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MEDICAID ALERT

TO: All Providers

SUBJECT: Initial Approval of South Carolina's 1135 Waiver Request

To facilitate the South Carolina Department of Health Human Services' (SCDHHS) response to coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19), and pursuant to national and state declarations of emergency on March 13, 2020, SCDHHS [submitted a waiver](#) under Section 1135 of the Social Security Act requesting a variety of administrative and regulatory flexibilities to aid in the state's preparation and response to COVID-19. The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) has [issued an initial approval](#) for some components of the waiver request. SCDHHS' request, CMS' initial approval letter and a variety of provider resources are available at <http://www.scdhhs.gov/covid19>.

The initial approval granted by CMS extends flexibilities to SCDHHS in matters related to pre-approval for health services, nursing facility admissions, appeals and fair hearings, provider enrollment and alternative care settings. SCDHHS will communicate additional details and issue additional guidance regarding coverage policy to impacted providers through forthcoming Medicaid bulletins.

Thank you for your continued support of the South Carolina Healthy Connections Medicaid program.

