**Title V Health Care Transition Protocol**

**Children with Chronic Health Conditions**

**Updated 08/05/2021**

The Maternal Child Health Title V definition of transition is the percentage of adolescents with special health care needs who receive the services necessary to make transitions to all aspects of adult life, including adult health care, work, and independence. Arkansas has chosen Transition as a National Performance Measure (NPM) for the Title V Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs (CYSHCN) Program. The NPM for Health Care Transition is the percentage of adolescents with and without special health care needs, ages 12 through 17, who received services necessary to make transitions to adult health care.

In January of 2015, Title V staff statewide began utilizing the protocol for health care transition readiness. Feedback from the Title V Care Coordinators, families and CYSHCN is used to update the protocol as needed. **All families will be provided with a copy of the current Title V Health Care Transition Protocol.**

CYSHCN that are turning 14 through 17 will be assessed by a Transition Readiness Checklist.

* Title V has three Transition Readiness Checklists:
  + One for families with youth with special health care needs (YSHCN)
  + One for families with youth with complex medical needs that will need total assistance in self-care, decision making, and in expressing themselves.
  + A third checklist exists if the youth themselves are available to complete it.

The Title V Care Coordinators will utilize their Transition Aged Youth monthly report to identify CYSHCN that turn 12 through 18-years of age anytime during the month. These youth and their families will be the focus for health care transition when their birth month corresponds to the current calendar month.

* Parents and CYSHCN that are turning 12 or 13 years of age will be mailed either a transition letter for 12-year olds or a transition letter for 13-year olds along with the following anticipatory guidance:
  + Positive Parenting Tips for Healthy Child Development, Young Teens (12-14 Years of Age), Positive Parenting Tips for Healthy Child Development Young Teens, CDC.gov, January 2017; and
  + Bright Futures Handout, 11-14 years, Patient and Parent Handout. Bright Futures is a national health promotion and prevention initiative led by the American Academy of Pediatrics (2019) and supported, in part, by the US Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration, Maternal and Child Health Bureau. Title V obtained permission to use this handout from the American Academy of Pediatrics.
* Parents and CYSHCN that are turning 14- 15 years of age will be provided with:
  + A cover letter for CYSHCN that are turning 14-15 years of age.
  + A Health Care Readiness Checklist
  + Health Care Transition Timeline for Youth and Young Adults and Health Care Transition Timeline for Parents/Caregivers from Got Transition.
* Parents and CYSHCN that are turning 16 years of age will be provided with:
  + A cover letter for CYSHCN that are turning 16 years old.
  + A Health Care Readiness Checklist
  + Charting the Lifecourse Tool for Exploring Decision Making Supports from Got Transition.
* Parents and CYSHCN that are turning 17 years of age will be provided with:
  + A cover letter for CYSHCN that are turning 17 years old.
  + A Health Care Readiness Checklist
  + Health Care Transition Tip Sheet #11 from the Parent Advisory Council, Turning 18: What it Means for Your Health.
* Parents and YSHCN that are turning 18 years of age:
* In Arkansas, when a person turns 18 years of age, he or she becomes a legal adult with all associated rights and responsibilities. There are legal changes in privacy and consent at age 18. Unless the 18-year-old has a guardian appointed through a court of law, they can give or refuse consent for medical procedures.
  + - Medical records, including Transition Readiness Checklists, are considered confidential and are only accessible by:
      * The patient,
      * Parents when the patient is a minor under the age of 18, and
      * Health care providers involved in the patient’s health.
    - Arkansas Medicaid begins adult coverage of medical services at age 21.
  + Title V eligibility will end at age 18 if Title V is providing limited direct/gap filling services through the Children with Chronic Health Conditions (CHC) Assistance Program.
    - Parents and YSHCN that are turning 18 years of age will be provided with:
      * A cover letter for YSHCN turning 18 years old.
      * Health Care Transition Timeline for Youth and Young Adults and Health Care Transition Timeline for Parents/Caregivers from Got Transition.
  + The coverage for Title V Care Coordination will end when the young adult graduates from high school, obtains their General Educational Development (GED), or obtains a certificate of completion.
    - Parents and YSHCN that are turning 18 years of age that are still attending high school will be provided with:
* A cover letter for YSHCN turning 18 years old that are still attending high school.
* Health Care Transition Timeline for Youth and Young Adults and Health Care Transition Timeline for Parents/Caregivers s from Got Transition.
  + - Parents and YSHCN that are turning 18 years of age that have completed high school will be provided with:
* A cover letter for YSHCN turning 18 years old that have completed high school.
* Health Care Transition Timeline for Youth and Young Adults and Health Care Transition Timeline for Parents/Caregivers from Got Transition.