

Subject Enhanced Asthma Care Services

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Overview

This bill provides MA coverage for enhanced asthma care services and related products. The bill also allows MA to volume purchase allergen-reducing products and classifies these products as durable medical equipment.

Summary

Section **Description**

1 **Competitive bidding.**

Amends § 256B.04, subd. 14. Allows the commissioner to volume purchase through competitive bidding and negotiation allergen-reducing products as described in section 256B.0625, subd. 66, paragraph (c).

2 **Medical supplies and equipment.**

Amends § 256B.0625, subd. 31. States that allergen-reducing products provided according to subd. 66, paragraph (c), shall be considered durable medical equipment. States that the section is effective January 1, 2021, or upon federal approval, whichever is later.

3 **Enhanced asthma care services.**

Amends § 256B.0625, by adding subd. 66. (a) States that MA covers enhanced asthma care services and related products provided in children's homes for children with poorly controlled asthma. To be eligible, requires a child:

(1) to be under age 21;

(2) to have poorly controlled asthma, defined as having received asthma care from a hospital emergency department at least once in the past year or having been hospitalized for the treatment of asthma at least one in the past year; and

(3) to have received a referral for services and products under this subdivision from a treating health care provider.

Section **Description**

(b) States that covered services include home visits provided by a registered environmental health specialist or lead risk assessor credentialed by the Department of Health or a healthy homes specialist credentialed by the Building Performance Institute.

(c) Requires covered products to be identified and recommended for the child by a registered environmental health specialist, healthy homes specialist, lead risk assessor, certified asthma educator, public health nurse, or other health professional providing asthma care, and proven to reduce asthma triggers. Lists specific products covered. Allows the commissioner to determine other products that may be covered, as new best practices for asthma are identified.

(d) Defines a home assessment as a home visit to identify asthma triggers and to provide education on trigger-reducing products. Limits a child to two home assessments, except that an additional home assessment may be provided if the child moves to a new home, a new asthma trigger enters the home, or if the child's health care provider identifies a new allergy for the child. Requires the commissioner to determine the frequency with which a child may receive a product listed in paragraph (c), based on the reasonable expected lifetime of the product.

States that the section is effective January 1, 2021, or upon federal approval, whichever is later.



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