-0820. La llamada es gratuita.

Changes In Services

The following services and eligibility categories are covered:

- Coverage of nutritional supplements for those enrolled in waiver programs (including the Community Long Term Care and HIV waivers) and for those with End Stage Renal Disease (ESRD) will continue.
- Waiver beneficiaries will continue to receive up to 14 home delivered meals per week.
- Medicaid will continue to cover construction of home wheelchair ramps for those enrolled in waiver programs and who are in need of this service.
- Eligibility for the Breast and Cervical Cancer program has been restored. Women ages 40-64 can qualify for the Breast and Cervical Cancer Program after being diagnosed with cancer by **any** physician.
- Coverage of Speech/Language, Occupational, and Physical Therapies provided to children through private therapists will continue as usual. No reduction will be made to this service at this time.
- Medicaid will continue coverage of hospice services.
- Medicaid will continue to cover one (1) routine physical for adults every two years.
- Medicaid will continue to cover emergency adult dental services.
- Medicaid will continue to cover adult podiatry services.
- Medicaid will continue to cover adult vision services.
- Medicaid will continue to cover up to 75 Home Health Visits per year.

Keeping your Benefits

To continue your Medicaid, your eligibility must be reviewed at least once a year. It is important that you provide the information we ask for because it is necessary to complete your review.

If you do not return your review form, your Medicaid will stop. If you return your review form but it is incomplete, unsigned, or does not include the necessary information, the form will be returned to you. The following information is required and must be provided along with your completed and signed review form:

- Proof of income
- Proof of resources (in some cases)
- Proof of child or disabled adult care

If you need help filling out your review form, you should contact your Medicaid eligibility worker at the telephone number that is listed on the form.

**If you are planning to move, or have moved, be sure to report a change of address right away.



If You **Are Not** Currently In A Health Plan

You will receive an enrollment package in the mail. After receiving the enrollment packet, you have 60 days to reply.

You may respond to SC Healthy Connections Choices by:

- Mail: P.O. Box 8691, Columbia, SC 29202
- Fax: 1-877-552-4642
- website: www.scchoices.com
- Phone: 1-877-552-4642

If you choose not to respond, a health plan may be chosen for you. If you have not received a letter you may still **CHOOSE NOW**.

Call SC Healthy Connections Choices at 1-877-552-4642 for help in choosing the health plan that works best for you.

If You **Are** Currently In A Health Plan

You will receive a letter about 60 days prior to your anniversary date (one year from the date of your last choice.)

- **If you wish to remain in the same managed health plan, you do not need to do anything.**
- **Remember**, don't be afraid to ask questions. If you do not understand the information you receive, please call 1-877-552-4642.



SCHIEX

Your health and the care you receive are very important to SC Medicaid. That is why we are participating in a statewide computer system called the South Carolina Health Information Exchange (SCHIEEx). This computer system can help the healthcare providers you work with give you better care.

SCHIEEx is a statewide effort that lets doctors, pharmacists, and other healthcare providers look up your health facts for treatment purposes over a secure web site. Your health record contains facts like your name and date of birth, and data about medical services and care you have received.

Because your privacy is very important, only approved users such as doctors, and other healthcare professionals can access SCHIEEx. They must have an ID to see information about you. All users must agree to keep your health facts private, and must follow all federal and state privacy laws.

While we hope you will participate in SCHIEEx, it is not required. You may choose to stop at any time. Before deciding to stop, please keep in mind that data in SCHIEEx can help you and your doctor make better choices about your care.

If you do not want healthcare providers to see your health facts, or have questions, please call the Resource Center at 1-888-549-0820. Or, you may view a demonstration and get more information at www.schiex.org.

Healthy Chicken Macaroni Casserole

- 1 1/2 cups uncooked elbow macaroni**
- 1 cup shredded reduced fat cheddar cheese**
- 1 1/2 cups cooked chicken breast**
- 1 can mushroom stems & pieces**
- 1 can condensed low fat cream of mushroom soup (10 1/2 oz.)**
- 1 cup skim milk**
- 1/2 tsp. salt**



Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Stir together all ingredients. Pour into ungreased casserole dish. Cover and bake for 1 hour.

SERVES 4

Ready in: 1 Hour

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