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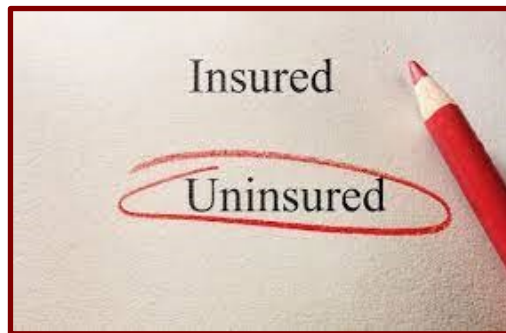
**Clinical Resources**

*CMO Message, National Breast-Feeding Month*  
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**Monroe Plan News**

**Monroe Plan Announces New Prenatal and Postpartum Incentive Program for 2023!**

**ASSISTANCE FOR UNINSURED AND AT-RISK PATIENTS**



Do you have patients who are uninsured or losing their insurance and need assistance? Molina’s Facilitated Enrollment team can meet with your patients, review their insurance options, and link qualifying individuals to a plan of their choice.

**Finger Lakes Region:**

Contact Norma Diamond, Manager of Facilitated Enrollment  
Norma.Diamond@molinahealthcare.com  
(585) 261-2011.

**Western New York:**

Contact Josue Lanzot, Manager of Facilitated Enrollment  
Josue.Lanzot@molinahealthcare.com  
(716) 329-2082

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**A MESSAGE FROM DR. GEORGE E. MATTHEWS, CMO**

August Is National Breast-Feeding Month

When we consider breast-feeding, we invariably focus upon acknowledging that breastmilk is the best source of nutrition for most infants. If we delve deeper, we may appreciate additional benefits to the mother as well as the infant and it is with this understanding that serves as a basis to encourage breast-feeding.

### **Benefits of Breast Feeding**

For the infant benefits that have been associated with breast-feeding include lowering the risk of asthma, obesity, type 1 diabetes, ear infections (acute otitis media) and severe lower respiratory infections. Interestingly, for mothers the benefit is equally compelling as breast-feeding can assist in lowering the risk of breast cancer, ovarian cancer, type 2 diabetes mellitus and high blood pressure.

### **Duration of Breast Feeding**

How long should infants breast feed? The US dietary guidelines for Americans suggest that infants be exclusively breast-fed for the first 6 months and then continue breast-feeding while introducing additional foods until the child is 12 months of age or older. Mothers should be encouraged to breast-feed children for at least 1 year. The longer the duration of breast-feeding the greater than protection from certain illnesses and long-term diseases as reported by the Centers for Disease Control.

What about the mother who has to return to work or school? The ability to pump or hand express breast milk is one appropriate alternative. The Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA) requires employers to support breast-feeding mothers for 1 year after each childbirth by allowing for a reasonable amount of time and a space (not a bathroom) that is clean and private to express breast milk.

### **When Not To Breast Feed**

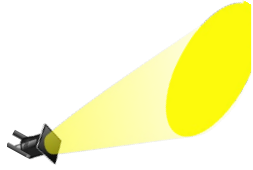
While appreciating all the benefits of breast-feeding we must remember that there are rare circumstances where a mother should avoid breast-feeding. Circumstances such as the use of illicit drugs, such as opioids or cocaine would preclude the safe use of breast-feeding. Avoidance of breast-feeding when the mother has HIV would occur in the following circumstances: (a) the mother having HIV and not on antiretroviral therapy (ART), (b) the mother who has HIV and is on antiretroviral therapy but has not achieved sustained viral suppression during pregnancy or at the time of delivery and (c) the mother has HIV and is unable to maintain viral suppression postpartum.

Finally the American Academy of Pediatrics indicates that most medications and immunizations are safe for the mother to use during lactation however the American Academy of pediatrics (AAP) suggest that the risk versus the benefits of the prescribed medications to the breast-feeding mother must be considered particularly with regard to the potential effects of the drug on milk production as well as the drug amount being present in the excreted breastmilk with potential adverse effects on the breast-feeding infant.

Breast-feeding has a myriad of advantages for both infant and mother and acknowledging this, we should encourage mothers to consider breast-feeding as the best source of nutrition for most infants.

