
CHAPTER 45: PEDIATRIC DAY HEALTH CARE

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OVERVIEW

The Pediatric Day Health Care (PDHC) program is designed to provide an array of services to meet the medical, social and developmental needs of children from birth up to 21 years of age who have a complex medical condition which requires skilled nursing care and therapeutic intervention on an ongoing basis to preserve and maintain health status, prevent death, treat/cure disease, ameliorate disabilities or other adverse health conditions and/or prolong life.

PDHC is intended for individuals needing a higher level of care that cannot be provided in a more integrated community-based setting and serves as a community-based alternative to long-term care and extended in-home nursing care. PDHC does not provide respite care, and it is not intended to be an auxiliary (back-up) for respite care.

All PDHC services must be prior authorized. Services may be provided seven days per week and up to 12 hours per day, for qualified Medicaid beneficiaries as documented in the plan of care.