

## **RMD Bulletin**

*Knowledge is power...*

# **California Children's Services**

California Children's Services (CCS) is a state program that helps children with certain diseases, physical limitations, or chronic health problems. To get CCS, your child must:

- Be under 21 years old; and
- Have or may have a medical problem that CCS covers; and
- Be a resident of California; and
- Have a family income under \$40,000 (your adjusted gross income on the state tax form).

CCS can manage your child's medical care. This means CCS can get the special doctors and care your child needs. Sometimes, CCS refers you to other agencies, like public health nursing and regional centers to obtain additional special services.

Mental health conditions not related to the client's CCS medically-eligible condition may be responsibility of the county mental health plan if the client has full scope Medi-Cal or if the client is dangerous to him/herself or others; Healthy Families if the client is enrolled in this program; or private insurance, CHAMPUS, or Medicare, if the client is covered.

CCS is not considered Other Health Coverage (OHC). When looking at the eligibility message, look at the aid code to determine if that aid code is billable under the Short-Doyle/Medi-Cal Program criteria.

When you run an eligibility check and the response message reads "CCS eligible. CCS prior authorization required for CCS Svcs," this message is notifying you that the client has certain diseases, physical limitations, or chronic health problems that qualify the client for CCS benefits. There is no need to call for authorization if your program does not provide CCS services to the client. Remember if the aid code is billable under the Short-Doyle/Medi-Cal Program, move forward in billing the service to Medi-Cal in the Integrated System (IS).

Mental health services are a CCS benefit for the evaluation and treatment of a mental health problem when the requested services:

- Assesses and/or treats a mental health problem that interferes with, modifies, or delays the treatment of the CCS-medically eligible condition; or
- Assesses or treats a mental health problem that is a complication of the CCS-eligible condition or the medical treatment of the condition.

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The following is an example of an eligibility message for a client with CCS benefits:

**SUBSCRIBER LAST NAME: DOE. EVC # 000000ZX0.CNTY CODE: 19. PRMY AID CODE: 40. MEDI-CAL ELIGIBLE W/ NO SOC/SPEND DOWN.CCS ELIGIBLE. CCS PRIOR AUTH REQUIRED FOR CCS SVCS.**

For more information about the CCS state program, visit their website at <http://www.dhcs.ca.gov/services/ccs>.

**We're here to help you...**

If you have any questions or require further information, please do not hesitate to contact RMD at (213) 480-3444 or email [RevenueManagement@dmh.lacounty.gov](mailto:RevenueManagement@dmh.lacounty.gov).