



GEORGIA DEPARTMENT  
OF COMMUNITY HEALTH

# Medicaid Fair – Spring 2021

## Non-Emergency Medical Transportation (NEMT)



# COVID-19 Operations

*Department of Community Health*

Presented by:  
James T. Peoples, Director of Provider Services

# Welcome to the Spring Medicaid Virtual Fair

## Housekeeping Items:

- All lines will be muted upon entry
  - Unless you are a panelist or a speaker
- This session is being recorded
- Questions in chat will be addressed at the end of the presentation if they're not addressed during

# *Mission*

## ***The Georgia Department of Community Health***

*We will provide Georgians with access to affordable, quality health care through effective planning, purchasing and oversight.*

***We are dedicated to A Healthy Georgia***





# Purpose:

Shaping the future of A Healthy Georgia by improving access and ensuring quality to strengthen the communities we serve.

# What is NEMT?

The Non-Emergency Medical Transportation (NEMT) program is a ride share program that provides medically necessary transportation for **eligible** Medicaid members who have no other means of transportation available. Transportation is provided to:

- *medical treatments/appointments;*
- *medical evaluations;*
- *pharmacy to pickup prescription drugs; and to*
- *pickup your medical equipment.*



# COVID-19

## Where We Were

The onset of the pandemic and the Georgia mandate to shelter in place triggered the NEMT Brokers and provider network to pivot to meet the needs of our Medicaid members. The pandemic caused:

- *Fear of the unknown for Transportation Providers and Members*
- *Loss of transportation providers and available drivers*
- *A decrease of 60 – 70% of NEMT trips in March 2020*
- *PPE not readily available to supply to the provider network or members*
- *An increase in Telehealth for medical appointments*
- *Loss of transportation providers and available drivers*



# COVID-19

## How We Managed with Partnerships

The NEMT team partnered with various state agencies such as GEMA and DPH as a vital part of our network reengaging to meet our Member needs.

- *GEMA and DPH's partnership assisted the network in getting PPE and outfitting transportation provider vehicles for safety measures.*
- *Daily communications from DPH on COVID-19.*
- *Specific information for Long Term Care Facilities.*
- *Created a work group to determine the best way forward to operationalize the CMS directive of COVID Testing for drivers assigned for nursing home transports. The group was comprised of members from:*
  - *DCH's NEMT team,*
  - *DCH Commissioner's office*
  - *GA DPH*
  - *GA Healthcare Association*
  - *HFRD Team*
  - *ModivCare (formerly LogistiCare)*
  - *Southeastrans*
- *Nursing Homes testing NEMT drivers on site before transporting residents.*
- *DPH worked with the NEMT team to get NEMT drivers vaccinated during the first round of vaccinations.*



# COVID-19

## Where We Are Going

The NEMT team is continuing our partnerships with other state agencies to encourage Medicaid Members to schedule their vaccinations. We will develop numerous forms of communication to our Members and provider community through:

- *Mass communication to Members via:*
  - *DCH announcements*
  - *NEMT Broker communications*
  - *Flyers*
  - *Local Health Agencies Notifications*
  - *Home Health Agencies*
  - *Myvaccinegeorgia.com*
- *Working with GEMA and DPH to form express lanes at the mass vaccination sites for Medicaid Members using NEMT services.*
- *How our provider community can help DCH encourage members to get vaccinated.*







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# COVID-19 Updates



Stefanie Ashlaw  
Director, PeachCare for Kids®

Date:3/25/2021



## DCH COVID-19 Updates

In response to the COVID-19 Federal Emergency, DCH submitted a State Plan Amendment to CMS that would allow our PeachCare for Kids® program the flexibility to provide temporary adjustments to the state's enrollment and redetermination policies as well as cost sharing requirements.

The amendment was approved and is effective through the duration of the Federal emergency declaration

# COVID-19 Updates

DCH has implemented the following for the duration of the Federal Emergency:

- Waive copayments for any COVID-19 testing-related services, effective March 18, 2020 *for Medicaid and PCK enrollees*
- Waive copayments for all other services, effective May 1, 2020 *for Medicaid and PCK enrollees*
- Waive requirements related to timely processing of renewals *for Medicaid and PCK enrollees*



# COVID-19 Updates

- Delay termination of Medicaid benefits except in the following change categories:
  - Permanent residency in Georgia
  - Death of a member
  - Voluntary termination of coverage or erroneous eligibility determinations
- PeachCare for Kids® enrollees must continue to be terminated on the last day of the month of their 19<sup>th</sup> birthday.
- Waive all PeachCare for Kids® Premiums

