

Important information

In-lieu-of services are services that are provided to you in place of other services that you may not need nor want. In this section, we will explain what in-lieu-of services are and how they may benefit you.

In-lieu-of services are different services that can be provided to you in a setting, approved by Health and Human Services, instead of a hospital. These alternative services may be more convenient for you and better suited to your individual needs.

For example, a **Partial Hospitalization Program, or PHP** for short, is like a middle step between staying in the hospital and going home. It is a special program that happens during the day at a psychiatric hospital. The program is very organized and follows a set schedule typically between 9 a.m. until 3 p.m.

Furthermore, **Intensive Outpatient Services, also called IOP**, are a bit like a smaller version of a PHP. They are still very structured but reduced to 10 hours a week for a 4- to-12-week period. This is considered more intensive and structured than normal outpatient psychiatric services.

Coordination Specialty Care (CSC) is a collaborative, recovery-oriented treating model for persons with first-episode psychosis. CSC services are for persons ages 15 to 30 who have a psychotic disorder diagnosed within the past two years and who live in the service area of a CSC provider.

It is important to note that in-lieu-of services are not a replacement for the regular services covered by your plan. If you have a medical condition that requires a certain type of treatment, you should still receive that treatment through your plan. However, if you feel that an in-lieu-of service would be a better fit for you, please do not hesitate to contact us to discuss.

Texas Health Steps (EPSDT) visits consist of age-appropriate screenings that are the responsibility of the provider to complete for individuals under age 21. Screening tools and necessary referrals, including ILOS, identified during THSteps are expected to be documented by the provider and submitted for prior authorization if necessary. UnitedHealthcare is responsible for promoting timely THSteps by reminding the member of due/overdue visits.