



Update

May 2018

No. 2018-18

Affected Programs: BadgerCare Plus, BadgerCare Plus HMOs, Children’s Long Term Support Waiver, Family Care, Family Care Partnership, IRIS, Medicaid, and SSI HMOs

To: Home Health Agencies, Personal Care Agencies, HMOs and Other Managed Care Programs

New Electronic Visit Verification Requirement

Overview

In response to the federal 21st Century Cures Act, ForwardHealth is required to implement electronic visit verification (EVV) for Medicaid-covered personal care services and home health services. This requirement impacts any personal care and home health services, including services provided through Medicaid and BadgerCare Plus fee-for-service, BadgerCare Plus HMOs, SSI HMOs, Family Care, Family Care Partnership, IRIS (Include, Respect, I Self-Direct), and Children’s Long Term Support Waiver. The Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS) is in the process of reviewing the Act to determine the specific services that will be subject to EVV.

Effective Dates

DHS plans to implement the new EVV requirement over a span of multiple years based on the federal 21st Century Cures Act requirements.

The federal 21st Century Cures Act requires EVV to be implemented for personal care services by January 1, 2019. DHS acknowledges that implementation of EVV by January 1, 2019, is not practical for personal care providers. As a result, DHS is **not** planning to implement the EVV requirement by January 1, 2019, and will continue to work with providers, partners, and the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) to develop an appropriate and realistic timeline for EVV implementation. DHS will share updated information regarding the expected

timeline with providers when available. Providers do **not** need to do anything or purchase anything to be in compliance with the EVV requirement at this time.

The federal 21st Century Cures Act requires EVV to be implemented for home health services by January 1, 2023.

EVV

EVV is an electronic system that uses technologies to verify that authorized services were provided. Home care workers will be required to send information at the beginning and end of each visit to an EVV system, including:

- Date of services
- Time of services
- Location of services
- Service type
- Individual providing services
- Individual receiving services

DHS plans to implement EVV by establishing a single EVV vendor. This vendor will provide one EVV system to be used by all DHS programs and impacted providers, HMOs, Managed Care Organizations (MCOs), and program administrators. Providers will **not** have to purchase an EVV system.

Additional Resources

DHS has created a dedicated webpage at <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/forwardhealth/evv.htm> where providers can view all current EVV information. DHS plans

to update this webpage to provide current EVV information, including any updates on implementation timelines.

Providers are encouraged to visit the webpage frequently to get all updated information on EVV.

CMS has also created a website for the federal 21st Century Cures Act at <https://www.medicaid.gov/medicaid/hcbs/guidance/electronic-visit-verification/index.html> where providers can find more information.

DHS would like to hear from providers and stakeholders regarding the implementation of EVV. The input is essential to the planning process for this new requirement and will be used by DHS to make decisions in implementation planning and assist in determining the best way to be compliant with the federal requirement. Providers and other stakeholders can submit their questions or concerns to DHS by emailing: DHSEVV@dhs.wisconsin.gov. Submissions to this email address will be used to develop a FAQ document.

DHS is also planning to send a survey to providers to collect input on the EVV requirement. The survey will be sent to providers by email. Providers are highly encouraged to respond to the survey to provide input to DHS on the implementation of the EVV requirement.

When implementation planning is completed, DHS will provide specific information to providers about training, how to record visits, claims, technology, and all key steps of the process for the new EVV requirement. Providers are encouraged to visit the DHS EVV webpage frequently for forthcoming *ForwardHealth Updates* and other communications regarding this implementation.

The *ForwardHealth Update* is the first source of program policy and billing information for providers.

Wisconsin Medicaid, BadgerCare Plus, SeniorCare, and Wisconsin Chronic Disease Program are administered by the Division of Medicaid Services, the Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS). The Wisconsin AIDS Drug Assistance Program and the Wisconsin Well Woman Program are administered by the Division of Public Health, DHS.

For questions, call Provider Services at 800-947-9627 or visit our website at www.forwardhealth.wi.gov/.

P-1250