

MANAGED CARE SYSTEMS
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Request for Waiver

Plan Year: **2024**

Please ensure that information contained on this waiver request coincides with information provided on the geographical access maps and provider list submitted with this application.

1. Name and Title of Person Submitting this Document:

Carrier	Name Network	Network ID	Reason Code 4: Network Structure*
Medica Insurance Company	Essentia Choice Care with Medica	MNN010	ACO
Name	Title	Date	Reason Code 4: Enrollees in Network*
Jennifer Alm	SVP Provider Strategy & Network Management	5/11/2023	913

2. By submitting this form, the above-referenced confirms:

- A. That person submitting this request has personal knowledge of the network contracting process involved in this submission; and
- B. That access cannot be met for the following provider type(s). Include the county and reason(s) for not meeting the requirements.

Provider Type	County	Reason Code	Notes	Affected Enrollees*	Percent Not Covered*
<i>General Hospital facilities</i>	Cass	3	Cass Lake Indian Hospital. We have made multiple attempts to contract with no response. We reach out annually to offer a contract at same or similar rates and the provider has not responded. Cass Lake Indian Hospital was sent a letter offering a contract at the same or similar rates as other in-network providers annually since 2014. No response was received from the provider. Medica has and will continue to review the network quarterly offering a contract to providers that meet the criteria.		
<i>General Hospital facilities</i>	Crow Wing	4	This product is an accountable care organization (ACO) with Essentia Health and their partner clinics and facilities. Because they work together as an integrated system, they can better coordinate care and deliver a better member experience. Integration, collaboration and coordination among all providers within the network are critical to this model's success. As a result, non-partner clinics and facilities are not included in this network. The ACO network is developed to provide members access to a comprehensive group of providers. Where service or type of care was unavailable within the network, members received a referral to a non-network provider and received in-network benefits. Medica supports and has provided Telehealth and Telemedicine technologies to members. Members received member materials that detail the features of the ACO network, which providers are in the ACO network, and how to search for network providers on medica.com.	2	1
<i>General Hospital facilities</i>	Hubbard	3	Red Lake Indian Hospital. We have made multiple attempts to contract with no response. We reach out annually to offer a contract at same or similar rates and the provider has not responded. Red Lake Indian Hospital was sent a letter offering a contract at the same or similar rates as other in-network providers annually since 2014. No response was received from the provider. Medica has and will continue to review the network quarterly offering a contract to providers that meet the criteria.		

General Hospital facilities	Itasca	4	This product is an accountable care organization (ACO) with Essentia Health and their partner clinics and facilities. Because they work together as an integrated system, they can better coordinate care and deliver a better member experience. Integration, collaboration and coordination among all providers within the network are critical to this model's success. As a result, non-partner clinics and facilities are not included in this network. The ACO network is developed to provide members access to a comprehensive group of providers. Where service or type of care was unavailable within the network, members received a referral to a non-network provider and received in-network benefits. Medica supports and has provided Telehealth and Telemedicine technologies to members. Members received member materials that detail the features of the ACO network, which providers are in the ACO network, and how to search for network providers on medica.com.	2	15
General Hospital facilities	St. Louis	1	Completed an internet search consulting sources such as www.medicare.gov and www.healthgrades.com and provider websites as needed. No new providers became available where there is a gap in coverage. Medica supports and has provided Telehealth and Telemedicine services and authorized care from non-network providers as appropriate. Medica has and will continue to review the network quarterly offering a contract to providers that meet the criteria. If a service or type of care is unavailable within the service area, members may receive a referral to a non-network provider and receive in-network benefits.		
Primary Care providers	St. Louis	1	Completed an internet search consulting sources such as www.medicare.gov and www.healthgrades.com and provider websites as needed. No new providers became available where there is a gap in coverage. Medica supports and has provided Telehealth and Telemedicine services and authorized care from non-network providers as appropriate. Medica has and will continue to review the network quarterly offering a contract to providers that meet the criteria. If a service or type of care is unavailable within the service area, members may receive a referral to a non-network provider and receive in-network benefits.		
Mental health providers	St. Louis	1	Completed an internet search consulting sources such as SAMHSA database/Google Search/MN DHS Site and provider websites as needed. No new providers became available where there is a gap in coverage. Medica supports and has provided Telehealth and Telemedicine for members. Medica has and will continue to review the network quarterly offering a contract to providers that meet the criteria. If a service or type of care is unavailable within the service area, members may receive a referral to a non-network provider and receive in-network benefits.		
Pediatric Services Providers	Cass	4	This product is an accountable care organization (ACO) with Essentia Health and their partner clinics and facilities. Because they work together as an integrated system, they can better coordinate care and deliver a better member experience. Integration, collaboration and coordination among all providers within the network are critical to this model's success. As a result, non-partner clinics and facilities are not included in this network. The ACO network is developed to provide members access to a comprehensive group of providers. Where service or type of care was unavailable within the network, members received a referral to a non-network provider and received in-network benefits. Medica supports and has provided Telehealth and Telemedicine technologies to members. Members received member materials that detail the features of the ACO network, which providers are in the ACO network, and how to search for network providers on medica.com.	0	0

