

# L.A. Care Community Supports Asthma Remediation Quick Reference Guide

#### Asthma Remediation

L.A. Care launched the Community Supports Asthma Remediation program on 1/1/24. Environmental Asthma Trigger Remediations are physical modifications to a home environment that are necessary to ensure the health, welfare, and safety of the individual, or enable the individual to function in the home and without which acute asthma episodes could result in the need for emergency services and hospitalization.<sup>1</sup>

Additionally, the remediation services include providing information to Members about actions to take around the home to mitigate environmental exposures that could trigger asthma symptoms and remediations designed to avoid asthma-related hospitalization such as:

- 1. Identification of environmental triggers
- 2. Health-related minor home repairs such as pest management or patching holes and cracks through which pests can enter.

# Examples of environmental asthma trigger remediations include:

- Allergen-impermeable mattress and pillow dustcovers;
- High-efficiency particulate air (HEPA) filtered vacuums;
- High-efficiency particulate air (HEPA) filters
- Integrated Pest Management (IPM) services;
- De-humidifiers;
- Air filters/Air cleaners;
- Other moisture-controlling interventions;
- Minor mold removal and remediation services;
- Ventilation improvements;
- Asthma-friendly cleaning products and supplies;
- Other interventions identified to be medically appropriate and cost effective.

### Who qualifies for the L.A. Care Community Supports Asthma Remediation?

Member must meet at least one of the following criteria:

- Member has had an emergency department visit with asthma-related symptoms in the past 12 months.
- Member has had a hospitalization with asthma-related symptoms in the past 12 months.
- Member has had two sick/urgent care visits in the past 12 months.
- Member has a score of 19 or less on the Asthma Control Test

<sup>\*</sup>The services are available in a home that is owned, rented, leased, or occupied by the member or their caregiver(s).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Medi-Cal Community Supports, or In Lieu of Services (ILOS), Policy Guide, July 2023.

# How long does the program cover?

Asthma Remediations are payable up to a total lifetime maximum of \$7,500. The only exception to the \$7,500 total maximum is if the member's condition changes significantly that require additional modifications.

#### **Exclusion Criteria:**

- Other State Plan services, such as Medi-Cal's Durable Medical Equipment Program, are excluded if they accomplish the same goals of preventing asthma emergencies or hospitalizations.
- Modifications are limited to those that are of direct medical or remedial benefit to the Member and exclude adaptations or improvements that are of general utility to the household.

#### **Referral Submission Process:**

- **Step 1:** Visit the L.A. Care Provider Manual and Forms
- **Step 2:** Scroll and select the Social Services Form option
- **Step 3:** Select the Asthma Remediation Service Authorization Request Form.
  - Complete the first page, making sure to include the name of the licensed Healthcare provider, Authorizing Order and member eligibility criteria.
- Step 4: Submit referral to LA Care, via fax (213) 536-0634 or secure email asthmaremediation@lacare.org
  - L.A. Care will notify the member and the CS Asthma Remediation Provider within 5 business days via fax or mail regarding the outcome.
  - L.A. Care will assign an Asthma Remediation Provider, who will begin the Asthma Remediation service. If you are an Asthma Remediation Provider and wish to assign the member to your agency, you must indicate so in the request form.

**Step 5:** Member will be contacted by the Asthma Remediation Provider to schedule the home assessment, and begin the process to provide physical modifications and education on environmental asthma triggers.

If you have questions, please visit our website, contact us via email at <a href="mailto:asthmaremediation@lacare.org">asthmaremediation@lacare.org</a>, or call us at 213-694-1250 ext. 7254.