### **Additional Resources for Breast Feeding**

- CDC— Infant and Toddler Nutrition
- Office on Women’s Health—Breastfeeding
- American Academy of Pediatrics—Healthy Children
- United States Breastfeeding Committee—State Coalitions Directory
- US Department of Agriculture—WIC Breastfeeding Support
- Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) clinics
- La Leche League



**SPOTLIGHT ON QUALITY**  
**Neighborhood Health Center**



**Congratulations to Neighborhood Health Center for a Great Program with Great Results!**

Neighborhood Health Center is a Federally Qualified Health Center in Western New York that has achieved remarkable success in achieving high-quality scores through a series of population health programs. These programs are strategically designed to address various healthcare challenges faced by their patient population in our community. Here is a summary of the key programs contributing to their success:

1. **Care Coordination Program:** a comprehensive care coordination program that focuses on referral and schedule management. This program acts as an extension of the care team, ensuring that patients receive timely and appropriate follow-up care. By streamlining the coordination of services, NHC enhances patient outcomes and improves their overall healthcare experience.
2. **Community Health Department:** Their Community Health Department plays a crucial role in providing social supports to patients, addressing barriers to care, and addressing social determinants of health (SDOH) concerns. By addressing factors such as housing, transportation, and access to resources, patients overcome obstacles that might otherwise hinder their ability to access and engage in healthcare services.
3. **Hypertension Initiatives:** Implementation of home monitoring and loaner cuff programs empowers patients to actively manage their blood pressure, promoting better self-care & healthier lifestyle choices.
4. **Partnership with Cornell Cooperative Extension of Erie County:** Neighborhood has forged a valuable partnership with the Cornell Cooperative Extension to offer nutrition and cooking classes specifically tailored to the hypertensive and diabetic populations they serve. Additionally, patients are incentivized with \$20 vouchers for Tops Markets and local farmers markets/produce vendors after attending each class, promoting healthy eating habits and food access.
5. **Onsite Massachusetts Ave Project Mobile Market:** Mobile market on-site weekly from May to October, offering reduced-price produce boxes for patients and the community. By bringing fresh and affordable produce to their doorstep, Neighborhood encourages healthy eating choices and fosters community well-being.
6. **In-House A1C Testing and Diabetic Retinal Eye Exams:** Investment in on-site A1C testing and diabetic retinal eye exams, making these critical screenings easily accessible to their patients. By catching and managing diabetes-related complications early, Neighborhood contributes to better disease management and improved health outcomes.

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- 7. **Advanced Care Management:** Specialized care management for special populations, including patients with diabetes, healthcare for the homeless (HCH), and those undergoing medication-assisted treatment (MAT). This tailored approach ensures that these vulnerable populations receive the support and resources they need to manage their health conditions effectively.
- 8. **Partnership with Windsong and ECMC Mammography Bus Programs:** NHC partners with Windsong and ECMC mammography bus programs to offer on-site mammography screenings across their various sites throughout the year. By removing barriers to mammography access, Neighborhood Health Center helps promote early detection of breast cancer and encourages preventive care.

By combining these population health programs, Neighborhood Health Center has demonstrated its commitment to improving the health and well-being of its patient population. The success of these initiatives is evidenced by their high-quality scores and the positive impact they have on the overall health outcomes of their patients.

***Neighborhood Health’s outcomes reflect an organizational culture that has fostered a structure and process to emphasize quality.***

**SUMMER IS THE BEST TIME FOR WELL CHILD CHECK UPS!**



**VBP Quality Metrics Covered During Well Visits**

Child and Adolescent Well Child Visit 3-21 years of Age:	Annual Visit with PCP
Well Child Visit/First 30 months of life:	Six or more visits before 15 months 2 or more visits between 15-30 months
Asthma Medication Ratio: (persistent asthma diagnosis)	50% or larger ratio of controller medications to rescue medication
Chlamydia Screening:	Female (assigned at birth) 16-24 years Annual testing if sexually active

**CDC 2023 Vaccine Schedule**

FRESH FOOD IS HEALTH!

**STRETCH YOUR FOOD DOLLARS**

Get more fruits & vegetables when you use your NY SNAP EBT CARD at farmers markets

GET MORE FRUITS & VEGGIES

It's easy with **DOUBLE UP FOOD BUCKS!**

**1** BRING YOUR NYS SNAP EBT CARD to the farmers market office or info booth before you shop.

**2** BUY SNAP-ELIGIBLE FOODS at the market with your NYS Snap EBT Card dollars.

**3** WE'LL MATCH WHAT YOU SPEND with free Double Up Food Bucks – up to \$20, every market day.

YOU SPEND \$2 WE MATCH \$2

Use them right away or later on to buy FRESH FRUITS & VEGETABLES grown in New York.

For a list of participating farmers markets visit:

[doubleupnys.com](http://doubleupnys.com)

Field & Fork Network

DOUBLE UP FOOD BUCKS

For food help contact the toll free New York State Food Assistance Program Hotline: 1-800-342-3009

Click here for free promotional materials for your practice.

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**REQUIRED: PROVIDER ENROLLMENT IN MEDICAID MANAGED CARE**



The 21st Century Cures Act requires all Medicaid Managed Care and Children's Health Insurance Program network providers enroll with State Medicaid programs. You must enroll or you will be removed from the Medicaid Managed Care provider network.

