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PROVIDER BULLETIN NUMBER 432



**Kansas
Medical Assistance
Program**



BULLETIN

GENERAL PROVIDERS

PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS MAY FUNCTION AS PRIMARY CARE CASE MANAGERS IN THE HEALTHCONNECT KANSAS PROGRAM

Effective with dates of service on and after August 13, 2004, physician assistants may enroll as primary care case managers in the HealthConnect Kansas Program.

Replace provider General Benefits Manual page: 2-24.

If you have any questions, please contact the Medical Assistance Customer Service Center at 1-800-933-6593 (in-state providers) or (785) 274-5990 between 7:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

2200. HEALTHCONNECT Updated 8/04

Introduction to HealthConnect Kansas

HealthConnect Kansas is a program established by the Kansas Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services (SRS) to allow beneficiaries access to quality medical care in an efficient and economical manner. The HealthConnect Kansas primary care case manager agrees to provide medical care to a select group of Kansas Medical Assistance Program beneficiaries or, when necessary, refer the patient to another provider. In the HealthConnect Kansas Program, case managers are defined as providers who are:

Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioners (ARNP)	Local Health Departments
Family Practice Physicians	Obstetrics and Gynecology Physicians
Federally Qualified Health Centers	Physicians' Assistants
General Practice Physicians	Pediatric Physicians
Indian Health Centers	Rural Health Clinics
Internal Medicine Physicians	Group practices of the provider types specified

Once a provider has become a PCCM they will be asked to identify the clinical focus for their office. The current provider choice focuses are:

Family Practitioner	Family Practitioner with Obstetrics
Federally Qualified Health Center	General Practitioner
General Practitioner with Obstetrics	Internal Medicine
Local Health Department/Public Health Clinic	Nurse Midwife
Nurse Practitioner	Obstetrics/Gynecologist
Pediatrician	Pediatrician and Internal Medicine
Physician Assistant	Rural Health Clinic

The case manager is paid a monthly fee for each beneficiary assigned to his/her management, plus the established fee-for-service allowance for medical services provided. Beneficiaries are restricted to their assigned case manager and may not receive medical services from other providers without the case manager's written approval. The only two exceptions are: 1) emergency services provided in the emergency room, and 2) services exempt from case management referral. The goals of HealthConnect Kansas are to:

- Better manage the beneficiary's use of medical services
- Provide access to primary and preventive medical care by the case manager on a 24 hour a day basis
- Contain costs in Kansas Medical Assistance Program (KMAP) without a reduction in medically necessary services
- Improve continuity of care