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To:        County Department of Human Services Directors
           County Department of Social Services Directors
           County Department of Community Services Program Directors
           Children's Long-Term Supports Supervisors and Leads

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           Long Term Benefits and Programs

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## Coverage of Nursing Services and Personal Care Services Transitioning From the Children's Long-Term Support Waiver Program to ForwardHealth

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### Background

The purpose of Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnosis, and Treatment (EPSDT) is to ensure children receive early detection and care to help prevent, or diagnose and treat, health problems as early as possible. EPSDT is a Medicaid health care benefit and is referred to HealthCheck in Wisconsin. The HealthCheck benefit provides periodic, comprehensive screening exams (also known as "well-child checks"), as well as interperiodic screens, outreach and case management, and additional medically necessary services, referred to as HealthCheck "Other Services," for participants under 21 years of age. Wisconsin Medicaid benefits include coverage for private duty nursing, skilled nursing, and personal care. Refer to the Resources section of this memo for more information about HealthCheck "Other Services."

The Wisconsin Department of Health Services was directed by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services to transition coverage of specific services currently authorized through the Children's Long-Term Support (CLTS) Waiver Program to the Medicaid programs (Medicaid, BadgerCare Plus, and Katie Beckett Programs) that use the ForwardHealth card. This change includes nursing services, personal care services, and services that would be received using the HealthCheck "Other Services" benefit.

### Purpose

This memo provides an overview of the actions and resources for transitioning coverage of nursing and personal care services from the CLTS Waiver Program to Medicaid programs that use the ForwardHealth card by July 1, 2020.

### Overview

Effective July 1, 2020, nursing services and personal care services will no longer be funded through the CLTS Waiver Program. They must instead be accessed through Medicaid programs that use the ForwardHealth card. It is expected that participants maintain a comparable set of supports and/or services from Medicaid programs that use the ForwardHealth card and the CLTS Waiver Program through this transition.

The following Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System (HCPCS) procedure codes will no longer be authorized through the CLTS Waiver Program effective July 1, 2020:
- S9123 (Nursing care, in the home; by registered nurse, per hour)
- S9124 (Nursing care, in the home; by licensed practical nurse, per hour)
- T1019 (Personal care services, per 15 minutes, not for an inpatient or resident of a hospital, nursing facility, ICF/MR or IMD, part of the individualized plan of treatment)

Private duty nursing, skilled nursing, and personal care services are available through ForwardHealth with prior authorization.

**County Waiver Agency Responsibilities**
County waiver agencies are responsible for:
- Notifying families affected by the change that services with procedure codes S9123, S9124, or T1019 will no longer be available under the CLTS Waiver Program effective July 1, 2020.
- Ending authorization of procedure codes S9123, S9123, and T1019 under the CLTS Waiver Program by June 30, 2020. Working with families and providers to coordinate prior authorization requests for these services through ForwardHealth.
- Not authorizing new services with procedure codes S9123, S9124, or T1019 under the CLTS Waiver Program.
- Working with families to assess and update individual service plans to assure comprehensive supports and services for children whose nursing or personal care services currently authorized through the CLTS Waiver Program will be ending. Each plan will need to be updated to show the medically necessary services are now being accessed through the child's Medicaid benefit instead of the CLTS Waiver Program, and to update any additional CLTS Waiver services needed to provide a comparable set of services to the child and family.

Note: To aid in the transition, Wisconsin Medicaid will send families and providers letters about the transition of services that explain the transition and next steps. A field representative will contact individual providers to provide assistance in transitioning services from the CLTS Waiver Program to the Medicaid programs that use the ForwardHealth card.

**Resources**
The following resources support access to private duty nursing, skilled nursing, and personal care services through Medicaid programs that use the ForwardHealth card:
- Review the February 2019 ForwardHealth Update (2019-08), titled "Explanation of Prior Authorization Requirements for HealthCheck 'Other Services,'" and the ForwardHealth Online Handbook for ForwardHealth policy.
- Refer to the HealthCheck: Information for County Waiver Agencies webpage for more information about HealthCheck.
- Contact the appropriate CLTS Waiver Program technical assistance lead for help coordinating services allowable under the CLTS Waiver Program to comprehensively support the child and family.
- Direct providers to the appropriate ForwardHealth Specialty Group 2 field representative for help with provider enrollment, complex billing, and prior authorization or claims processing questions.

**Memo Summary**

Effective July 1, 2020, HCPCS procedure codes S9123, S9124, and T1019 will no longer be authorized through the CLTS Waiver Program. County waiver agencies are responsible for working with affected families to transition coverage for medically necessary nursing and personal care services from the CLTS Waiver Program to Medicaid programs that use the ForwardHealth card and coordinate a comparable set of supports and/or services from both ForwardHealth and the CLTS Waiver Program through this transition. Private duty nursing, skilled nursing, and personal care services are available through ForwardHealth with prior auth