<i>Pediatric Services Providers</i>	<i>Hubbard</i>	4	This product is an accountable care organization (ACO) with Essentia Health and their partner clinics and facilities. Because they work together as an integrated system, they can better coordinate care and deliver a better member experience. Integration, collaboration and coordination among all providers within the network are critical to this model's success. As a result, non-partner clinics and facilities are not included in this network. The ACO network is developed to provide members access to a comprehensive group of providers. Where service or type of care was unavailable within the network, members received a referral to a non-network provider and received in-network benefits. Medica supports and has provided Telehealth and Telemedicine technologies to members. Members received member materials that detail the features of the ACO network, which providers are in the ACO network, and how to search for network providers on medica.com.	0	0
<i>Pediatric Services Providers</i>	<i>Itasca</i>	4	This product is an accountable care organization (ACO) with Essentia Health and their partner clinics and facilities. Because they work together as an integrated system, they can better coordinate care and deliver a better member experience. Integration, collaboration and coordination among all providers within the network are critical to this model's success. As a result, non-partner clinics and facilities are not included in this network. The ACO network is developed to provide members access to a comprehensive group of providers. Where service or type of care was unavailable within the network, members received a referral to a non-network provider and received in-network benefits. Medica supports and has provided Telehealth and Telemedicine technologies to members. Members received member materials that detail the features of the ACO network, which providers are in the ACO network, and how to search for network providers on medica.com.	13	100
<i>Pediatric Services Providers</i>	<i>Norman</i>	4	This product is an accountable care organization (ACO) with Essentia Health and their partner clinics and facilities. Because they work together as an integrated system, they can better coordinate care and deliver a better member experience. Integration, collaboration and coordination among all providers within the network are critical to this model's success. As a result, non-partner clinics and facilities are not included in this network. The ACO network is developed to provide members access to a comprehensive group of providers. Where service or type of care was unavailable within the network, members received a referral to a non-network provider and received in-network benefits. Medica supports and has provided Telehealth and Telemedicine technologies to members. Members received member materials that detail the features of the ACO network, which providers are in the ACO network, and how to search for network providers on medica.com.	12	71
<i>Pediatric Services Providers</i>	<i>St. Louis</i>	1	Completed an internet search consulting sources such as www.medicare.gov and www.healthgrades.com and provider websites as needed. No new providers became available where there is a gap in coverage. Medica supports and has provided Telehealth and Telemedicine services and authorized care from non-network providers as appropriate. Medica has and will continue to review the network quarterly offering a contract to providers that meet the criteria. If a service or type of care is unavailable within the service area, members may receive a referral to a non-network provider and receive in-network benefits.	92	23
<i>Allergy, Immunology and Rheumatology</i>	<i>Hubbard</i>	4	This product is an accountable care organization (ACO) with Essentia Health and their partner clinics and facilities. Because they work together as an integrated system, they can better coordinate care and deliver a better member experience. Integration, collaboration and coordination among all providers within the network are critical to this model's success. As a result, non-partner clinics and facilities are not included in this network. The ACO network is developed to provide members access to a comprehensive group of providers. Where service or type of care was unavailable within the network, members received a referral to a non-network provider and received in-network benefits. Medica supports and has provided Telehealth and Telemedicine technologies to members. Members received member materials that detail the features of the ACO network, which providers are in the ACO network, and how to search for network providers on medica.com.		

