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**CHAPTER 45: PEDIATRIC DAY HEALTH CARE**

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**DEFINITIONS****Medically Complex**

An individual considered medically complex has one or more chronic, debilitating diseases or conditions involving one or more physiological or organ systems. Medically complex individuals require skilled medical care, professional observation or medical intervention.

**Medically Fragile**

An individual who has a medically complex condition characterized by multiple, significant medical problems that require extended care. Medically fragile individuals are medically complex and potentially dependent upon medical devices, experienced medical supervision, and/or medical interventions to sustain life.

**Medically Necessary**

Medicaid reimburses for services that are determined medically necessary, do not duplicate another provider's service, and meets the following conditions:

- Be necessary to protect life, to prevent significant illness or significant disability, or to alleviate severe pain;
- Be individualized, specific and consistent with symptoms or confirmed diagnosis of the illness or injury under treatment, and not in excess of the patient's needs;
- Be consistent with generally accepted professional medical standards as determined by the Medicaid program and not experimental or investigational;
- Be reflective of the level of service that can be safely furnished, and for which no equally effective and more conservative or less costly treatment is available statewide; and
- Be furnished in a manner not primarily intended for the convenience of the recipient, the recipient's caretaker, or the provider.

The fact that a provider has prescribed, recommended, or approved medical or allied care, goods, or service does not, in itself, make such care, goods, or services medically necessary or a medical necessity or a covered service.

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**Parent**

The individual who has legal custody of the child is considered the parent.

**Plan of Care**

The comprehensive plan developed by the pediatric day health care (PDHC) facility for each child to receive services for implementation of medical, nursing, psychosocial, developmental, and educational therapies.

**Prescribing Physician**

A physician currently licensed to practice medicine in Louisiana, who signs the order admitting the child to the PDHC facility; maintains overall responsibility for the child's medical management; and is available for consultation and collaboration with the pediatric day health care staff.