



NC DEPARTMENT OF  
**HEALTH AND  
HUMAN SERVICES**

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**LME-MCO Joint Communication Bulletin # J387**

**Date:** January 11, 2021

**To:** Local Management Entities-Managed Care Organizations (LME-MCOs)

**From:** Matt Herr, Assistant Director for System Performance, DMH/DD/SAS  
Deb Goda, Behavioral Health Manager, Division of Health Benefits (NC Medicaid)

**Subject:** SFY 2020 and 2021 Network Adequacy and Accessibility Analysis  
Requirements for North Carolina LME-MCOs

This bulletin provides LME-MCOs with requirements for the SFY 2020 and 2021 LME-MCO Network Adequacy and Accessibility Analysis. The requirements provide a standardized process and reporting format for assessment and analysis in accordance with North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) performance contracts with LME-MCOs.

Due to the state of emergency related to the pandemic, the submission of the 2020 Network Adequacy and Accessibility Analysis reporting was delayed. The 2020 Network Adequacy and Accessibility Analysis will now be due **Thursday, July 1, 2021**, although we will consult with the LME-MCOs if this date needs to be extended based on the evolving state of the COVID-19 pandemic. LME-MCOs are required to complete the 2020 analysis for Medicaid in its entirety. Only the Transitions to Community Living Initiative (TCLI), Children with Complex Needs and Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) sections need to include efforts funded by Medicaid and the Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities and Substance Abuse Services (DMH/DD/SAS).

The requirements for the 2021 Network Adequacy and Accessibility Analysis will remain the same as the 2020 requirements for both Medicaid and DMH/DD/SAS. Supporting documents accompany this communication.

The deadline for submitting the 2020 and 2021 reports is **Thursday, July 1, 2021**, although this is also subject to the state of the pandemic. Submit reports to DMH/DD/SAS and NC Medicaid at [contactdmhquality@dhhs.nc.gov](mailto:contactdmhquality@dhhs.nc.gov) and [Medicaid.DHB.LME-MCO.Contracts@dhhs.nc.gov](mailto:Medicaid.DHB.LME-MCO.Contracts@dhhs.nc.gov).

**NC DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

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DMH/DD/SAS and NC Medicaid staff will jointly review the information submitted and provide the LME-MCO with a written response. DHHS will use the information to inform the NC Legislature and the public of our progress, challenges and upcoming needs, and to guide DHHS identification of future priorities.

Understanding network adequacy and accessibility at the local and state levels is critical for maintaining effective, viable service systems that balance need with capacity and resources. DMH/DD/SAS and NC Medicaid appreciate the time and effort taken to conduct the needs assessment and gaps analyses.

If you have questions, please contact Jennifer Bowman at [jennifer.bowman@dhhs.nc.gov](mailto:jennifer.bowman@dhhs.nc.gov), or Deb Goda at [deborah.goda@dhhs.nc.gov](mailto:deborah.goda@dhhs.nc.gov).

Previous bulletins can be accessed at: <https://www.ncdhhs.gov/divisions/mhddsas/joint-communication-bulletins>

Attachments:

- Network Adequacy and Accessibility Analysis Requirements 2021
- Appendix A – DMH/DD/SAS Contract Language
- Appendix B – NC Medicaid Contract Language
- Appendix C – Service Codes
- Appendix D – Urban & Rural County Designation
- Appendix E – Form to Request Exception Choice
- Appendix F – Network Access Plan Requirements

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