



HEALTH CARE
A U T H O R I T Y

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Date: December 4, 2025

To: All Developmental Disabilities Waiver Providers

From: Jennifer Rodriguez, Director
Developmental Disabilities Supports Division
Health Care Authority

Subject: Teams using Decision Consultation Forms to opt out of required health screenings

It has come to the attention of the Developmental Disabilities Supports Division (DDSD) that interdisciplinary teams (IDTs) are using the Decision Consultation Process (DCP) and the Decision Consultation Form (DCF) to opt out of required annual or periodic health screenings outlined in Standards. While the DCF is a valuable tool to support individual informed choice, it cannot be used to opt out of required elements of service delivery. As outlined in the instructions for the DCF, “This form is not to be used to circumvent core elements of eligibility for Medicaid benefits or core elements of DD Waiver Service Standards such as refusal of an annual physical or refusing an annual nursing assessment where required.”

Chapter 10 of the Developmental Disabilities Waiver (DDW) Service Standards outlines requirements for provider agencies of Family Living, Supported Living and Intensive Medical Living Services to ensure and document:

- The person has a Primary Care Practitioner.
- The person receives an annual physical examination and other examinations as recommended by a Primary Care Practitioner or specialist.
- The person receives annual dental check-ups and other check-ups as recommended by a licensed dentist.
- The person receives a hearing test as recommended by a licensed audiologist.
- The person receives eye examinations as recommended by a licensed optometrist or ophthalmologist.

Furthermore, Chapter 13.2.23 of DDW Service Standards outlines a requirement for Nursing Services to ensure each person has a licensed primary care practitioner and receives an annual physical examination, dental care and specialized medical/behavioral care as needed.

If you have questions, please contact Angie Brooks, Regional Office Bureau Chief at angie.brooks@hca.nm.gov.

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