esthesiology Physicians and Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists	St. Louis	4	This product is an accountable care organization (ACO) with Essentia Health and their partner clinics and facilities. Because they work together as an integrated system, they can better coordinate care and deliver a better member experience. Integration, collaboration and coordination among all providers within the network are critical to this model's success. As a result, non-partner clinics and facilities are not included in this network. The ACO network is developed to provide members access to a comprehensive group of providers. Where service or type of care was unavailable within the network, members received a referral to a non-network provider and received in-network benefits. Medica supports and has provided Telehealth and Telemedicine technologies to members. Members received member materials that detail the features of the ACO network, which providers are in the ACO network, and how to search for network providers on medica.com.		
Colon and Rectal Surgery	Cass,Crow Wing,Hubbard,Itasca, Mahnomen,St. Louis	1	Completed an internet search consulting sources such as www.medicare.gov and www.healthgrades.com and provider websites as needed. No new providers became available where there is a gap in coverage. Medica supports and has provided Telehealth and Telemedicine services and authorized care from non-network providers as appropriate. Medica has and will continue to review the network quarterly offering a contract to providers that meet the criteria. If a service or type of care is unavailable within the service area, members may receive a referral to a non-network provider and receive in-network benefits.		
Colon and Rectal Surgery	Becker,Clay,Norman, Pine,Wilkin	4	This product is an accountable care organization (ACO) with Essentia Health and their partner clinics and facilities. Because they work together as an integrated system, they can better coordinate care and deliver a better member experience. Integration, collaboration and coordination among all providers within the network are critical to this model's success. As a result, non-partner clinics and facilities are not included in this network. The ACO network is developed to provide members access to a comprehensive group of providers. Where service or type of care was unavailable within the network, members received a referral to a non-network provider and received in-network benefits. Medica supports and has provided Telehealth and Telemedicine technologies to members. Members received member materials that detail the features of the ACO network, which providers are in the ACO network, and how to search for network providers on medica.com.		
Dermatology	Pine	4	This product is an accountable care organization (ACO) with Essentia Health and their partner clinics and facilities. Because they work together as an integrated system, they can better coordinate care and deliver a better member experience. Integration, collaboration and coordination among all providers within the network are critical to this model's success. As a result, non-partner clinics and facilities are not included in this network. The ACO network is developed to provide members access to a comprehensive group of providers. Where service or type of care was unavailable within the network, members received a referral to a non-network provider and received in-network benefits. Medica supports and has provided Telehealth and Telemedicine technologies to members. Members received member materials that detail the features of the ACO network, which providers are in the ACO network, and how to search for network providers on medica.com.		
Endocrinology	Becker,St. Louis	1	Completed an internet search consulting sources such as www.medicare.gov and www.healthgrades.com and provider websites as needed. No new providers became available where there is a gap in coverage. Medica supports and has provided Telehealth and Telemedicine services and authorized care from non-network providers as appropriate. Medica has and will continue to review the network quarterly offering a contract to providers that meet the criteria. If a service or type of care is unavailable within the service area, members may receive a referral to a non-network provider and receive in-network benefits.		

Endocrinology	Pine,Wilkin	4	This product is an accountable care organization (ACO) with Essentia Health and their partner clinics and facilities. Because they work together as an integrated system, they can better coordinate care and deliver a better member experience. Integration, collaboration and coordination among all providers within the network are critical to this model's success. As a result, non-partner clinics and facilities are not included in this network. The ACO network is developed to provide members access to a comprehensive group of providers. Where service or type of care was unavailable within the network, members received a referral to a non-network provider and received in-network benefits. Medica supports and has provided Telehealth and Telemedicine technologies to members. Members received member materials that detail the features of the ACO network, which providers are in the ACO network, and how to search for network providers on medica.com.		
Gastroenterology	St. Louis	1	Completed an internet search consulting sources such as www.medicare.gov and www.healthgrades.com and provider websites as needed. No new providers became available where there is a gap in coverage. Medica supports and has provided Telehealth and Telemedicine services and authorized care from non-network providers as appropriate. Medica has and will continue to review the network quarterly offering a contract to providers that meet the criteria. If a service or type of care is unavailable within the service area, members may receive a referral to a non-network provider and receive in-network benefits.		
Gastroenterology	Becker,Cass,Hubbard ,Itasca,Mahnomen	4	This product is an accountable care organization (ACO) with Essentia Health and their partner clinics and facilities. Because they work together as an integrated system, they can better coordinate care and deliver a better member experience. Integration, collaboration and coordination among all providers within the network are critical to this model's success. As a result, non-partner clinics and facilities are not included in this network. The ACO network is developed to provide members access to a comprehensive group of providers. Where service or type of care was unavailable within the network, members received a referral to a non-network provider and received in-network benefits. Medica supports and has provided Telehealth and Telemedicine technologies to members. Members received member materials that detail the features of the ACO network, which providers are in the ACO network, and how to search for network providers on medica.com.		
Genetics	Cass,Crow Wing,Hubbard,Itasca, St. Louis	1	Completed an internet search consulting sources such as www.medicare.gov and www.healthgrades.com and provider websites as needed. No new providers became available where there is a gap in coverage. Medica supports and has provided Telehealth and Telemedicine services and authorized care from non-network providers as appropriate. Medica has and will continue to review the network quarterly offering a contract to providers that meet the criteria. If a service or type of care is unavailable within the service area, members may receive a referral to a non-network provider and receive in-network benefits.		
Genetics	Pine	4	This product is an accountable care organization (ACO) with Essentia Health and their partner clinics and facilities. Because they work together as an integrated system, they can better coordinate care and deliver a better member experience. Integration, collaboration and coordination among all providers within the network are critical to this model's success. As a result, non-partner clinics and facilities are not included in this network. The ACO network is developed to provide members access to a comprehensive group of providers. Where service or type of care was unavailable within the network, members received a referral to a non-network provider and received in-network benefits. Medica supports and has provided Telehealth and Telemedicine technologies to members. Members received member materials that detail the features of the ACO network, which providers are in the ACO network, and how to search for network providers on medica.com.		