# COVID-19 Updates

## Impacts of COVID-19 on Enrollment

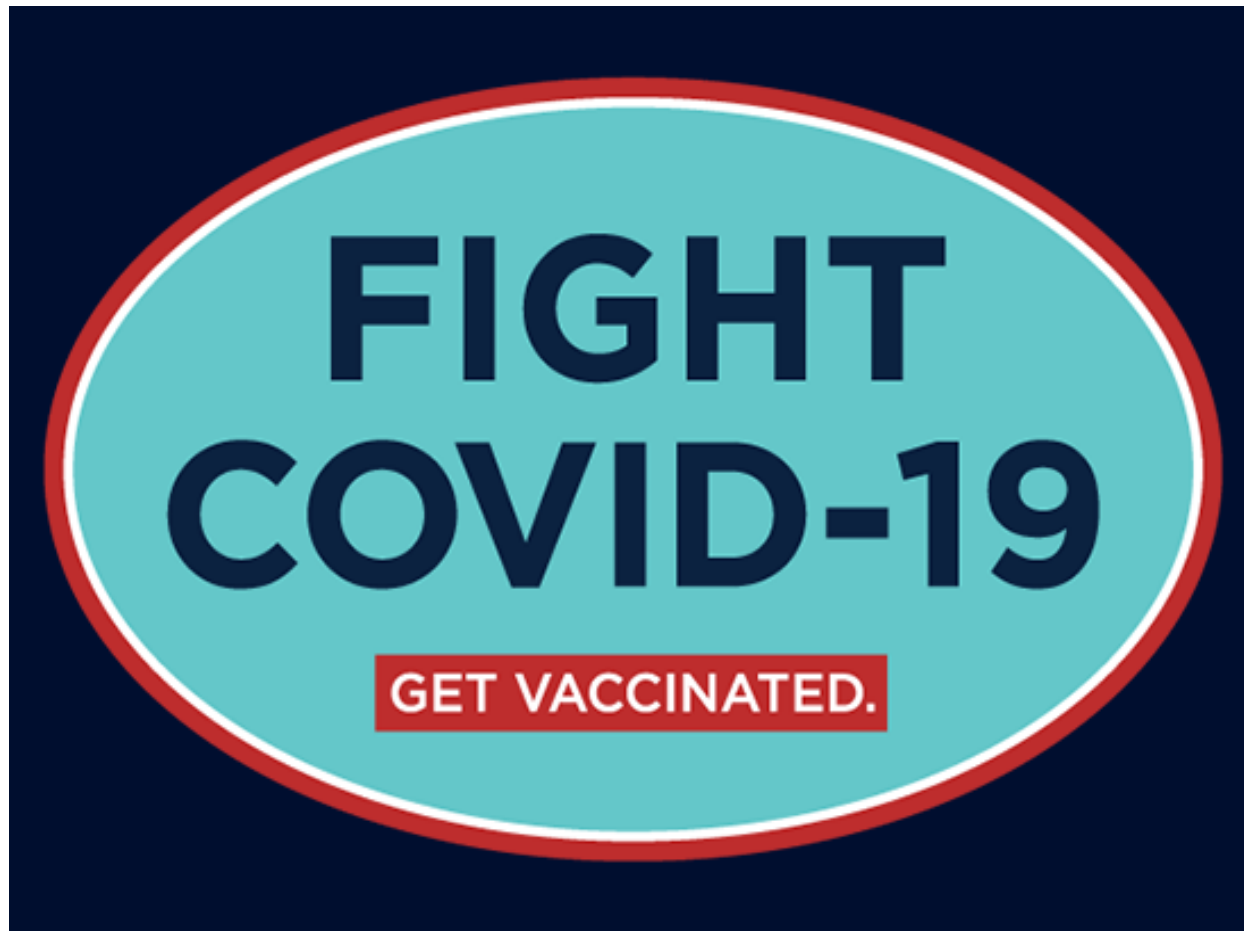
Medicaid Enrollment has increased as expected:

- Enrollment as of June 2020: 1,951,698
- Current enrollment: 2,151,405

PeachCare for Kids® Enrollment has also increased:

- Enrollment as of June 2020: 148,650
- Current enrollment of 170,730

# COVID-19 Updates





# Provider Enrollment Covid-19 Updates



Presented to: Georgia 2021 Spring Medicaid Fair Recipients

Presented by: Nichole Thompson-Director of Provider Enrollment

# Provider Enrollment Waived Requirements

- Application Fees
- Background Checks
- Site visits
- Revalidation Actions
- Out of State Licensed Providers





# Highlighted Efforts of Provider Enrollment

## Additional Staffing

### GA World Congress Center

- Grady Healthcare
- Phoebe Putney Memorial Hospital
- Northeast GA
- CHOA
- Northside

## Approved Medicaid COS to Administer Covid -19 Vaccine

- Hospitals- 070
- Independent Laboratories-230
- Physicians-430
- Physician Assistants-431
- Nurse Midwives-480
- Nurse Practitioners-740
- Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHC)-540
- Hospital-Based Rural Health Clinics- 541
- Free-Standing Rural Health Clinics - 542
- DSPS (Health Departments) - 790

# Life After the Public Health Emergency



- ✓ **Activate GAMMIS Enrollment Edits**
- ✓ **Revalidate, Revalidate, Revalidate**
- ✓ **CMS 21<sup>st</sup> Cares Act Initiative**
- ✓ **Streamlined Background checks through GCHEXS**

# Questions, Concerns, & Feedback



## Contact Information

**Nichole Thompson**  
**Director of Provider Enrollment**  
**(404) 651- 5191**  
**2 Peachtree Street, NW 39<sup>th</sup> Floor**  
**Atlanta, GA 30303**  
[nthompson1@dch.ga.gov](mailto:nthompson1@dch.ga.gov)

[Enrollment@dch.ga.gov](mailto:Enrollment@dch.ga.gov)



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# COVID-19 Updates



## Valerie Sapp Medical Policy Plan

Date:3/25/2021

# Covid-19 Updates

- Policy and systems changes implemented during the Public Health Emergency
- Policy Changes During COVID-19
- Timeline for System Implementation

# COVID-19 Vaccines

Vaccine Name	Code	Description	DCH FFS Reimbursement
Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine	0001A (1st dose)	<b>91300</b> Severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2	1 <sup>st</sup> dose: \$10
	0002A (2nd dose)		2 <sup>nd</sup> dose: \$10
Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine	0011A (1st dose)	<b>91301</b> Severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2	1 <sup>st</sup> dose: \$10
	0012A (2nd dose)		2 <sup>nd</sup> dose: \$10
Janssen COVID-19 Vaccine	0031A (single dose)	<b>91303</b> Severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2	single dose \$10



# Covid-19 Updates Take-Aways

Banner Messages and Workshops

COVID-19 Update Websites

# Questions, Concerns, & Feedback

