

INTRODUCTION



DEVELOPMENT AND PURPOSE OF THIS TUTORIAL

The Catalyst Center is the National Center for Health Insurance and Financing for Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs (CYSHCN). We are funded to provide technical assistance to state Title V programs and other stakeholders who are working to promote universal, continuous, and affordable health care coverage for all CYSHCN. Title V is used in this tutorial to describe the part of the Social Security Act that administers the Maternal and Child Health Block Grant, including policies and services that promote family-centered, community-based, coordinated care for children with special health care needs and facilitate the development of community-based systems of services for such children and their families.

We have created this tutorial to help Title V directors, staff, partners, and others serving CYSHCN increase their knowledge of how the Medicaid and Children's Health Insurance (CHIP) programs work. A more in-depth understanding of program components and policies can help Title V staff build more effective partnerships with their state Medicaid and CHIP programs.

WHY THIS TUTORIAL?

State Title V and Medicaid programs play special roles in the coverage and financing of care for children and youth with special health care needs (CYSHCN).

Title V of the Social Security Act mandates facilitating the development of community-based systems of care for CYSHCN and their families through the state block grant program.¹ In addition to paying directly for services, Title V programs are expected to develop broad systems of care for CYSHCN.

Programs such as Title V that are funded through block grants may provide direct care, but often focus on providing wraparound and population-based services and assuring the capacity for maternal and child health care.



LEARNING OBJECTIVES

By completing this tutorial, participants will:

- **Increase** their understanding of state Medicaid and CHIP programs and policies.
- **Review** examples of how partnerships can maximize Medicaid and CHIP program capacity to meet the needs of CYSHCN.
- **Identify** specific opportunities to partner with the Medicaid and CHIP programs in their own state.

1. *Olmstead v. L.C.* (98-536) 527 U.S. 581 (1999). <https://www.law.cornell.edu/supct/html/98-536.ZS.html>

While Title V programs may provide specific services, Medicaid is an important source of health insurance coverage for CYSHCN. According to the 2020–2021 National Survey of Children’s Health, almost half of CYSHCN ages 0–17 depend on Medicaid or the Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP) for some or all of their health care coverage.²

Several federal statutes and regulations require collaboration between Title V and the Medicaid and CHIP programs.³ Collaboration promotes both the development of and access to a robust system of care and services for CYSHCN. Natural points of connection and opportunities for collaboration between Title V and the Medicaid and CHIP programs include the following:

- Providing gap-filling services to publicly insured CYSHCN.
- Identifying Medicaid- and CHIP-eligible CYSHCN and facilitating enrollment.
- Engaging in capacity-building activities that ensure quality health care services are available to CYSHCN at the state and local level.⁴

Even with these areas of overlap, communication and collaboration between these important programs serving CYSHCN is not always easy. In our work with state Title V program staff, we have learned that the complexity of many Medicaid and CHIP rules and regulations, along with unfamiliar vocabulary, can create barriers to effective collaboration.

Throughout this tutorial, we refer to “children and youth with special health care needs.” While the screener used by the National Survey of Children’s Health refers to “children with special health care needs,” this

population includes people ages 0–17. We choose to add the word “youth” to be consistent with the inclusion of adolescents up to age 17.

CONTENT OVERVIEW

This tutorial gives a broad overview of Medicaid and CHIP, the many different populations these programs serve, the changes they are undergoing as a result of health care reform, and some options to help readers think about opportunities to improve services for CYSHCN through communication and collaboration with Medicaid and CHIP staff.

The tutorial starts in Section 1 with an overview of how definitions of CYSHCN may vary by agency or program. This is followed by 11 additional sections that address major topic areas and recommendations for steps Title V programs can take to build successful partnerships with public insurance programs.

PARTNERSHIPS IN YOUR STATE

Each of the 11 topic areas (Sections 2–12) describes a component of the Medicaid and CHIP programs and includes a brief description of the regulatory framework for each. It then identifies opportunities for Title V programs to use this information or interact with Medicaid and CHIP programs in each of these areas.

A brief set of questions, “Test Your Knowledge,” is provided at the end of each topic to reinforce the major learning points. An answer key is provided so that readers can check their content knowledge. Each topic concludes with a set of inquiries that provides direction for readers to find out more specific information about Medicaid and CHIP in their state.

2. Child and Adolescent Health Measurement Initiative. 2020–2021 National Survey of Children’s Health (NSCH) data query. Data Resource Center for Child and Adolescent Health supported by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), Maternal and Child Health Bureau (MCHB). Retrieved 12/5/21 from <https://www.childhealthdata.org/browse/survey/results?q=9364&r=1&g=1000>

3. Including Title XIX of the Social Security Act §1902(a)(11)(B); the Code of Federal Regulation Title 42 – § 431.615 (Relations with State Health and Vocational Rehabilitation Agencies and Title V Grantees) https://www.ssa.gov/OP_Home/ssact/title19/1902.htm.

4. Lu, M. C., Lauver, C. B., Dykton, C., Kogan, M. D., Lawler, M. H., Raskin-Ramos, L., Watters, K., & Wilson, L. A. (2015). Transformation of the Title V Maternal and Child Health Services Block Grant. *Maternal and Child Health Journal*, 19(5), 927–931. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10995-015-1736-8>

This document is part of Medicaid and CHIP: A Tutorial on Coverage for Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs (CYSHCN). The document is available in its entirety at <https://ciswh.org/resources/Medicaid-CHIP-tutorial>

The Catalyst Center (U1TMC31757) is supported by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) as part of an award totaling \$500,000, with no financing by nongovernmental sources. The contents are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily represent the official views of, nor an endorsement, by HRSA, HHS or the U.S. Government.



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