

# Premier Health Insuring Corporation

## POLICY AND PROCEDURE MANUAL

Policy Number: PA.094.PC  
Last Review Date: 09/10/2015  
Effective Date: 01/01/2016  
Renewal Date: 01/01/2017

### PA.094.PC – Prescribed Pediatric Extended Care Program (PPECP)

This policy applies to the following line(s) of business:

- ✓ Premier Health Insuring Corporation MA – DSNP

Premier Health Insuring Corporation considers a Prescribed Pediatric Extended Care Program (PPECP) medically necessary for the following indications:

#### General Criteria:

1. The child/member is medically or technologically dependent or has at least one of the following conditions that requires continuous therapeutic interventions or skilled nursing supervision:
  - a) Premature infant
  - b) Member is ventilator dependent
  - c) Member is being weaned from ventilator
  - d) Members with a tracheostomy with respiratory compromise requiring frequent suctioning
  - e) Members requiring nasogastric tube feedings or medications due to a complex medical problem(s) or when removal and insertion of the nasogastric tube is required
  - f) The member has medical needs that require complex nursing assessments and interventions that are in response to acute episodes of medical instability
2. Services are ordered by the primary care physician (PCP)
3. The member has been evaluated by a multidisciplinary team at the center

#### Care Plan Criteria;

- a) Each child has an individualized care plan which is designed by the attending physician, the PECC treatment team, a parent or legal guardian and, when appropriate, the child:
  - Under four years old - individualized family services is also included
  - 4-21 years old - individualized education plan is also included
- b) The care plan shall be reviewed at least monthly and revised as the child's care needs change.
- c) Staffing shall be adequate to provide for the needs of each child as identified on the child's care plan.

Note: The PECC shall not duplicate services already provided through the early intervention program or the local school district.

School Early Intervention Program Criteria:

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- a) In the development of the care plan, consider the components of the individualized family services plan for children under four years of age or the individualized education plan for children less than 21 years of age.
- b) Upon request by the early intervention program or the local school district, the PECC should make available upon request any records necessary to develop, review or revise an individualized family services plan or individualized education plan (IEP).

## Limitations

1. A PECC may not serve a child for more than 12 hours within a 24-hour period.
2. A minimum of one direct caregiving staff shall be available for every three children at all times, including the transportation of the child for services not provided in the PECC but provided to the child while under the care of the PECC.
3. The PECC shall have arrangements with a licensed pharmacist to provide consultation services for children enrolled in the PECC.
4. Direct caregiving staff must be a licensed practical nurse, a registered nurse, a physical therapist, an occupational therapist, a speech-language pathologist or an individual who has a high school diploma or its equivalent, and at least one year of documented and supervised experience in a health care or child-care setting. Additional staff may provide other support services.
5. If, upon application to a PECC, the PECC has no evidence of an application to the early intervention program or the local school district, the PECC shall make a referral for the family to the early intervention program or the local school district, appropriate for the child's residence.
6. Basic and supportive services provided at a PECC shall comply with all health care professional licensing statutes and any regulations.

## Background

Prescribed Pediatric Extended Care Program (PPECP) is an alternative to in-home nursing for children with complex medical needs. This alternative program allows up to 12 hours of care, five days a week, . Services include:

- Skilled nursing
- Respiratory care
- Developmental and educational programs
- Nutrition
- Occupational, physical, and speech/language therapy
- Social services
- Recreation
- Transportation
- Nurse Practitioner (NP)/Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioner (ARNP)

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- Access to medical care and physician

A pediatrician oversees the care, while RNs and LPNs provide direct care. A team of developmental experts also provides educational and recreational services.

A minimum of one supervisor is employed for every six children. The supervisor may have direct caregiving responsibilities and may be counted in the one direct caregiving staff to every three children ratio.

### References

1. Broward Children's Center: Prescribed Pediatric Extended Care Program. Accessed: 09/04/2015. Copyright © 2014 Broward Children's Center. Available at: <http://www.bcckids.org/ppec.htm>
2. 1999 Act 54 – Section 15, Regulations. Amended July 5, 2012, P.L. 993, No. 111. <http://www.legis.state.pa.us/cfdocs/legis/LI/uconsCheck.cfm?txtType=HTM&yr=1999&sessInd=0&smthLwInd=0&act=54&chpt=0&sctn=15&subsctn=0>
3. Ruppert E, Host N. Out-of-Home Child Care and Medical Day Treatment Programs. In: Guidelines for Pediatric Home Health Care. Elk Grove Village, IL. American Academy of Pediatrics. 2002: Chapter 34: 509-526. <http://www2.aap.org/sections/homecare/34-PHHC-treatment-programs.pdf>
4. Texas Department of Aging and Disability Services. Prescribed Pediatric Extended Care Centers (PPECC) Provider Resources. Updated July 16, 2015. <http://www.dads.state.tx.us/providers/PPECC/index.cfm>

### Disclaimer:

Premier Health Insuring Corporation medical payment and prior authorization policies do not constitute medical advice and are not intended to govern or otherwise influence the practice of medicine. The policies constitute only the reimbursement and coverage guidelines of Premier Health Insuring Corporation and its affiliated managed care entities. Coverage for services varies for individual members in accordance with the terms and conditions of applicable Certificates of Coverage, Summary Plan Descriptions, or contracts with governing regulatory agencies.

Premier Health Insuring Corporation reserves the right to review and update the medical payment and prior authorization guidelines in its sole discretion. Notice of such changes, if necessary, shall be provided in accordance with the terms and conditions of provider agreements and any applicable laws or regulations.

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