The Medicaid provider enrollment process ensures appropriate and consistent screening of providers and improve program integrity. In order to enroll, go to [Provider Index](#) and navigate to your provider type, print and review the instructions and enrollment form. Here, you will also find a [Provider Enrollment Guide](#) and [How Do I Do It?](#) resource guide. The useful link below includes, FAQs, and additional information related to the Medicaid Managed Care (MMC) network provider enrollment in New York State Medicaid.

There is a general FAQ that may further assist you: [Medicaid Managed Care Network - FAQs \(emedny.org\)](#)

**PROVIDER DATA MANAGEMENT IN BRIEF**  
Keeping Your Records Straight

ITEM	WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW
<p><b>Provider Office Changes</b> When the provider office or facility has moved, changed ownership, merged with another group etc.</p>	<p>When there are any major updates within your practice, please make sure you update us in a timely manner by sending the changes to <a href="mailto:pfmemails@monroeplan.com">pfmemails@monroeplan.com</a></p> <p>**Important changes include new practitioners, new service locations, TIN changes, NPI updates, remit address updates, termed practitioners, etc.</p> <p>You may obtain these forms on our website, click here: <a href="#">Provider Resources &amp; Forms – Monroe Plan for Medical Care</a></p>
<p><b>Provider Roster Updates</b></p>	<p>To ensure accurate and current practice data is captured, please send updated provider practice rosters to <a href="mailto:pfmemails@monroeplan.com">pfmemails@monroeplan.com</a></p>
<p><b>Medicaid ID (MMIS)</b></p>	<p>To see Medicaid patients, providers must enroll with NYS and have an MMIS number. To enroll, go to the eMedNY <a href="#">Provider Enrollment Page</a>, select your provider type, print/review the instructions, and complete the enrollment form.</p>



## MONROE PLAN ANNOUNCES 2023 PRENATAL AND POSTPARTUM CARE (PPC) INCENTIVE



Monroe Plan for Medical Care (MPMC) is excited to introduce its Prenatal and Postpartum Quality Incentive Program for Molina Health Members to recognize and reward providers for the demonstration of quality care according to HEDIS/QARR standards.

The Prenatal and Postpartum Quality Incentive Program will pay up to \$350.00 per member based on accurate completion and timely submission of the following:

- \$200 for completion of the *Perinatal/Postpartum Encounter Form* and chart records capturing minimum number of prenatal visits and postpartum visits within timeframes
- \$100 for each fully completed *WNY Collaborative Prenatal Risk and Referral Form* (PRF) submitted to MPMC within 30 days of prenatal visit occurring within the first trimester (14 weeks) of pregnancy

### Required Forms

Website: [www.monroeplan.com](http://www.monroeplan.com) under Provider Services/Forms

Portal: <https://monroeplan.healthtrioconnect.com/> under Quick Links

Contact [Quality@monroeplan.com](mailto:Quality@monroeplan.com) for more details

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## MOLINA COMMUNICATIONS



### Pharmacy vs. Medical Authorization Requirements

A reminder that there is a **Prior Auth Look Up Tool** for **J Codes** or other **HCPCS codes** for medications on Molina Healthcare of New York, Inc.'s website located [here](#) (for Medicaid, CHP, HARP, and EP), in addition to the Pharmacy benefit formulary (**non- J codes/non-medical benefit**) is available [here](#) (for CHP and EP only).

Note that since 4/1/23, the Pharmacy benefit formulary has transitioned to the NYRx formulary, located [here](#).

Providers **MUST** specify the benefits they are requesting on the authorization form: **J Code/Medical or Pharmacy Benefit**.

If requesting as a J code/medical benefit and the prescriber will be utilizing an outside pharmacy to dispense the medication, this information **MUST** also be included in the request to avoid delays. This can be included in a fax or stated verbally when calling.

For Medicaid and HARP members, physician administered medications should be requested as medical benefits requests for Molina Healthcare of New York, Inc. to consider them for coverage. This will avoid unnecessary delays in member care.

The phone and fax for providers to request an auth (either J code/Medical benefit or Pharmacy benefit):

- Fax number **(844) 823-5479**
- Phone number **(877) 872-4716**

### **Foster Care Reminder**

**A friendly reminder regarding services for our foster care members:** Please remember our goal is to promote quick access and continuity of care to all of our members, especially this vulnerable population. Please provide services to our foster care members as soon as possible. Please note you do not need to be the listed primary provider for the member in order to provide services to these members, and this does not impact your ability to be paid. You may use these members' ID#s to verify coverage, as needed, and should not delay service delivery due to member not having an ID card in hand. Thank you for your teamwork and collaboration to promote access and continuity of care for our foster care members!

### **CORE Notification Forms Email Box**

CORE Notification forms should continue to be sent to [MolinaNYPOC@MolinaHealthCare.Com](mailto:MolinaNYPOC@MolinaHealthCare.Com). For more information about CORE (Community Oriented Recovery and Empowerment (CORE) Services), please visit