

**256B.0751 HEALTH CARE HOMES.**

Subdivision 1. **Definitions.** (a) For purposes of sections 256B.0751 to 256B.0753, the following definitions apply.

(b) "Commissioner" means the commissioner of human services.

(c) "Commissioners" means the commissioner of human services and the commissioner of health, acting jointly.

(d) "Health plan company" has the meaning provided in section 62Q.01, subdivision 4.

(e) "Personal clinician" means a physician licensed under chapter 147, a physician assistant licensed and practicing under chapter 147A, or an advanced practice nurse licensed and registered to practice under chapter 148.

(f) "State health care program" means the medical assistance, MinnesotaCare, and general assistance medical care programs.

Subd. 2. **Development and implementation of standards.** (a) By July 1, 2009, the commissioners of health and human services shall develop and implement standards of certification for health care homes for state health care programs. In developing these standards, the commissioners shall consider existing standards developed by national independent accrediting and medical home organizations. The standards developed by the commissioners must meet the following criteria:

(1) emphasize, enhance, and encourage the use of primary care, and include the use of primary care physicians, advanced practice nurses, and physician assistants as personal clinicians;

(2) focus on delivering high-quality, efficient, and effective health care services;

(3) encourage patient-centered care, including active participation by the patient and family or a legal guardian, or a health care agent as defined in chapter 145C, as appropriate in decision making and care plan development, and providing care that is appropriate to the patient's race, ethnicity, and language;

(4) provide patients with a consistent, ongoing contact with a personal clinician or team of clinical professionals to ensure continuous and appropriate care for the patient's condition;

(5) ensure that health care homes develop and maintain appropriate comprehensive care plans for their patients with complex or chronic conditions, including an assessment of health risks and chronic conditions;

(6) enable and encourage utilization of a range of qualified health care professionals, including dedicated care coordinators, in a manner that enables providers to practice to the fullest extent of their license;

(7) focus initially on patients who have or are at risk of developing chronic health conditions;

(8) incorporate measures of quality, resource use, cost of care, and patient experience;

(9) ensure the use of health information technology and systematic follow-up, including the use of patient registries; and

(10) encourage the use of scientifically based health care, patient decision-making aids that provide patients with information about treatment options and their associated benefits, risks, costs, and comparative outcomes, and other clinical decision support tools.

(b) In developing these standards, the commissioners shall consult with national and local organizations working on health care home models, physicians, relevant state agencies, health plan companies, hospitals, other providers, patients, and patient advocates. The commissioners may satisfy this requirement by continuing the provider directed care coordination advisory committee.

(c) For the purposes of developing and implementing these standards, the commissioners may use the expedited rulemaking process under section 14.389.

**Subd. 3. Requirements for clinicians certified as health care homes.** (a) A personal clinician or a primary care clinic may be certified as a health care home. If a primary care clinic is certified, all of the primary care clinic's clinicians must meet the criteria of a health care home. In order to be certified as a health care home, a clinician or clinic must meet the standards set by the commissioners in accordance with this section. Certification as a health care home is voluntary. In order to maintain their status as health care homes, clinicians or clinics must renew their certification annually.

(b) Clinicians or clinics certified as health care homes must offer their health care home services to all their patients with complex or chronic health conditions who are interested in participation.

(c) Health care homes must participate in the health care home collaborative established under subdivision 5.

**Subd. 4. Alternative models and waivers of requirements.** (a) Nothing in this section shall preclude the continued development of existing medical or health care home projects currently operating or under development by the commissioner of human services or preclude the commissioner from establishing alternative models and payment mechanisms for persons who are enrolled in integrated Medicare and Medicaid programs under section 256B.69, subdivisions 23 and 28, are enrolled in managed care long-term care programs under section 256B.69, subdivision 6b, are dually eligible for Medicare and medical assistance, are in the waiting period for Medicare, or who have other primary coverage.

(b) The commissioner of health shall waive health care home certification requirements if an applicant demonstrates that compliance with a certification requirement will create a major financial hardship or is not feasible, and the applicant establishes an alternative way to accomplish the objectives of the certification requirement.

**Subd. 5. Health care home collaborative.** By July 1, 2009, the commissioners shall establish a health care home collaborative to provide an opportunity for health care homes and state agencies to exchange information related to quality improvement and best practices.

**Subd. 6. Evaluation and continued development.** (a) For continued certification under this section, health care homes must meet process, outcome, and quality standards as developed and specified by the commissioners. The commissioners shall collect data from health care homes necessary for monitoring compliance with certification standards and for evaluating the impact of health care homes on health care quality, cost, and outcomes.

(b) The commissioners may contract with a private entity to perform an evaluation of the effectiveness of health care homes. Data collected under this subdivision is classified as nonpublic data under chapter 13.

Subd. 7. **Outreach.** Beginning July 1, 2009, the commissioner shall encourage state health care program enrollees who have a complex or chronic condition to select a primary care clinic with clinicians who have been certified as health care homes.

Subd. 8. **Coordination with local services.** The health care home and the county shall coordinate care and services provided to patients enrolled with a health care home who have complex medical needs or a disability, and who need and are eligible for additional local services administered by counties, including but not limited to waivered services, mental health services, social services, public health services, transportation, and housing. The coordination of care and services must be as provided in the plan established by the patient and health care home.

Subd. 9. **Pediatric care coordination.** The commissioner shall implement a pediatric care coordination service for children with high-cost medical or high-cost psychiatric conditions who are at risk of recurrent hospitalization or emergency room use for acute, chronic, or psychiatric illness, who receive medical assistance services. Care coordination services must be targeted to children not already receiving care coordination through another service and may include but are not limited to the provision of health care home services to children admitted to hospitals that do not currently provide care coordination. Care coordination services must be provided by care coordinators who are directly linked to provider teams in the care delivery setting, but who may be part of a community care team shared by multiple primary care providers or practices. For purposes of this subdivision, the commissioner shall, to the extent possible, use the existing health care home certification and payment structure established under this section and section 256B.0753.

**History:** 2008 c 358 art 2 s 1; 2009 c 159 s 91; 1Sp2011 c 9 art 6 s 54,55; 2012 c 247 art 1 s 11