Please use additional sheet if needed

***Only for Reason Code 4. Network Structure, Enrollees in Network, Affected Enrollees, and Percent Not Covered only needed if reason code is 4 and provider type is Primary Care, Pediatric Services Providers (Primary Care), General Hospital and Mental Health.**

As part of this waiver request for all reason codes, a carrier must demonstrate with specific data that the geographic access standards cannot be met in a particular service area or part of a service area and also state what steps were and will be taken to address the network inadequacy (MN Statutes § 62K.10, subdivision 5).

Reason Codes:

1. Carrier has conducted a good faith search for providers and determined that there are no providers physically present in the service area of the type requested in the waiver. MDH will not grant a waiver for this reason code unless the carrier demonstrates, with specific information, that there are no providers physically present in the part(s) of the service area for which the waiver is sought. Specific information may include provider directories and sources consulted, physical geography that affects the location of providers, or other information that affects the availability and location of providers. Telemedicine may be used as a means to provide access when there are no providers physically present to meet the standard. The carrier should describe how it will assess the availability of providers who begin practice in the service area where the standard cannot currently be met. State what steps will be taken to address the network inadequacy.
2. Provider does not meet carrier's credentialing requirements. Carrier must cite the reason(s) provider does not meet carrier's credentialing requirements. State what steps were and will be taken to address the network inadequacy.
3. Carrier has made a good faith effort to contract with provider and provider has refused to accept a contract. State what steps were and will be taken to address the network inadequacy.
4. **For all Reason Code 4, you must state the following information:**
 - a. Specify the network structure: ACO or Narrow Network. (In Section 1 above.)
 - b. State the total number of estimated enrollees in the network as of the submission date of waiver. (In section 1 above.)
 - c. State why the geographic access standards cannot be met. Explain why full geographic access is not possible with this network design.
 - d. State how access will be provided for this provider type for the enrollees of the affected county.

Additionally, for Reason Code 4, only for **Primary Care, Pediatric Services Providers [Primary Care], General Hospital and Mental Health provider types**, you must select only one county per line. See the Provider Network Adequacy Instruction for further direction. If the carrier would like to request a waiver for an additional county for the same provider type, they will need to add an additional line to allow for the specific additional information to be provided. For these same 4 provider types, the carrier must also complete the following fields:

- e. State the total number of estimated enrollees affected in the county not meeting the geographic standard as of the submission date of waiver.
- f. State the estimated percentage of area in that county that is not covered.

Attestation for the Request for Waiver

The undersigned attests that he/she is a representative of the carrier with personal knowledge of the network and reasons for the above waiver requests, and that the waiver requests meet the requirements for the waiver, as outlined above. The undersigned also attests that good faith efforts have been made to locate and contract with providers, as outlined above, and that if providers become available in the service area, carrier will make a good faith effort to contract with said providers.

Name, Company, Title

Date Attestation Signed